

**Committee on Administration  
AGENDA**

**Tuesday June 11, 2024**

2:30 p.m.

Courthouse – Room 3312  
721 Oxford Ave, Eau Claire, WI

**Join by Phone:**

Dial in Number: 415.655.0001  
Access Code: 2539 374 3013

**Join by Meeting Number:**

Meeting Number: 2539 374 3013  
Meeting Password: SQsxMJ3p6k2

**Join from Meeting Link:**

<https://eauclairecounty.webex.com/eauclairecounty/j.php?MTID=m569d9ed676d4bc81de18e10324f8deb5>

*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.*

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Meeting Notice
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment
4. Review and approval of meeting minutes – **Discussion/Action**
  - May 14, 2024
5. Eau Claire County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Recovery Assistance Grant Program – Program Update from West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission – **Information/Discussion**
6. Ordinance 24-25/037: To amend section 2.04.030 Rule 3 – Opening of Meeting – **Discussion/Action**
7. Resolution 24-25/040: Reauthorization of self-insurance – **Discussion/Action**
8. Proclamation: Proclaiming July 26, 2024, as Americans with Disabilities Act Awareness Day in Eau Claire County – **Discussion/Action**
9. Joint Budget Meeting with the Committee on Finance & Budget date – **Discussion**
10. County Administrator Update, Kathryn Schauf – County Administrator – **Information/Discussion**
  - Rural Partners Network (RPN)
  - Chippewa-St. Croix Rail Commission

Prepared by: Samantha Kraegenbrink – Executive Office Administrator

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities through sign language, interpreters, remote access, or other auxiliary aids. Contact the clerk of the committee or Administration for assistance at (715) 839-5106. For additional information on ADA requests, contact the County ADA Coordinator at (715) 839-7335, (FAX) (715) 839-1669, TTY: use Relay (711) or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703.



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11. County Board Chair Update, Nancy Coffey – County Board Chair – **Information/Discussion**

- One-on-one meeting with new County Board Supervisors
- County Administrator Annual Evaluation

12. Appointments – **Discussion/Action**

- Becca Coleman
- James Rolbiecki
- Sarah Gordee
- Timothy Davis

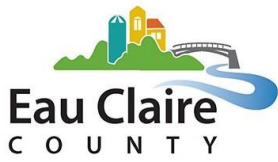
13. Future Agenda Items

14. Announcements

15. Adjourn

Prepared by: Samantha Kraegenbrink – Executive Office Administrator

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**Committee on Administration  
MINUTES**

**Tuesday May 14, 2024**

2:30 p.m.

Courthouse – Room 3312  
721 Oxford Ave, Eau Claire, WI

Present: Steve Chilson, Gerald Wilkie, Katherine Schneider, Connie Russell, Nancy Coffey, Allen Myren (ex-officio)

Others: Samantha Kraegenbrink – Clerk, Angela Eckman, Josh Pedersen, Kathryn Schauf, Joe Theilen, Eric Killen, Matt Theisen, Sharon McIlquham, Eric Huse (remote), Greg Dachel (remote), Andrea Helland, Paulette Johnson (remote), Chad Morgan (Ramaker), Daniel Kalina, Holly Blaschko

Public: Dane Zook – County Board Supervisor, Nick Smiar – County Board Supervisor

**Call to Order and Confirmation of Meeting Notice**

Chair Coffey called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and confirmed meeting notice.

**Roll Call and Introductions**

Introductions were complete and roll call was called by the clerk and is indicated above under present.

**Public Comment**

No members of the public wished to make a comment.

**Review and approval of meeting minutes from April 9, 2024.**

Motion by Supervisor Wilkie. No deletions, corrections, or additions. All in favor, minutes approved.

**Expo Center Tower proposed lease (Matt Theisen - Facilities & Central Services Director, Chad Morgan and/or Pam Heineck – Ramaker)**

Chad Morgan from Ramaker presented information on the proposed lease of space at the Expo Center. Motion by Supervisor Wilkie to authorize Director Theisen to facilitate moving forward with negotiations on a lease with the Expo Center Tower and Ramaker.

**Resolution 24-25/036: Approving alteration of the boundaries of County Supervisory Districts 15 and 26 resulting from the Governor's 2024 redistricting**

Motion by Supervisor Chilson. All in favor, motion passed.

