

MINUTES

Eau Claire County

JOINT MEETING

• PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE •

Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2024

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 **2545 853 6034**

Password: **hxTcwib28r9**

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

Audio conference: 1-415-655-0001 Access Code: **25458536034##**

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: Dane Zook, Robin Leary, James Dunning, Caleb Aichele, Michele Skinner, Stella Pagonis, Jim Schumacher, Bob Swanson

Members Absent:

Ex officio Present:

Other County Board Members: Chair Nancy Coffey, Supervisor Connie Russell

Staff Present: Rodney Eslinger, Tina Pommier, Jason Szymanski, Amy Weiss, Kathryn Schauf, Ben Bublitz, Peter Strand, Tyler Esh,

1. Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice

Chair Zook called the meeting to order for the committee on planning and development at 4:01 p.m. and confirmed with Director Eslinger that the meeting was properly noticed. The finance and budget committee continued from their regular 3:00 p.m. meeting.

2. Roll Call

- a. Committee on Planning & Development – Chairperson Zook, Supervisor Leary, Supervisor Dunning, Supervisor Aichele, Supervisor Skinner
- b. Committee on Finance & Budget – Chairperson Pagonis, Supervisor Zook, Supervisor Dunning, Supervisor Schumacher, Supervisor Swanson

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

4. 2025 Register of Deeds Budget / Discussion – Action

Tina Pommier, Register of Deeds, presented the 2025 Register of Deeds budget to the committees. She reported that the increases with her 2025 budget over her 2024 budget was due to the county's

compensation project. Ms. Pommier reported that she has seen an increase in the overall number of recorded documents in 2024 over 2023. She noted that higher interest rates are keeping homes sales down and she anticipates this trend to continue through 2024. Tina noted that her office has completed scanning all the land records documents, which are now digitally accessible. Tina concluded by answering questions from the committees.

ACTION: Motion by Robin Leary to approve the 2025 Register of Deeds Budget as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote: 5-0-0.

5. 2025 Planning & Development Budget / Discussion – Action

Rodney Eslinger, Director of Planning and Development for Eau Claire County presented the 2025 Planning and Development operational and capital budgets to the committees. Mr. Eslinger stated that the 2025 overall Planning and Development budget shows an 7% increase. The increase is mainly associated with the county's compensation project. He noted other than increase due to the compensation project, the proposed 2025 P&D budget was very similar to the past three approved budgets. He further reviewed with the committees how his programs align with the county board budget section summaries. Mr. Eslinger highlighted for the committees the different revenue sources his department receives and its effect it has on lowering the request for county funding from his department.

Mr. Eslinger indicated that the 2025 P&D budget includes funding for the Assistant Surveyor position through the end of 2025. He updated the committees on the recruitment for the vacant Environmental Engineer position.

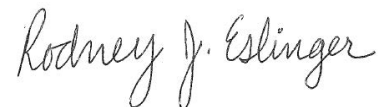
He concluded by reviewing the 2025 capital improvement projects with the committees and answering questions.

ACTION: Motion by Robin Leary to approve the 2025 Planning & Development Budget as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote: 5-0-0.

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

ACTION: Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 5:36 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rodney Eslinger
Clerk, Committee on Planning & Development