

**** MINUTES ****
*** * OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD * ***

Office of the County Clerk, January 14, 2020.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order by Chairperson Nooyen at 7:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, located at 320 South Walnut Street, Appleton, Wisconsin.

ROLL CALL: 34 present, 2 absent. Members present: Thompson, Miller, Renteria, Patience, Gabrielson, Konetzke, Hammen, N. Thyssen, Krueger, Lamers, Dillenberg, Mc Daniel, Wegand, De Groot, Peterson, Schroeder, Croatt, Spears, Marcks, T. Thyssen, Hagen, Klemp, Iverson, Nooyen, Davidson, Culbertson, Sturm, Buchman, Clegg, VanderHeiden, O'Connor-Schevers, Rettler, Melchert, and Surprise. Members absent: Thomas and Woodzicka.

The Board Chairperson requested the Board's confirmation to excuse Supervisors Thomas and Woodzicka. No objections; so ordered.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Nooyen.

Board Chair welcomed newly appointed Supervisor Eric Davidson, District 26, to his first meeting. A round of applause was given.

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2019 COUNTY BOARD MEETING

Supervisor Rettler moved, seconded by Supervisor Wegand, to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2019, County Board meeting.

ROLL CALL: 32 aye, 2 abstain, 2 absent. **MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2019, BOARD MEETING ARE APPROVED.**

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Refugee status - Tami McLaughlin, Director, World Relief Fox Valley

Director McLaughlin thanked the County Board for allowing her to speak on refugee resettlement in the area. She reported:

- Definition of a Refugee: A refugee is someone who has had to flee their country for fear of persecution, war, or violence.
- Refugee Numbers: There is an estimated 25 million refugees worldwide; 50% under 18.
- Resettlement: A careful selection by governments for the purpose of lawful and secure admission of the most vulnerable refugees (those who can't return to their country nor live safely in their country). Currently, 25 countries offer resettlement, which represent less than 1% of the refugee population, who are being resettled.
- United States Refugee Admissions Program: The U.S. program was established by the Refugee Act of 1980. The Act was created to provide a permanent and systematic program for the admission of refugees to the U.S. The program works with a consortium of federal agencies (government) and nonprofits organizations working together (both overseas and domestically) to identify and then admit qualified refugees into the U.S.
- Qualifying Refugees: A qualified refugee is one that has been through a vetting process that includes biometric and biographic checks, interagency intelligent sharing, screenings against international and

domestic terrorists and criminal databases, and background investigations by the FBI, Dept. of Defense, the Dept. of State, and National Counterterrorism Center. All vetting occurs overseas and admission is sole discretion of federal govt.

- Presidential Admissions: Each year, the President determines the number of qualified refugees our country will resettle and the breakdown of regions where those refugees will be admitted from in the world. Not only is resettlement a humanitarian protection tool, but it is also an important foreign policy tool used to support U.S. allies, stabilize countries hosting large number of refugees, and bolstering the U.S. reputation as a champion of freedom and human rights. Since 1980, the annual refugee ceiling has averaged 95,000/year. This year the number has been cut to 18,000, the lowest ever, which represents an 80% reduction from the average in last 40 years.
- Resettlement Agencies/Disbursement: There are nine resettlement organizations on a national level who contract with the government to provide resettlement services, and World Relief is one of those. When the President determines the number of refugees to be accepted, that number is disbursed amongst those nine national organizations, who represent approximately 300 affiliate local agencies across the U.S. Each of the local affiliates collaborate with their national agency, with their state refugee coordinator, and their local community partners to determine their capacity for refugee resettlement. Each of those national agencies, then submit a bid to the government that includes each of the affiliate number of refugees that they are prepared to receive along with other data specific to that individual office and the local community.
- New State/Local Requirements: This year, for the first time, the Administration is requiring consent from state and local officials in order for refugee resettlement to continue in their states and localities, which is the reason for this presentation.
- Local Agency: World Relief Fox Valley opened in 2012 in Oshkosh. In early 2018, the main office was transitioned to Appleton. This is the only refugee resettlement agency within the Fox Valley.
- Refugee Resettlement History to Fox Valley/Outagamie County: To date, the agency has resettled 982 refugees since its inception in 2012. 355 have been placed in Appleton and over 600 in Oshkosh. The majority of the refugee population in Appleton are from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Congolese.
- Local Involvement with Refugees: The refugee admissions program was designed as a public/private partnership, which is how they operate in the Fox Valley. Under leadership of Karen Nelson, Appleton's Inclusion/Diversity Community Coordinator, the Appleton community partners meet monthly to discuss updates, challenges, and progress affecting the local refugee population. The meetings are attended by the Appleton Area School District, Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton Public Health, Forward Services Corporation, Appleton Police Dept., among others. While all community partners are critical to the integration of refugees, so are community members, who serve as volunteers. Many volunteers represent local faith organizations in the community including Memorial Presbyterian, First Congregational, First English Lutheran, Unitarian Universal Fellowship, The Mission Church, and Christ The Rock Church. Last year, volunteers clocked almost 2,500 hours teaching, encouraging, and developing relationships with refugees.
- Refugee Resettlement Impacts to the Fox Valley/Outagamie County: Some think that refugees are a drain to economy. While they do qualify and most utilize benefits/services initially, studies show that refugees significantly make up contributing tax revenues than they cost taxpayers in the initial resettlement assistance/public benefits. Refugees also contribute to the health of the local economy in Outagamie County as labor shortages pose a significant threat to continued economic growth. Refugees are employment authorized from the day they arrive, and they embrace the dignity of work. In one month, the employment specialist received eight calls from local employers hoping to find refugees who could fill positions. Their employment specialist filled almost 40 positions in the last

