



BOARD MINUTES
BOARD OF WRIGHT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

DATE APPROVED: March 21, 2023

Tina Diedrick, District 1
Darek Vetsch, District 2
Jeanne Holland, District 3
Nadine Schoen, District 4
Michael Kaczmarek, District 5

The Wright County Board met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. with Diedrick, Vetsch, Holland, and Kaczmarek present. Schoen was absent.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. MINUTES - DISPENSE WITH READING, APPROVE AS WRITTEN/REVISED

A. Approve County Board Minutes:

1. County Board Minutes (02-07-2023)
2. County Board Minutes (02-21-2023)

Commissioner Tina Diedrick moved to approve the February 7, 2023 and February 21, 2023 County Board minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Michael Kaczmarek.

For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

B. Approve Committee Minutes:

1. Personnel Committee Minutes (02-08-2023)
2. Personnel Committee Minutes (02-28-2023)
3. Committee of The Whole 10 a.m. Minutes (02-27-2023)
4. Committee of The Whole 1 p.m. Minutes (02-27-2023)

Kaczmarek said Recommendation number IV in the Personnel Committee minutes from February 8, 2023, says "business analyst," and it should be "budget analyst."

Kaczmarek moved to approve all four committee minutes with the change made to Recommendation IV of the February 8, 2023 Personnel Committee minutes. The motion was seconded by Diedrick.

For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

III. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Assistant County Attorney Greg Kryzer asked to discuss the membership for the Tuesday, March 7 Joint Ditch meeting at the end of the Items for Consideration. Commissioner Darek Vetsch added it as Item 3.

Commissioner Jeanne Holland moved to approve the agenda with the addition made by Kryzer to discuss the Joint Ditch meeting membership. Kaczmarek seconded the motion.

For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Kaczmarek asked to remove Item A1, authorize signatures on letters of support for Wright Technical Center bonding request.

Vetsch asked to remove Item B2, the motion to approve the reimbursement of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act funds.

Kaczmarek moved to approve the Consent Agenda with Items A1 and B2 removed for discussion. Diedrick seconded the motion.

For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. Authorize Signatures on Letter of Support for Wright Technical Center Bonding Request

Kaczmarek said the board had approved specific legislative priorities to be sent on to Flaherty & Hood to take before the legislators. He asked if this issue of the letter of support for Wright Technical Center would be given the same weight as the other legislative priorities. Vetsch said this request was formalized in late January 2023 and it missed the legislators meeting and therefore it missed the opportunity to be considered for one of the county's platform items. The letter is an ask to be a layer of support for the Wright Technical Center, not for Wright County to be one of its champions. The Wright County Economic Development Partnership (WCEDP) and the Wright Technical Center are the champions of this request.

Kaczmarek asked if this was an official ask for the county lobbyist to be used to help facilitate or promote this cause. Vetsch said at this time the ask was just for a letter of support and not necessarily for the aid of the county's lobbying firm.

WCEDP Director Jolene Foss said the funding referred to in the letter is a significant need for Wright Technical Center to maintain its position in the community that it has held for the last 50 years. She said the WCEDP did get a House File 2069, and a Senate File 1856, requesting \$9.5 million for the long-term facilities maintenance. The bills have been introduced to the Minnesota State Legislature and the hearings are to be scheduled with the Capital Investment Committee. She will be meeting with District 29A Representative Joe McDonald and has met with several local legislators. She also has meetings set with the Chair, Vice Chair, minority and ranking members of the Capital Investment Committee to push the legislation forward.

Foss said the WCEDP does not have a lobbyist, however she has reached out to Senior Attorney and Lobbyist Shane Zahrt of Flaherty & Hood, to ask for guidance on drafting letters of support. So far WCEDP has received a great response from more

than 20 organizations including Wright County Community Action and Sherburne County. She requested the letter of support be signed and asked for the county to share Zahrt on some of the issues mentioned. She said it would be a great help to the WCEDP's fight to save the Wright Technical Center.

She said that the WCEDP is a non-profit and does not have the budget for a lobbyist.

Kaczmarek asked what the cost would be to allow the WCEDP to access Zahrt. Vetsch said any work done would be billed upon use and Flaherty & Hood would track the time used to offer guidance to the WCEDP. Kaczmarek said this question was a separate issue that created a precedent he did not believe was appropriate as it was outside the county's legislative platforms. He asked where the board would draw the line in the future for helping other non-profits. Foss said she was willing to meet with as many of the legislators as she could. She said that Wright Technical Center Executive Director Brian Koslofsky and herself were willing to testify at any hearing that may be called. She said that this issue has such a regional significance to not only Wright County's 16 cities and nine school districts, but to the neighboring counties and school districts as well, that she requested the board to grant an exception to allow Zahrt to be utilized in the promotion of this bill passage.

Vetsch applauded the work done by Foss and Koslofsky, acknowledging the breadth of work done in such a short amount of time. He agreed that there were no indications the funding would improve in the future, and that the current financial situation was not sustainable. He noted the difficulty local schools were having passing referendums and the comparative inequities rural and urban schools are facing. Vetsch said this bill is one way to reduce the burden to schools that fund Wright Technical Center. He said receiving these funds would put a bit of a stop gap into the financial shortfall.

Foss said the Tech Center is a cooperative vocational school and does not have the ability to levy. The building is almost 50 years old and in need of improvements and modernization. Workforce development has become a top priority for economic development in the nation. This is the last cooperative high school in the state. In the last 50 years more than 30,000 students have received training there and the hope is to see that many receive training there in the next 50 years.