**Quarterly Reports**

- Veteran Services (Eric Killen)
- Information System (Joe Theilen presented)
- Facilities (Matt Theisen)
- Child Support (Holly Blaschko presented)
- Corporation Counsel (Sharon McIlquham)
- Risk Management (Sonja Leenhouts)



Committee on Administration  
MINUTES

**Tuesday May 14, 2024**

2:30 p.m.

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- Administration (Kathryn Schauf)

Supervisor Schneider requests that quarterly reports are e-mailed in the packet in the future.

**Ordinance 24-25/007: To amend section 2.04.070 Rule 7 – Motions in General (referred back to committee from County Board)**

Supervisor Zook provided background information. Motion by Supervisor Chilson. 3 aye, 2 no.

**Ordinance 24-25/009: To amend section 2.04.120 Rule 12 – Standing Committees (referred back to committee from County Board)**

Motion by Supervisor Chilson. Motion by Supervisor Chilson to amend file to the original to read,

2.04.120 Rule 12--Standing committees. C. Committee Assignments.

3. When the board chair is making committee, commission or board appointments, if a reelected supervisor has indicated an interest in remaining on a committee they were previously serving on, strong consideration should be given to their prior experience serving on the committee, commission or board, especially if they were the chair or vice-chair of the committee, commission or board. The committee assignments shall be done objectively and without any retaliatory action.

3 aye, 2 nay; motion passes.

**Ordinance 24-25/020: To amend section 2.04.050 D – Rule 5 – Speaking at Meetings**

Motion by Supervisor Chilson. 2 aye, 3 nay; motion fails.

**Ordinance 24-25/022: To amend section 2.04.320 Rule 32 E – Reports to the County Board**

Motion by Supervisor Chilson. 3 aye, 2 nay; motion passes.

**Ordinance 24-25/025: To amend section 2.04.435 C – Committee on Administration**

Motion by Supervisor Chilson. Motion by Supervisor Chilson to amend to read “local community partners” on line 15 after “department heads,” and to read “local community partners” on line 16 after “department heads.”

**Integrating Professionals with a Purpose**

Moved to the next meeting of the committee. Will come forward as an ordinance.



**Committee on Administration  
MINUTES**

**Tuesday May 14, 2024**

2:30 p.m.

Courthouse – Room 3312  
721 Oxford Ave, Eau Claire, WI

**Proclamation: Proclaiming Wednesday, June 19, 2024, as “Juneteenth Day” in Eau Claire County**

Motion by Supervisor Chilson. All in favor, motion passes.

**Generous Jurors Selection**

Motion by Supervisor Wilkie to allocate 2024 donations to Crime Stoppers. All in favor, motion passes.

**County Administrator Update**

No update.

**Committee Appointments**

Motion by Supervisor Wilkie to approve the below appointments. All in favor, motion passes.

- ADRC Board Wilkie
  - Sue Miller (reappointment)
  - Terry Stanley (reappointment)
  - Sandra Romney (reappointment)
- Broadband Committee
  - Todd Meyer (new appointment)

**Future Agenda Items**

- Ordinance 24-25/037: to amend section 2.04.030 Rule 3 – Opening of Meeting (amendment proposed by Supervisor Schneider.)

**Announcements**

Committee on Administration will continue to meet the second Tuesday of each month at 2:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Samantha Kraegenbrink  
*Executive Office Administrator*



# MEMO

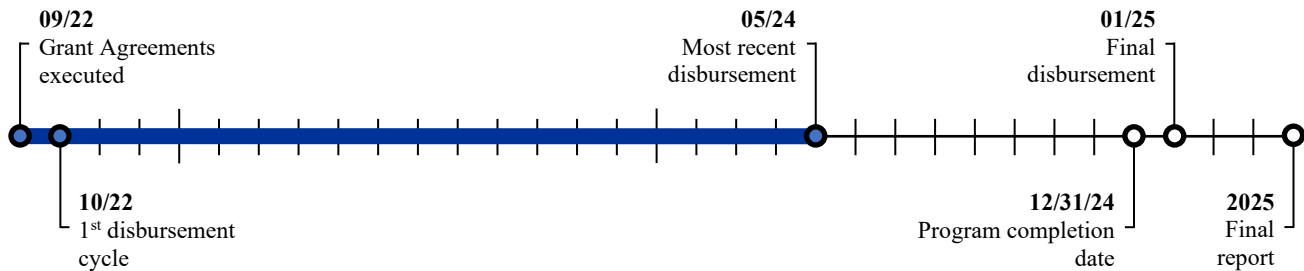
DATE: May 29, 2024  
 FROM: Scott Allen, Tobi LeMahieu, Ross Pietrzak, and Emily Huerta – West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC)  
 RE: Eau Claire County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Recovery Assistance Grant Program—Program Update

