

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRICE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**February 15, 2022**

County Board Room 101, 126 Cherry St, Phillips, WI 54555

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Robert Kopisch, County Board

Chairperson. Invocation: Pastor Larry Tenut.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by those in attendance.

Roll Call: Present (11): Alan Barkstrom, Doug Erickson, Brian Ernst, Jeff Hallstrand, Paula Houdek, Robert Kopisch, Mark Kyle, Waldemar Madsen, Larry Palecek, Jordan Spacek, Ginny Strobl, Dennis Wartgow. Excused (2): Larry Palecek, James Hintz. Also present: Nick Trimner.

Instructions were given to any members of the public attending electronically.

Approval of Minutes December 14, 2021: Motion Strobl/Madsen to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Communications and Announcements: None.

Public Comments: Lyn Ludwig, Town of Worcester regarding supporting billboards promoting Price County. Brian Schmidt, Village of Prentice regarding compensation for elected officials.

Presentations

1. Chambers of Commerce / Tourism: Laura Palzkill, Philips Chamber of Commerce. Report of how the Price County tourism money is being spent. Plan to update the county map. Price County will host the Governor's Fishing Opener in 2023.

Resolutions

Resolution 1-22

Transfer from Highway Fund Balance to Purchase Contractor Equipment

WHEREAS, Price County is obligated to keep county infrastructure safe for use by county citizens, provide funding for Highway Department operations and maintain a sustainable Highway Fund Balance; and

WHEREAS, the Price County Highway Department has identified a need to replace wheel loader; and

WHEREAS, replacement of the wheel loader has been included in the Five Year Equipment Plan; and

WHEREAS, the normal period needed to obtain certain pieces of highway equipment can be two to three years; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Department has discovered a wheel loader for purchase; and

WHEREAS, the Highway and Transportation Committee, at its December 16, 2021 meeting, has reviewed and approved the need to purchase of a wheel loader and forwarded the request to fund the purchase to the Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, the current Highway Equipment Fund is not sustainable to cover the anticipated cost of \$250,000; and

WHEREAS, the funding option that is in the best interest of Price County is to transfer the money from the Highway Fund Balance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Price County Board of Supervisors approve purchase of a Highway Department wheel loader, with the sum not to exceed \$250,000 to be transferred from the Highway Fund Balance to the Highway Equipment Fund to finance the purchase.

Fiscal Impact: up to \$250,000 transfer from Highway Fund Balance.

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15th day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 11, Against: 0. Motion Barkstrom/Houdek to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 2-22

Project Approval – Courthouse and Safety Building Chiller and HVAC Projects

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Price County Buildings and Grounds Department to keep and maintain all County properties and buildings for the safe use by County employees and residents; and

WHEREAS, the Buildings and Grounds Committee has identified the need for these projects:

Courthouse chiller and ductwork	\$330,000
Courthouse controllers and HVAC system	\$230,000
Safety Building (old section) chiller and air handler	\$185,000

WHEREAS, the availability of America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds has provided an opportune time to move ahead with the projects, that would need to be done some time in the near future.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors approve the identified projects, with an estimated cost of \$745,000, with funding as determined by the Executive Committee, to come from America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds

Fiscal Impact \$745,000 (ARPA funds)

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15th day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 11, Against: 0. Motion Houdek/Wartgow to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

#### Resolution 3-22

Establish an Assigned Special Revenue Fund for Carbon Offset Project Revenue and Expenses  
WHEREAS, on December 14, 2021, the Price County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution #58-21, Develop a Forest Carbon Offset Project for Price County Owned Land; and  
WHEREAS, in order to monitor, track and manage Carbon Offset Project funds, Price County needs to establish appropriate financial management systems; and  
WHEREAS, proper record-keeping procedures will prevent and safe-guard against unauthorized use of funds; and  
WHEREAS, a separate assigned fund within the general ledger will provide effective control over and accountability for all Carbon Offset Project revenue and associated expenses; and  
WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County to establish a separate assigned general ledger fund to facilitate the County's receipt and allocation of Carbon Offset Projects funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby establish the assigned Carbon Offset Project Fund to be designated a general ledger position of 100-78.