two tri-semesters. The majority are entry-level employment, which many American-born workers are not interested in.

- Newest Refugee Population: In the Fox Valley, the newest refugee population, the Congolese, is small and relatively new since they have only been resettling since 2012. But as the population begins to mature, there will be celebrations of many successes. The agency is just now starting to see citizenship, home purchases, college enrollments, and several refugees have been elevated to supervisory positions. One refugee has recently been employed as an Appleton Area School Refugee Liaison. The area community has been enriched by the Hmong refugee population, and the newest refugees will do the same given support, time, and opportunity. These refugees have survived because of their resilience and their resourcefulness. With their desire to succeed, they will enrich the community and Fox Valley.

ESTABLISH ORDER OF THE DAY

Supervisor Gabrielson requested that Resolution Nos. 115 and 130 be held in committee. No objection; so ordered.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication Referral List – provided in the packet

Chairperson Nooyen reported:

Handouts on desks:

- Letter from Representative Amanda Stuck regarding nonpartisan redistricting (see Chairperson update below).
- Complete Count Committee for Census handouts – Supervisors are encouraged to learn more about the process. Supervisor Iverson will make a presentation on the Census at the February 11, 2020, meeting. A Complete County Kickoff Meeting will be held at the Appleton Public Library, February 16, 2020, 3:00 p.m.
- Proposed amendments to Resolutions No. 79 and 129.

Announcements

- The County's Outstanding Debt booklet December 31, 2019, was recently added to the County Board Dropbox folder.
- Former Supervisor Chuck Schmidt passed away December 25, 2019. No information on funeral arrangements (still pending). He served on the Board from 1999-2001, 2004-2013.
- Resolution No. 64 regarding nonpartisan redistricting was passed by the County Board last fall following prior positions and the nonbinding referendum question, which passed by a majority of 75%. Based upon the passage of Resolution No. 64, Board Chair Nooyen sent a letter to seek action from Outagamie County State legislators with due date of today. Representative Stuck was the only legislator that responded.
- County Clerk placed by mailboxes boxes extra copies of older documents. Supervisors were encouraged to take them this evening.
- East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC) - At last Board meeting, an update was provided regarding ECWRPC dues and work. Since that meeting, a strategic plan has not addressed for the disproportionate dues to Outagamie County or members. A majority of the other member counties are not seriously pursuing any reduction. Therefore, at the next Finance Committee, members will be considering a resolution to withdraw from ECWRPC, which is expected to be forwarded to the County Board at the next meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR A PERIOD OF FIFTEEN MINUTES (PERTINENT TO THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE DAY) – None.

APPOINTMENTS

County Executive Nelson nomination for appointments of Shirley Strange, Linda Bjella, Suzanne Brault and Patricia Sarvela to the Census Complete Count Committee.