## Background

A total of 23 Component #2 grants and 1 additional ARPA grant were awarded, totaling \$1,823,500. Recipients were awarded grants between \$10,000 - \$100,000 for programs or projects to assist the greater community with recovery from the pandemic. Component #2 awards were made to businesses (12.5%) and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations (87.5%). The recipients and their awards are listed in the table below.

Recipient	Award Amount
Literacy Chippewa Valley	\$ 10,000.00
Regional Enterprises for Adults and Children, Inc	\$ 60,000.00
Eau Claire Chamber Orchestra	\$ 10,000.00
River Country Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc	\$ 45,000.00
At The Roots LLC	\$ 100,000.00
Fairchild Area Historical Society, Inc.	\$ 32,500.00
Augusta Area Foundation	\$ 18,000.00
Eau Claire County Housing, Inc.	\$ 100,000.00
Chip's Barbershop	\$ 100,000.00
Power of Perception Inc.	\$ 100,000.00
Black and Brown Womyn Power Coalition, Inc.	\$ 100,000.00
Friends of Beaver Creek Reserve, Inc	\$ 100,000.00
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse, Inc.	\$ 100,000.00
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Greater Chippewa Valley	\$ 100,000.00
The Community Table Inc.	\$ 10,000.00
Confluence Council, Inc.	\$ 100,000.00
University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire Foundation, Inc.	\$ 100,000.00
Collective Choir	\$ 100,000.00
WISDOM, Inc dba JONAH	\$ 100,000.00
Hmong American Leadership & Economic Development, LLC	\$ 100,000.00
Chippewa Valley Museum	\$ 100,000.00
Children's Museum of Eau Claire	\$ 100,000.00
Lake Eau Claire Association Inc.	\$ 38,000.00
Cinnaire Solutions Corporation	\$ 100,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,823,500.00</b>

Grant agreements were executed in September 2022 with a completion date of December 31, 2024. A disbursement cycle begins on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, at which time applicants file a Progress Report and, if requesting any funding, a Disbursement Request Form. WCWRPC Staff review the submittals and forward Disbursement Request Forms and supporting documentation to County Staff for processing. Upon completion, WCWRPC Staff will provide a Final Report to the County. The timeline below shows the progression of the program and key dates.



**Program Review (inclusive of May 2024 disbursement requests)**

Following the May 2024 disbursement cycle, WCWRPC Staff reviewed each recipient's progress towards expending their awards. The program is in its 20<sup>th</sup> month, or 74% of the way to the completion date. This percentage was utilized as an estimate for how much each recipient should have drawn down to date.

It is important to note that recipient disbursement requests do not follow a consistent, equalized schedule. The estimated expenditure percentage is not indicative of a recipient's ability to expend funds by the end of the program as some request their funding in a lump sum, after major annual events, or when significant financial expenses are incurred.

9 of the 24 recipients (37.5%) have fully disbursed their funds or closed out their awards. The table below identifies these recipients and their expenditures. Only one recipient, Children's Museum of Eau Claire, did not utilize their full amount, which will need to be reallocated by the County.

Recipient	Award Amount	Disbursed	Funds Remaining
Literacy Chippewa Valley	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Regional Enterprises for Adults and Children, Inc	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ -
Eau Claire Chamber Orchestra	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Fairchild Area Historical Society, Inc.	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 32,500.00	\$ -
Eau Claire County Housing, Inc.	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
Collective Choir	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
Children's Museum of Eau Claire	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 99,999.70	\$ 0.30
Lake Eau Claire Association Inc.	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 38,000.00	\$ -
Cinnaire Solutions Corporation	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 550,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 550,499.70</b>	<b>\$ 0.30</b>

8 of the 24 recipients (33.3 %) are at or above our estimated disbursement of funds. The percentage of disbursed funds range from 81% (River Country) to 98% (Confluence Council).