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15th day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 11, Against: 0. Motion Barkstrom/Hallstrand to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

#### Amend Resolution 37-21

Establish a Special **Assigned** Revenue Fund for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)  
Revenue and Expenses

WHEREAS, Price County has been a recipient of funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021; and  
WHEREAS, in order to monitor, track and manage ARPA funds, Price County needs to establish appropriate financial management systems; and

WHEREAS, proper record-keeping procedures will prevent and safe-guard against unauthorized use of funds; and

WHEREAS, a separately designated special revenue fund within the general ledger will provide effective control over and accountability for all ARPA revenue and associated expenses; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County to establish a separate **assigned** general ledger fund to facilitate the County's allocation of ARPA funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby establish the **assigned** ARPA Fund to be **designated assigned** a general ledger position of 250.

Signatures on file on original resolution.

Submitted for amendment by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner.

Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15th day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 11, Against: 0. Motion Houdek/Wartgow to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

#### Amend Resolution 56-21

Establish an Opioid Abatement Account **and Restricted Opioid Abatement Fund**

WHEREAS, Price County has joined litigation against certain manufacturers, distributors and retailers of opioid pharmaceuticals and

WHEREAS, the settlement discussions with the Settling Defendants resulted in a tentative agreement as to settlement terms; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 165.12(2), the proceeds from any settlement of all or part of the Litigation are distributed 70% to local governments in Wisconsin that are parties to the Litigation and 30% to the State; and

WHEREAS, the County shall establish the Opioid Abatement Account for the receipt of the proceeds of the Settlement Agreements consistent with the terms of the Settlement Resolution;

WHEREAS, the County's Opioid Abatement Account shall be separate from the County's general fund, shall not be commingled with any other County funds, and shall be dedicated to funding opioid abatement measures as provided in the Settlement Agreements;

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County to establish a separate **restricted** general ledger fund to

facilitate the County's allocation of Opioid Settlement funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby establish the Opioid Abatement Account **and the restricted Opioid Abatement Fund** to be **designated assigned** a general ledger position of **220-62250**.

Signatures on file on original resolution.

Submitted for amendment by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner.

Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15th day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 11, Against: 0. Motion Erickson/Kyle to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

#### Resolution 4-22

##### Approve Revisions to the County Board Policy and Procedure Manual

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors previously adopted the Price County Board Policy and Procedure Manual on April 21, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this revision is to make language updates, procedural updates and incorporate changes as approved by the County Board; and

WHEREAS, the approved revised manual will be forwarded to the County Board for adoption at their Organizational Meeting on April 19, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby approve the proposed revisions to the Price County Board Policy and Procedure Manual to be presented in final form for adoption at the April 19, 2022 County Board Organizational Meeting.

Submitted by the Price County Administration Committee. s/Dennis Wartgow, Chair; Alan Barkstrom; Jeffrey Hallstrand; Robert Kopisch; Jordan Spacek. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15th day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair, Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 11, Against: 0. Motion

Hallstrand/Spacek to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

#### Resolution 5-22

##### Create Full-time Position: Sheriff's Deputy (Recreation Officer)

WHEREAS, with the reorganization of the Price County Sheriff's Office staffing, the addition of a full-time Sheriff's Deputy has been approved; and

WHEREAS, this new position will be assigned as a Recreation (Rec) Patrol Officer; and

WHEREAS, the Rec Patrol Officer will work closely with the Price County Forest and Parks Department, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the United States Forest Service to coordinate law enforcement duties associated with outdoor recreation and appropriate use of the natural resources in Price County; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that approximately 70% of the Rec Patrol Officer's time will be dedicated to recreation patrol, with the remainder of the time spent covering shifts and performing standard law enforcement duties; and

WHEREAS, approximately 60-65% funding for this position will come from the WDNR.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the creation of an additional full-time Sheriff's Deputy position.