Supervisor Croatt moved, seconded by Supervisor Spears, for confirmation of the above-listed appointments.

ROLL CALL: 34 aye, 2 absent. APPOINTMENTS OF STRANGE, BJELLA, BRAULT, SARVELA TO THE CENSUS COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE ARE CONFIRMED.

County Executive Nelson nomination for appointment of Pamela Knaack to the Health & Human Services Board, set term to expire December 31, 2023.

Supervisor T. Thyssen moved, seconded by Supervisor Gabrielson, for confirmation of the above-listed appointment.

ROLL CALL: 34 aye, 2 absent. APPOINTMENT OF PAMELA KNAACK TO THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE IS CONFIRMED.

REPORT BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

County Executive Thomas Nelson congratulated Supervisors Dean Culbertson (1/19), Dan Rettler (1/5), Kelly Schroeder (1/25), and Cathy Thompson (1/29) on their birthdays. A round of applause was given.

Executive Nelson reported:

- Airport – The Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting Training facility is going well, expected completion April 10. Fox Valley Technical College is advertising classes. The large roundabout (approximately \$3.5 million project) was awarded to Vinton Construction. Construction will occur from April to July. A TSA pre-check will occur the first full week of February.
- Recycling & SW – The department received a positive feasibility determination from WDNR for Northwest Landfill expansion. The positive determination is key as the original plan was to start landfilling at the Brown County site. The expansion will extend landfill life for the Brown, Outagamie, and Winnebago consortium.
- UW Extension – The 45th Annual Joy Conference will be held February 1 at Fox Valley Lutheran High School.
- Human Resources (HR) – The department has transitioned to the new health care plan, Robin. There has been minimal negative feedback; communications have been ongoing with department heads on status of the transition.
- Brewster Village - Tim Newman has been appointed as the interim administrator. Jeff Marks, who had worked for the County for 42 years, has temporarily come out of retirement and is consulting to assist while the hiring process occurs for a new administrator.
- Health & Human Services (HHS) – With John Rathman's appointment as HHS Director, he is working with HR to fill the HHS Deputy Director position.

- Highway – A new county engineer has been hired, Joe Zellmer, who had worked for the Town of Freedom.

During Q&A, discussion took place with retention of Morgan Hinkley as Brewster Village Administrator.

REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF COUNTY LOBBYIST

County Lobbyist Mark Wadium reported:

- 12/17 – Lobbyist emailed the HR Director providing good news that when the federal government approved the two Omnibus Bills, they repealed the Cadillac tax on employer health insurance, which was originally in the Affordable Healthcare Act.
- Homeless Sleeping in Public Space – At the last meeting, the Lobbyist provided [an article in DropBox regarding homeless right to sleep on sidewalks](#). A [new article](#) was provided which reports that the Supreme Court let stand the ruling that homeless can sleep on sidewalks or public parks if no shelter is available.
- [Tobacco and E-cigarette age raised from 18 to 21 for purchase](#) - As part of the Omnibus Bills, the federal government raised the age of purchase. Eventually, Wisconsin will need to follow suit or the State will face financial penalties, which will escalate.
- [Lincoln Hills unlikely to close](#) – Lincoln Hills is unlikely to close by 2021. Lobbyist is uncertain the director the State will go with corrections. Legislators had been working on a bi-partisan solution for quite a while, but that has ended. The SRCCY (secured residential care centers for children and youth) funding has not been increased, and it has not been brought forward to Finance (in addition to the Type 1 funding).
- [Regulators Approve Solar Farm](#) – Approvals are going to occur a lot more within Wisconsin. The solar farms are tending to utilize land in prime farmland areas, and the State has not come up with a way to deal handle them.
- [S.3020](#) – A [NACo article](#) reports on Senator Baldwin introduced bill, which deals with County Veterans Service Officer funding.
- [WI Fiscal Year 2018-19 Financial Statements](#) – The [brief](#) was placed in DropBox. Lobbyist also placed a document regarding [bond ratings in states](#).
- [AB611 Aircraft Liens](#) - Tomorrow the bill is on floor of the Assembly (came out of committee unanimous in both house committees). Lobbyist thinks the bill will be passed easily.
- [AB-76 CNA Training Hours](#) – Organizations are urging veto override of AB-76, which changes State level to Federal level, which is lower. [Information](#) was placed in DropBox.
- Other items included a list of LRBs being circulated.