Recipient	Award Amount	Disbursed	Funds Remaining
River Country Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 36,499.27	\$ 8,500.73
At The Roots LLC	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 92,537.63	\$ 7,462.37
Chip's Barbershop	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 84,400.42	\$ 15,599.58
Power of Perception Inc.	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 81,686.00	\$ 18,314.00
Friends of Beaver Creek Reserve, Inc	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 95,542.05	\$ 4,457.95
The Community Table Inc.	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 9,404.50	\$ 595.50
Confluence Council, Inc.	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 98,908.95	\$ 1,091.05
Hmong American Leadership & Economic Development, LLC	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 88,805.31	\$ 11,194.69
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 655,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 587,784.13</b>	<b>\$ 67,215.87</b>

7 of 24 recipients (29.2%) have not disbursed and / or are below our estimations in disbursing their funds. Only one recipient, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Greater Chippewa Valley, has not disbursed any funds to date. Of those that have used funds, disbursements range from 22% (Wisdom / Jonah) to 57% (Augusta Area Foundation).

Recipient	Award Amount	Disbursed	Funds Remaining
Augusta Area Foundation	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 10,327.52	\$ 7,672.48
Black and Brown Womyn Power Coalition, Inc.	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 50,228.11	\$ 49,771.89
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse, Inc.	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 42,078.84	\$ 57,921.16
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Greater Chippewa Valley	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00
University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire Foundation, Inc.	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 23,558.00	\$ 76,442.00
WISDOM, Inc dba JONAH	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 22,587.51	\$ 77,412.49
Chippewa Valley Museum	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 53,057.37	\$ 46,942.63
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 618,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 201,837.35</b>	<b>\$ 416,162.65</b>

Grant recipients have 8 more disbursement cycles to utilize any remaining funds. The final disbursement cycle will be January 15, 2025 to address any funds used in December 2024. WCWRPC Staff continues to engage recipients on a regular basis to monitor progress and address concerns as they arise.



PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING JULY 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, AS AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT  
AWARENESS DAY IN EAU CLAIRE COUNTY

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed into law the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to ensure the civil rights of people with disabilities, and this legislation established a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the county of Eau Claire affirms the principles of equality and inclusion for persons with disabilities as set forth by the State of Wisconsin and as embodied in the ADA, the laws of the State of Wisconsin, and the ordinances of the county of Eau Claire

WHEREAS, numerous organizations in the county of Eau Claire and the State of Wisconsin work with constituents and communities to bring forth the promise of hope and freedom that is envisioned by the passage of the ADA

WHEREAS, July 26, 2024, celebrates the 34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act

NOW THEREFORE, the County Board of Supervisors does hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing July 26, 2024, as Americans with Disabilities Act Awareness Day. We renew our commitment to empowering Americans with disabilities through equal access so they can achieve their full potential, and we celebrate their contributions to this great nation. As we commemorate the anniversary of the ADA, we recommit to working together to ensure Americans with disabilities have every opportunity to actualize their own American dreams.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nancy Coffey, Chair of the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim July 26, 2024:

American with Disabilities Act Awareness Day

PRESENTED: This 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024

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Nancy Coffey, County Board Chair

## The ADA is Everywhere

How will you celebrate the 34th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act?

On July 26, 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed into law the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to ensure the civil rights of people with disabilities. This legislation established a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities. Both the county and the city of Eau Claire will affirm the principles of equality and inclusion for persons with disabilities with proclamations.

Sparked by an ADA request, Eau Claire County is one of the first in the state to permit remote attendance by board and committee members at its meetings. As with ramps, something that started because of ADA benefits many.

Numerous organizations in Eau Claire County and the State of Wisconsin work with constituents and communities to bring forth the promise of hope and freedom that is envisioned by the passage of the ADA.