Fiscal impact: \$25,000 (budgeted)

Submitted by the Price County Administration Committee. s/Dennis Wartgow, Chair; Alan Barkstrom; Jeffrey Hallstrand; Robert Kopisch; Jordan Spacek. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15th day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair, Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 11, Against: 0. Motion

Wartgow/Barkstrom to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

#### Resolution 6-22

##### 2022 Employee Wage Schedule

WHEREAS, the Price County Board of Supervisors provided for an employee wage increase in the 2022 budget; and

WHEREAS, the Price County Administration Committee was given the responsibility of overseeing the employee wage schedule and has decided on an across-the-board wage increase of 2%; and

WHEREAS, the result of the 2% increase is incorporated into the attached 2022 Price County Wage Schedule; and

WHEREAS, upon approving base salaries for County elected officials, the County Board directed that any subsequent across-the-board increases given to the Price County Wage Schedule would also be given to

County elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the Price County Administration Committee recommends this wage schedule be approved and become effective February 20, 2022.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors adopt the attached 2022 Price County Wage Schedule effective February 20, 2022.

Annual Fiscal Impact: \$79,300 (budgeted)

Submitted by the Price County Administration Committee. s/Dennis Wartgow, Chair; Alan Barkstrom; Jeffrey Hallstrand; Robert Kopisch; Jordan Spacek. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair, Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 11, Against: 0. Motion Spacek/Madsen to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 7-22

Elected Official Salaries for 2023 through 2026

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Price County Board of Supervisors to set the salaries for elected officials pursuant to §59.22 Wis. Stats "before the earliest time for filing nomination papers for any elective office"; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to establish the total annual compensation for County elected officials which is separate and distinct from the fringe benefits offered by the County to elected officials and which fringe benefits are subject to increase or decrease during the elected official's term of office at the discretion of the Board and in accordance with State and Federal law; and

WHEREAS, as part of the County's fringe benefit program, County elected officials may participate in the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) in accordance with State law; and

WHEREAS, as part of the County's fringe benefit program, County elected officials may elect to receive health insurance coverage under the same terms and conditions as the health insurance coverage offered to non-represented County managerial employees who are not law enforcement managerial employees or non-represented managerial employees described in §111.70(1)(mm)(2) Wis. Stat.; and

WHEREAS, the Price County Administration Committee has solicited input from the elected officials and reviewed external comparables and taken into consideration the fiscal impact to the County and has determined that the following base salaries for as of January 3, 2023:

Sheriff	\$ <del>77,438</del> 82,493
Clerk of Circuit Court	\$ 57,512
Coroner	\$ 6,415

(plus \$90/death and \$100/cremation)

WHEREAS, any subsequent increases to the salary will match across-the-board increases given to the non-represented employee wage schedule.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors adopt the total annual compensation for County elected officials under §59.22(1) Wis. Stat. as listed above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the aforementioned County elected officials are entitled to participate in the Wisconsin Retirement System in accordance with law and that the County shall pay only its share of contributions required by law for non-represented employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the aforementioned County elected officials are entitled to participate in the County's health insurance program subject to the terms and conditions of the program, which may be modified from time to time, under the same terms and conditions as the health insurance coverage offered to non-represented managerial County employees who are not law enforcement managerial employees or non-represented managerial employees described in §111.70(1)(mm)(2) Wis. Stat.

Fiscal Impact: \$ ~~3,500~~ 8,555 (budgeted).

Submitted by the Price County Administration Committee. s/Dennis Wartgow, Chair; Alan Barkstrom; Jeffrey Hallstrand; Robert Kopisch; Jordan Spacek. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair, Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 11, Against: 0.

Motion Kyle/Spacek to consider the resolution for adoption. Motion Wartgow/Strobl to amend the resolution to change the Sheriff base wage at \$80,766. Roll call vote on amendment: Yes (11):

Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Strobl, Wartgow. No (1): Spacek. Motion carried. Motion Spacek/Madsen to amend the resolution to change the Sheriff base wage to

\$82,493. Roll call vote on amendment: Yes (9): Barkstrom, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (2): Erickson, Kopisch. Motion carried. Roll call vote on resolution adoption, as amended: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 8-22

Adopt Revised Employee Handbook

WHEREAS, the Administration Committee has been charged by the Price County Board of Supervisors

with the responsibility of developing, maintaining and enforcing policies and guidelines for personnel management and has also been charged with the responsibility of periodically reviewing said policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, the Administration Committee has determined the need for various additions and/or edits to the language in the existing policies; and

WHEREAS, the Administration Committee has reviewed and approved the attached revisions to the Price County Employee Handbook and recommends them for adoption by the County Board.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors adopt the revisions to the Price County Employee Handbook as presented, with an effective date of February 20, 2022.

Submitted by the Price County Administration Committee.