During Q&A, there was discussion regarding Supervisor Krueger's access to the Lobbyist Dropbox folder.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution No. 79--2019-20 – Health and Human Services Committee and Public Safety Committee. Support legislation for the following: change any act of sexual misconduct that is currently a second degree sexual assault to a first degree sexual assault if the victim is 60 years of age or older regardless of whether or not the offender knew the victim's age; create the crime of physical abuse of a person that is 60 years of age or older that is modeled after the current law prohibition of physical abuse of a child regardless of whether or not the offender knew the victim's age; create a procedure for a court to freeze or seize assets from a defendant who has been charged with a financial exploitation crime when the victim is

at least 60 years old; allow anyone who is 60 years or older who is seeking a domestic violence, individual-at-risk, or harassment restraining order to appear in a court hearing by telephone or live audiovisual means, as noted on the attachments.

At the October 22, November 4, November 12, and December 10, 2019 County Board Meetings, Resolution No. 79 was held in the Health and Human Services Committee and Public Safety Committee.

At the January 14, 2020 Meeting, Supervisor Gabrielson moved, seconded by Supervisor T. Thyssen, for adoption.

Supervisor Gabrielson moved, seconded by Supervisor T. Thyssen, to amend Resolution No. 79 as shown on the desk: Under the explanatory language (line 16), add “The pending legislation could have a financial impact on local governments responsible for implementing the various changes in the law. Pending legislation should include allocations of state funding for local governments to implement the legislation.” After the final BE IT STILL FURTHER ERSOLVED, add another clause to read, “BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED, that the legislation will respond to the financial impact on the various entities that are responsible for implementing the law, and”.

ROLL CALL to amend: 33 aye, 1 abstain, 2 absent. AMENDMENT CARRIED.

ROLL CALL to adopt as amended: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 79—2019-20 IS ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

Supervisor Gabrielson moved, seconded by Supervisor Spears, to reconsider Resolution No. 79 for the purpose of lock in.

ROLL CALL to reconsider: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 79—2019-20 IS RECONSIDERED.

ROLL CALL to adopt & lock in: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 79—2019-20 IS ADOPTED AS AMENDED & LOCKED IN.

Resolution No. 115—2019-20 – Health and Human Services Committee. Authorize the County Health and Human Services Department to enter into a Memo of Understanding and Agreement with the Oneida Nation Indian Child Welfare Department (the Nation) clarifying the relationship between Outagamie County and the Nation in regard to providing for the health, safety, and welfare of children of the Nation residing within Outagamie County as noted in the resolution and on the attachments.

At the January 14, 2020, County Board Meeting, Resolution No. 115 was held in the Health and Human Services Committee (see Establish Order of the Day).

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 129--2019-20 – Health and Human Services Committee. Authorize the County Executive to provide written consent to the United States Secretary of State to allow the continued resettlement of refugees in Outagamie County, as required by Executive Order 13888.

Supervisor Konetzke moved, seconded by Supervisor Spears, for adoption.

Supervisor Gabrielson moved, seconded by Supervisor Croatt, to amend Resolution No. 79 as shown on the desk: On line 10 after the word “resettlement” add “in Outagamie County.” Delete “of Hmong refugees following the Vietman War.”

ROLL CALL to amend: 34 aye, 2 absent. AMENDMENT CARRIED.

ROLL CALL to adopt as amended: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 129—2019-20 IS ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

Supervisor Gabrielson moved, seconded by Supervisor Hagen, to reconsider Resolution No.129 for the purpose of lock in.

ROLL CALL to reconsider: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 129—2019-20 IS RECONSIDERED.

ROLL CALL to adopt & lock in: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 129—2019-20 IS ADOPTED AS AMENDED & LOCKED IN.

Resolution No. 130--2019-20 – Health and Human Services Committee and Public Safety Committee. Support legislation that would correct a discrepancy between parallel statutes hearing timelines for Children in Need of Protection proceedings under State Statutes Chapter 48 (Children’s Code), and juvenile delinquency cases under Chapter 938 (Juvenile Justice Code), that a day when the Clerk of Circuit Courts Office is closed does not count toward the computation of the detention hearing timeline under Chapter 938.