Check out some of these offerings in our County and enjoy celebrating ADA month:

- MS-Take Charge is hosting an ADA Celebration at the L.E. Phillips Senior Center, Thompson Room Friday July 26, 2024 from 11-4pm. displays on the ADA, Multiple Sclerosis (MS), and new nonprofit MS-Take Charge;
- Free Raffle for Door Prize; treats!
- REACH is having an open house at their Heimstead Road location on July 18th from 11:30 - 2:30. A light lunch consisting of hot dogs, noodle salad, fruit salad, and dessert will be provided. They will also have a variety of fun backyard games in their back parking lot. Our greenspace should be completed by then, everyone is welcome to check it out. Anyone from the community is welcome to attend this fun event. Please call Reach at 715-833-7755 to RSVP, so they can get an accurate food count.
- An ADA blogging couple, Squirmy and Grubbs, visited River Prairie, downtown Eau Claire, and explored other local sights in 2023. Read their report at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RMMQgXZCyps>
- In 2022, the City of Altoona, as part of upgrading its 10th Street Park Playground, installed accessible playground features to provide additional play opportunities for persons with disabilities. In 2024, the City installed accessible raised community garden spaces at the new Perseverance Park.
- Half Moon Lake Boardwalk Trail is ADA-Compliant and fully accessible for mobility devices and strollers. It has three elevated boardwalk trails with bumpers to prevent people from leaving the trail and handrails in areas for safety and accessibility. The trail provides 1800' of concrete trail with three branching boardwalk trails with adjustable footing designed to withstand wet conditions and flooding.
- Wheelchair-accessible merry-go-round and other play equipment at Boyd Park.
- ADA paddle boats (powered by either your arms or legs) at Coon Forks.
- Beach wheelchairs are available at Coon Forks Park and Lake Altoona Park and an all-terrain utility chair is available from Beaver Creek.

- In addition to celebrating its sixth year in operation, Inclusive Ministry Church celebrates the spirit of the ADA. The next monthly service and fellowship meal is Sunday, July 21 from 3:00-4:30 at Lake Street Methodist Church, 337 Lake Street in Eau Claire. All are welcome.
- Want to read recent fun memoirs about disability experiences or find some good children's books about people living with disabilities? Check out Katherine Schneider's blog for recommendations: <https://kathiecomments.wordpress.com>
- [Stop by McIntyre Library on the UWEC campus at noon on July 25 to view](#) a display about ADA and watch the cult film classic *Repo Man* with library staff who will be highlighting audio description and closed caption tracks of the video followed by a discussion of the experience.

# Eau Claire County Parks

## Accessibility

**Beach Wheelchairs-** We have partnered with our ADRC to provide beach wheelchairs at Coon Fork and Lake Altoona County parks. These can be reserved by calling or seeing the ranger/staff member on duty to use free of charge. We do ask for a small refundable deposit and have a waiver that needs to be signed to check out. These allow water and beach access with greater comfort and ease.

**Lake Eau Claire Accessible Wheelchair lift for entering a boat-** This is another project that we partnered with the ADRC department on. This improvement on the north side of Lake Eau Claire allows for a wheelchair bound individual to be transferred from their wheelchair into a lift that can then swing out over the dock for that person to enter into a boat or pontoon. We have also added some additional accessible parking and walkway to that dock. I have attached a couple pictures of that lift and dock. Pictures 104282 and IMG\_0334.

**Lake Eau Claire Skid Row Landing-** We have added a concrete ADA walkway to the new dock to make this accessible.

**ADA Paddleboats-** We have partnered with ADRC on this project as well. We have 2 ADA accessible paddleboats to our fleet at Coon Fork Campground. These units can be propelled with either your feet or your arms by cranking. These are also free to use for people with disabilities and can be checked out at the campground office.

**Big Falls-** We have recently repaved all the walking trails and parking areas at Big Falls North and South. In addition, we have added new gates to the parks/trails entrances that allow for a wheelchair or stroller to be pushed through on the hard surface so the trails can be accessed without leaving the pavement. I have attached a picture with that example as well (IMG\_06741).

**Lake Altoona Beach Parking lot -** This entire lot was designed to increase accessibility to the beach for all users. We added a new ADA accessible walkway from the City of Altoona bike trail to connect to the beach. And added a switchback sidewalk to allow users to access the beach at a conforming grade.

**Harstad Park Pavilion-** Playground and new parking lot development- Here we added an additional parking lot area which is connected to a sidewalk for accessing the new park pavilion. The sidewalk also extends over to the playground area to allow users to connect the spaces and access them easier.