Submitted by the Price County Administration Committee. s/Dennis Wartgow, Chair; Alan Barkstrom; Jeffrey Hallstrand; Robert Kopisch; Jordan Spacek. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair, Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 11, Against: 0. Motion Houdek/Spacek to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

#### Resolution 9-22

#### Price County Comprehensive Recreational Plan 2022 – 2027

WHEREAS, The Price County Forestry and Parks Department is responsible for the development and care of county owned recreational property and facilities: and

WHEREAS, Price County is committed to look beyond the “bricks and mortar” of recreational planning and into how recreational activities and facilities affect health and economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, Price County has reviewed existing plans, evaluated demographics and inventoried existing parks, trails and facilities; and

WHEREAS, Price County has gathered public input on recreational needs and desires through public meetings and surveys; and

WHEREAS, Price County has created a Comprehensive Recreational Plan to serve as a road map to future development of parks, trails and recreational facilities by which the county may operate in the most efficient and cost effective manner; and

WHEREAS, The Price County Comprehensive Recreational Plan may be utilized to apply for funding under the direction of the Price County Board of Supervisors or appointed committees; and

WHEREAS, this is a living document that may be amended by the Price County Board of Supervisors at any time.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby formally adopts the Comprehensive Revision of the Price County Comprehensive Recreational Plan as its future direction for the period of 2022 - 2027.

Submitted by: Price County Forestry and Parks Committee: s/Jeffrey Hallstrand, Chair; Brian Ernst; Waldemar Madsen; Jordan Spacek; Ginny Strobl. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 11, Against: 0. Motion Houdek/Strobl to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

#### Resolution 10-22

#### Request to Apply for WDNR Cost Share Grant (Solberg Lake Boat Ramp)

WHEREAS, Price County is interested in obtaining a cost-share grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for the purpose renovating the Solberg Lake County Park boat landing; and

WHEREAS, the respondent attests to the validity and veracity of the statements and representations contained in the proposals; and

WHEREAS, an Agreement is required to carry out the project; and

WHEREAS, anticipated estimated cost for the Solberg Lake County Park boat landing project will be \$358,000, of which the grant share for the project will be \$273,000 of eligible project costs and a County share of \$80,000; and

WHEREAS, Price County must designate an authorized representative to: sign and submit proposals, enter into Agreements with the WDNR, submit annual and final reports to the WDNR to satisfy the Agreements, submit reimbursement request(s) to the WDNR per the Agreements, sign Public Access Easements, sign and submit other documentation as necessary to complete the projects per the Agreements.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes and empowers the Price County Forest Administrator to be the aforementioned representative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, Price County will meet the financial obligations necessary to complete the project fully and satisfactorily; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the respondent will comply with all local, state and federal rules,

regulations and ordinances relating to the project and the cost-share agreements.

Financial Impact: Total estimated cost for the project is \$358,000, with the grant share of \$273,000 and the County share of \$85,000 (\$5,000 in-kind).

Submitted by: Price County Forestry and Parks Committee: s/Jeffrey Hallstrand, Chair; Waldemar Madsen; Jordan Spacek; Ginny Strobl. Reviewed and approved by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15th day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 10, Against: 1. Motion Spacek/Madsen to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (10): Barkstrom, Erickson, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (1): Ernst. Motion carried.

#### Resolution 11-22

##### Wisconsin Wolf Population Goals

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density; and

WHEREAS, the WDNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan, adopted in 1999 and reviewed and revised in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Wisconsin Conservation Congress (2011, 2013, 2021), officially support a Wisconsin Wolf population goal of 350 or less; and WHEREAS, thirty-six (36) county boards, half the county boards in Wisconsin, from north to south, have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 107 officially listed conflicts in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the high predator population, in particular wolves, has resulted in the reduction of the deer population where wolves are plentiful, reduced hunting opportunities, curtailed livestock and pleasure horse activities, and are a danger to pets and people.

NOT, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors encourages the WDNR to include elected officials from counties with high wolf conflicts on the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors requests that the WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR not relocate problem wolves from other counties in the state into Price County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk shall forward this resolution to the offices of the Wisconsin Governor; Secretary of the WDNR, Preston Cole; Secretary of DATCP, Randy Romanski, and state and federal legislators who represent Price County. When the WDNR public comments period for the revised Wolf Management Plan is announced, the resolution will be sent to the designated contact determined by WDNR.