At the January 14, 2020, County Board Meeting, Resolution No. 115 was held in the Health and Human Services Committee (see Establish Order of the Day).

Resolution No. 131--2019-20 – Highway, Recycling and Solid Waste Committee. Authorize obliterating approximately 0.06 miles of CTH U from Old STH 29 to STH 29, and approximately 850 feet of CTH U north of STH 29; jurisdictionally transferring approximately 0.30 miles of CTH U from CTH VV north to the Village of Hobart, Brown County; and jurisdictionally transferring approximately 0.27 miles from 0.30 miles north of CTH VV to Old STH 29 to the Town of Oneida, as described in the attached Memorandum of Understanding, effective November 30, 2021 or upon completion of the WIS 29/County VV interchange improvement project.

Supervisor De Groot moved, seconded by Supervisor McDaniel, for adoption.

ROLL CALL: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 131—2019-20 IS ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 132--2019-20 – Property, Airport, Recreation & Economic Development Committee. Approve the County Parks Department to accept and expend an additional \$82,868 in supplemental snowmobile trail maintenance funding from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for the 2018/2019 snowmobile season to be passed through snowmobile clubs that incurred trail maintenance expenses for the 2018/2019 season, and increase the Parks Department Snowmobile Trails cost centers for Intergovernmental Revenues and Purchased Services by \$82,868, as noted on the attachments.

Supervisor Hagen moved, seconded by Supervisor Culbertson, for adoption.

ROLL CALL: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 132—2019-20 IS ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 133--2019-20 – Property, Airport, Recreation and Economic Development Committee. Approve the First Addendum to the Lease Agreement with Air Wisconsin Airlines, LLC and decreasing Airport Terminal Wisconsin Second Floor cost center \$3,641 and increasing Fund Balance Applied \$3,641, as noted on the attachments.

Supervisor Culbertson moved, seconded by Supervisor Klemp, for adoption.

ROLL CALL: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 133—2019-20 IS ADOPTED.

Supervisor Culbertson moved, seconded by Supervisor Wegand, to reconsider Resolution No.133 for the purpose of lock in.

ROLL CALL to reconsider: 33 aye, 1 nay, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 133—2019-20 IS RECONSIDERED.

ROLL CALL to adopt & lock in: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 133—2019-20 IS ADOPTED & LOCKED IN.

Resolution No. 134--2019-20 – Property, Airport, Recreation & Economic Development Committee. Approve a lease agreement between Outagamie County and the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration for the State of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection portion of the Ag Services building, as noted on the attachments.

Supervisor Culbertson moved, seconded by Supervisor Wegand, for adoption.

ROLL CALL: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 134—2019-20 IS ADOPTED.

Supervisor Culbertson moved, seconded by Supervisor Hagen, to reconsider Resolution No.134 for the purpose of lock in.

ROLL CALL to reconsider: 33 aye, 1 nay, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 134—2019-20 IS RECONSIDERED.

ROLL CALL to adopt & lock in: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 134—2019-20 IS ADOPTED & LOCKED IN.

Resolution No. 135—2019-20 – Legislative/Audit & Human Resources Committee. Approve Administrative Rule AR-2020-01 (replacing AR-19-02) amending the County Employee Handbook to reflect current practice in several areas, modifications to employee fringe benefits, a new Employee Pet & Service Animal Policy section, and language regarding health insurance coverage for surviving spouses and dependent children of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty, as noted on the attachments.

Supervisor Konetzke moved, seconded by Supervisor Schroeder, for adoption.

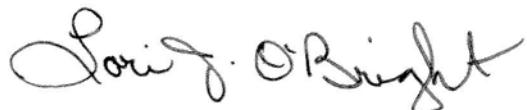
ROLL CALL: 34 aye, 2 absent. RESOLUTION NO. 135—2019-20 IS ADOPTED.

REPORTS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Patience moved, seconded by Supervisor N. Thyssen, to adjourn until January 28, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.



Lori J. O'Bright, Outagamie County Clerk