FACT SHEET

TO FILE NO. 24-25/037

Professionals with a Purpose is a brief talk by a department head (chosen on a rotating basis by the County Administrator) that highlights a new program or an example of the good work done by that department. The agenda of the Human Services Board has included Professionals with a Purpose and these presentations have been informative and inspiring to the Human Services Board.

Fiscal Impact: \$0.00

Respectfully submitted,

Supervisor Katherine Schneider  
District 22

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3 Submitted by Supervisor Katherine Schneider

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5 TO AMEND SECTION 2.04.030 RULE 3 – OPENING OF MEETING

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7 2.04.030 Rule 3—Opening of meeting

8 C. Order of Business for Regular Meetings.

9 The order of business shall be as follows for all regular meetings of the board, except as  
10 otherwise provided by rules for the annual and organizational meetings:

11 1. Call to order;

12 2. Honoring of the flag and ~~moment of reflection~~ or professionals with a purpose (brief  
13 talk by department head);

14

15 D. Order of Business for the Annual Meeting.

16 The order of business shall be as follows for the annual meeting:

17 1. Call to order;

18 2. Honoring of the flag and ~~moment of reflection~~ or professionals with a purpose (brief  
19 talk by department head);

20

21 E. Order of Business for the Organizational Meeting.

22 The order of business shall be as follows for the organizational meeting:

23 1. Call to order;

24 2. Presentation of the colors and honoring of the flag;

25 3. Honoring the flag and ~~moment of reflection~~ or professionals with a purpose (brief talk  
26 by department head);

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28 ENACTED:

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30 Committee on Administration

31 AYE NAY ABSTAIN

32 \_\_\_\_\_

33 Supervisor Nancy Coffey

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35 Supervisor Connie Russell

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38 Supervisor Gerald Wilkie

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41 Supervisor Steve Chilson

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44 Supervisor Katherine Schneider

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47 Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

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## FACT SHEET

TO FILE NO. 24-25/040

### CONTINUATION OF WORKER'S COMPENSATION SELF-INSURANCE

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development requires a resolution to be passed every 3 years that indicates the County's intention and agreement to self-insure for Worker's Compensation. Eau Claire County's most recent resolution was passed in 2021. Eau Claire County implemented the self-insurance worker's compensation program on January 1, 1995.

The Wisconsin Worker's Compensation Act provides that employers covered by the Act either insure their liability with worker's compensation insurance carriers authorized to do business in Wisconsin or be exempted (self-insured) from insuring liabilities with a carrier and thereby assuming the responsibility for its own worker's compensation risk and payment. The State and its political subdivisions may self-insure worker's compensation without a special order from the Department of Workforce Development if they agree to faithfully report all compensable injuries and agree to comply with the Act and rules of the Department.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

I recommend that Eau Claire County continue to self-insure the worker's compensation and authorize this resolution. The County continues to save between \$100,000 and \$200,000 per year as self-insured versus purchasing insurance from a broker. The cost for worker's compensation insurance is charged back to the departments. The county budgets for lower "estimated actual" expenses versus funding at a higher "insurance actuary" level. Cost for worker's compensation has increased in the past due to rising health care costs and increases in the cost of excess insurance to cover large losses. On a comparable basis, the county's claims/losses have been less than average. However, at some point, the County may be faced with a year of large claims. Therefore, excess insurance is purchased to help protect the County in the case of costly/catastrophic cases (e.g., claims in excess of \$550,000 each).

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Self-insured Worker's Compensation budget for 2024 = \$565,355. This amount includes ½ of the Risk Manager salary and Benefits (\$63,722, Excess Insurance \$68,158), Direct Worker's Compensation Expenses (\$430,975) and training and supplies (\$2500).