Submitted by: Price County Forestry and Parks Committee: s/Jeffrey Hallstrand, Chair; Brian Ernst; Waldemar Madsen; Jordan Spacek; Ginny Strobl. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner.

Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 2022. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 11, Against: 0. Motion Spacek/Wartgow to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Elections and Appointments

1. Emergency Fire Wardens: Motion Hallstrand/Strobl to approve the list of Emergency Fire Wardens as presented. Motion carried.
2. Local Emergency Planning Committee: Motion Houdek/Madsen to approve the list of Local Emergency Planning Committee members as presented. Motion carried.

##### Reports on File

1. Register of Deeds – 2021 Annual Report
2. 2021 Annual Report of Wages

##### Committee of the Whole at 10:30 a.m.

1. Sale/Lease of Fairgrounds Property Status: Negotiations still in process. The Executive Committee expects to have an agreement finalized at their March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Reaffirmed that the existing entities will be protected for future use of the Fairgrounds property and buildings. A Board meeting will be scheduled on March 15 to finalize the matter.
2. County Administrator Report – Nick Trimner: Recognizing employee birthdays and work anniversaries. Assembly Bill 943 would release \$2.5 million for 5R property cleanup. IT projects moving forward. Normal Building chiller project complete. Jury Room remodel being done. Josh

Isaacson transitioned to Buildings & Grounds Superintendent. Broadband 339 project was approved – east of Highway 13. Southern Price County project grant not approved yet. Charter is moving forward with some of the area projects.

- a. 2021 Financial Summary Report as of 12/31/21: Review. Housing inmates out-of-county continues to be needed. Video conferencing implemented in the court system has saved money. Several departments still awaiting 2021 revenue. Health & Human Services did well in regard to their budget. Forestry stumpage did well.
  - b. 2022 Financial Summary Report as of 1/31/22: Nothing stands out. Loan payments will be due in March.
  - c. American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) update: Review of \$2.6 million. \$914,302 undesignated.
3. Board Chair Report – Bob Kopisch
- a. COVID-19 pandemic update: Omicron cases are declining.
  - b. WCA Update: Supervisor Houdek attended the Legislative Exchange. Senate Bill 829 would return proceeds from tax deed properties to the ex-owner. Allowing private/public partnership for electric car charging stations. Initiative for racism, diversity and equity.
  - c. International Trade, Business and Economic Development (ITBEC) Tourism Committee Report: Review of where they focus their spending.
  - d. Reschedule September Board Meeting to September 13<sup>th</sup>: Consensus to agree.
  - e. Allowing the Public Video Access to Board Meetings: Will implement at the next meeting.
4. Committee Chair Reports:
- a. Administration – Wartgow: Focus on wages, recruitment and retention.
  - b. Buildings & Grounds – Spacek: No meeting held.
  - c. Executive – Kopisch: Nothing more.
  - d. Forestry & Parks - Hallstrand: 19 active timber sales. Bids for Solberg Lake pavilion replacement and shooting range shelters. Reviewed potential projects for park and campground improvements and expansion projects. Next meeting April 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - e. Health and Human Services – Houdek: Last meeting January 12<sup>th</sup>. Quarterly reports. Next meeting March 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - f. Highway & Transportation – Hallstrand: Snow and ice removal. Culvert and bridge winter maintenance. Have filled two operator positions. Two mechanic positions still open. Planning for summer construction. Phillips State Highway 13 project has been moved to 2024, except the bridge work, Fifield project 2022, County A to Taylor County planned for 2022. Weimers Dam project drawdown levels until completion. Airport travel has been light. Airport Improvement project moving forward for 2022.
  - g. Land Use & UW-Extension – Barkstrom: Short-term rental and dog grooming/boarding conditional use permits. Moving forward with Cervid Ordinance. Zoning Department permits up significantly. Land Conservation working with snowmobile clubs. 4-H clubs have been active. Hiring in progress for Human Development and Relationship Educator.
  - h. Law Enforcement – Recreational Officer approved. Additional K-9 Unit planned. Lieutenant restructure working well. Deputy and Jail staff are full.

Date of Next Meeting: March 15, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room  
Meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Gottwald, County Clerk