

MINUTES

Eau Claire County

JOINT MEETING

- PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE •

Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Location: Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Ave, Room 1277, Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703

*Event link below can be used to connect to meeting and interact (by the chair) from computer or through the WebEx Meeting smartphone app.

Join WebEx Meeting: <https://eauclairecounty.webex.com> Meeting ID **2593 886 9289** Password: **wJwd2vU3PB7**

*Meeting audio can be listened to using this Audio conference dial in information.

Audio conference: 1-415-655-0001 Access Code: **25938869289##**

For those wishing to make public comment, you must e-mail Rod Eslinger at Rod.Eslinger@co.eau-claire.wi.us at least 60 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. You will be called on during the public comment period to make your comments.

**Please mute personal devices upon entry*

A majority of the county board may be in attendance at this meeting, however, only members of the committee may take action on an agenda item.

Members Present: James A. Dunning, Robin Leary, Nancy Coffey, Dane Zook, Todd Meyer, John Folstad, Cory Sisk

Members Absent:

Ex officio Present:

Other County Board Members: Supervisor Smiar, Supervisor Russell

Staff Present: Tina Pommier, Rodney J. Eslinger, Norb Kirk, Amy Wiess, Kathryn Schauf, Ben Bublitz (remote) Matt Michels, Chad Berge, Tyler Esh (remote)

1. Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice

Chairpersons Leary (P&D) and Zook (F&B) called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and Clerk Eslinger confirmed the meeting was properly noticed.

2. Roll Call

- a. Committee on Planning & Development: Chairperson Leary - Present, Supervisor Meyer - Present, Supervisor Coffey - Present, Supervisor Dunning - Present, Supervisor Zook – Present,
- b. Committee on Finance & Budget: Chairperson Zook - Present, Supervisor Leary - Present, Supervisor Folstad - Present, Supervisor Dunning - Present, Supervisor Sisk – Present

3. Public Comment (**15-minute maximum**): None

4. 2024 Register of Deeds Budget / Discussion – Action

Tina Pommier, Register of Deeds, presented the 2024 Register of Deeds budget to the committees. Ms. Pommier reported that the document recordings are down this year, which has resulted in less recording fees. She feels this is due to inflation and higher home mortgage interest rates. She

continues to work on document scanning with anticipated completion in December of this year. She also recognized that the County Clerk and her team have moved into the Register of Deeds suite. Tina concluded by answering questions from the committees.

ACTION: Motion by James A. Dunning to approve the 2024 Register of Deeds Budget as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote: 5-0-0.

5. 2024 Planning & Development Budget / Discussion – Action

Rodney Eslinger, Director of Planning and Development for Eau Claire County presented the 2024 Planning and Development operational budget to the committees. Mr. Eslinger stated that the 2024 overall Planning and Development budget shows an 5% increase. This increase was explained as the 3% cost-of-living adjustments (COLA), fixed expenses (insurance increases) and increases that are anticipated from the county's compensation project. He noted that the committee approved a 3% increase with the permit fees to offset increases in the cost of doing business. Overall, Director Eslinger pointed out that the 24' P&D budget is similar with the 23' and 22' approved budgets.

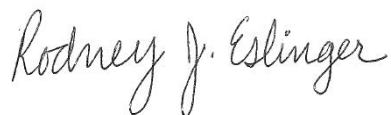
Mr. Eslinger indicated that the 25' P&D budget will include a request to move the County Survey I position from the project position to a permanent position again. He noted that the surveying team has assisted several departments this year, which resulting a conservative savings of \$100,000 in outside consultant fees. This savings is comparable to a full-time position. Mr. Eslinger also highlighted the organization chart for the department noting his appreciation to his team.

ACTION: Motion by Nancy Coffey to approve the 2024 Planning and Development operational budget as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote: 5-0-0.

6. Adjourn Committee on Finance & Budget and the Committee on Planning & Development

ACTION: Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 5:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Rodney Eslinger
Clerk, Committee on Planning & Development