Respectfully Submitted,

Sonja L. Leenhouts  
Risk Manager

cc: Kathryn Schauf, County Administrator



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RESOLUTION FOR REAUTHORIZATION OF SELF-INSURANCE

WHEREAS, the County of Eau Claire is a qualified political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Worker’s Compensation Act (Act) provides that employers covered by the Act either insure their liability with worker’s compensation insurance carriers authorized to do business in Wisconsin, or to be exempted (self-insured) from insuring liabilities with a carrier and thereby assuming the responsibility for its own worker’s compensation risk and payment; and

WHEREAS, the State and its political subdivisions may self-insure worker’s compensation without a special order from the Department of Workforce Development (Department) if they agree to report faithfully all compensable injuries and agree to comply with the Act and rules of the Department (including passing a resolution to self-insurance every 3-years); and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Administration on June 11, 2024 approved the continuation of the self-insured worker’s compensation program, in compliance with Wisconsin Administrative Code DWD 80.630(3); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors does ordain as follows:

- (1) Provide for continuation of a self-insured worker’s compensation program that is currently in effect.
- (2) Authorize the Risk Manager to forward certified copies of this resolution to the Worker’s Compensation Division, Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development.

ADOPTED

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\_\_\_\_\_

Committee on Administration

yk

VOTE: \_\_\_\_\_ AYE \_\_\_\_\_ NAY

# Becca Coleman – Economic Development Committee

## Describe how you are eligible for this position:

I am a life-long resident of the Chippewa Valley, graduating from Memorial HS and currently residing in the Town of Seymour. I spent four years working within the nonprofit, Eau Claire Area Economic Development Corporation. Currently, I work for Miron Construction in Business Development. I have three kids in the Fall Creek School District and my family owns a small business in the area. All of these facts about my background and status allow me to have a unique perspective regarding Eau Claire County development.

## If selected, how would you work to better our community:

I have a passion for advancing the business community in Eau Claire. I would work to keep diverse businesses offerings and employment opportunities for the residents.

## Potential conflicts of interest:

Former employee of the Eau Claire Area EDC, but no longer.

## Residence Address

1720 Buck Rub Rd  
Eau Claire WI 54703

# James Rolbiecki – Economic Development Committee

## Describe how you are eligible for this position:

Over the past two decades I have had the opportunity to continue to grow my business within Eau Claire County which is primarily real estate. Amongst this growth which has consisted of purchasing properties, developing land, remodeling properties but most importantly is zoning and permitting. I believe I provide a prospective from someone that has been through the entire process which often is not present when committees are implemented.

## If selected, how would you work to better our community:

Start talking about addressing the housing needs within this community which are not getting addressed such as low income housing, senior housing, fixed income housing or simply the low income and median income housing.

## Potential conflicts of interest:

None

## Residence Address

6790 Walnut Road  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

# Sarah Gordee – Economic Development Committee

## Describe how you are eligible for this position:

I have experience serving in local government, as I am currently serving the city of Altoona on the Parks and Recreation Committee. I am also heavily involved in business and in driving economic development in the private sector of this area of Wisconsin in my role as the Director of Sales for a Marketing Agency. We provide marketing services to businesses, economic development agencies, and non-profit organizations across Eau Claire and Chippewa Counties. I'm also consistently involved in supporting entrepreneurs in our region through engagement in 1 Million Cups, which exists to help those new businesses thrive. I'm a regular guest speaker at UWEC and CVTC, promoting biz & entrepreneur

## If selected, how would you work to better our community:

I would work to ensure that our county is committed to supporting responsible business growth, assisting in workforce development and attraction, and solving problems with childcare. I believe these are three fundamental pieces to growing our local economy.

## Potential conflicts of interest:

None

## Residence Address

414 Club View Lane  
Altoona WI 54720

# Timothy Davis – Economic Development Committee

Describe how you are eligible for this position:

I have been involved in the business community in Eau Claire County for over 20 years by building relationships and understanding the needs of the community which we work, live & play in; in addition to my working experience, I have built a foundation of volunteerism through the City of Eau Claire and the Township of Brunswick with appointed positions serving positions in which we govern our community and it's growth.

If selected, how would you work to better our community:

It would be my hopes that a group of eclectic individuals would be assembled for this Committee and through that Team of folks the opportunity for outside prospective and input can be had, servitude by individuals willing to put in the work is truly what makes something like this a success.

Potential conflicts of interest:

City of EC Plan Commission Secretary City of EC Zoning Board of Appeals Member Town of Brunswick Deputy Clerk Northwest Regional Builders Exchange Treasurer Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley Board of Directors American Express Transport & Excavation Owner

Residence Address

4817 Sierra Drive East  
Eau Claire, WI 54701