Vetsch said one discussion is that the WCEDP could reallocate its budget and try to find funds for an individual, standalone contract with Flaherty & Hood. The economy of scale would be lost, and the cost of the contract would be substantially higher than what the WCEDP could afford. He said if the WCEDP were to piggyback on the county's existing contract with Flaherty & Hood and the work was billed normally, the cost would be very different. Diedrick said she supported the request for assistance, and the potential impact it could have for the students, work force, and economy. She asked if the lobbying cost would be paid through the Economic Development Authority (EDA). Vetsch said the account that pays for Flaherty & Hood is Professional Services, so it did not matter if the EDA paid or if it came out of the county budget. The contract with Flaherty & Hood is fluid. The board adds topics as needed to utilize its services. Foss said it would not consume an excessive amount of time for the lobbyist as she has committed to do a significant amount of the work needed. Kaczmarek said he supports the letter, but he draws the line at the use of the lobbyist.

Holland said this is an important topic for the county. She said as a former board member for the Wright Technical Center she was aware of its many attempts to get funding. She said the legislators tended to be hands off. She is hopeful that with new legislators and the aid of the county lobbyist this bill will be successful. She confirmed that the contract with Flaherty & Hood has a not-to-exceed amount of \$55,000. She agreed that the smaller schools will be most benefitted as the Wright Technical Center

provides much needed support.

Kaczmarek moved to approve the letter of support for the Wright Technical Center bonding request. The motion was seconded by Holland.

For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

Diedrick moved to approve the utilization of the Flaherty & Hood contract by the WCEDP. Holland seconded the motion.

For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

B. FINANCE & TAXPAYER SERVICES

1. Acknowledge Warrants Issued Between February 13, 2023 And February 24, 2023.
2. Motion to approve the reimbursement of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Funds as follows:

Approval of use of ARP funds from 01-099-493.

\$6,775.00 2.34 Aid to Nonprofit Organizations- Cokato Charitable Trust

\$200,000.00 2.34 Aid to Nonprofit Organizations-Community Dental

Vetsch said he wanted to discuss the Community Dental request for \$200,000. He said the information was too limited to vote on. He asked if the Community Dental Clinic had received ARP funds from any other municipalities. Assistant Director of Finance and Taxpayer Services Heather Lemieux said the county had asked Community Dental if it was getting any other funding or grant reimbursement. She said it was a requirement that the clinic not receive any Medical Assistance (MA) funds, which it has not. Project Administrator Elizabeth Karels said that in the beginning of 2022 a grant was approved by the board that outlined expenses to be covered by the reimbursement grant. That grant included staff cost, equipment, and miscellaneous operating supplies. She said the invoice that was submitted matched what was allowed by the grant. She said Community Dental was not asked about other ARP funding received because the county had already granted it the \$200,000. Diedrick asked if having the actual grant application included in the packet would help avoid any misunderstandings, especially the new board members.

Vetsch said he was looking to see a better description for what was being reimbursed. He wanted to see a better picture of its funding, especially as Wright County helped fund the project through federal grant money. Vetsch said he hoped surrounding counties and communities were supporting the clinic as well. He said it was important for transparency that it was known how the funds were being used. He reiterated that the clinic could not accept any appointment being paid by MA and was servicing patients with little to no income.

Karels said the clinic submitted an invoice, showing \$150,000 for staff wages, \$30,000 for lab fees and supplies, and \$20,000 for technology which matched what was entered in the grant application.

Kaczmarek said the last time the board took a vote on the grant was January 18, 2022. He said since then the county had given the clinic \$1.6 million and discounted rent. He said the county thought it would be getting state bonding funds for \$1.4 million, which after more than a year after the vote have not been received. He asked about the audit that is supposed to be performed. Lemieux said an internal audit will be done. Kaczmarek said he is not willing to give another \$200,000. Vetsch said the funding was given in large part to shore up the clinic's startup costs. He said he was frustrated hearing that much of the cost was wages as when the request for the grant was made it was conveyed that the clinic was coming up short in fundraising due to not being able to use bonding money to pay for the internal equipment. He said at the time the board believed it was helping to cover the cost of the equipment when it was spent on wages. Lemieux said the clinic is getting reimbursed by the Economic Assistance Grant under ARP, so it is required to give documentation that it incurred the costs it is being reimbursed for, which is why the clinic is using salary and wages. Health and Human Services Director Jami Goodrum said she was aware that wages were a large part of the startup costs. She said the clinic did raise \$1 million for the equipment budget. Vetsch said it would be in bad faith to not fulfill the grant as agreed. He said he would support approving it but had different expectations on how the money was spent. He said the money was not spent irresponsibly as the need was real. Goodrum said good faith works on both sides.

Diedrick moved to approve the use of ARP funds to aid Cokato Charitable Trust and Community Dental. The motion was seconded by Holland.

For: 3; Against: 1; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

3. Approval of increase in the change fund of Finance and Taxpayer Service from \$5,000 to \$5,300.
4. Motion to approve transfer and budget adjustment of \$50,884.64 from Capital Improvements Fund (34-170-071-8412-6910-000000) to General Fund (01-041-071-8412-5910-000000) for poll pads.

C. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

1. Approve Opioid Settlement Advisory Council Appointment, Member Approval:
 - a. David Decker is applying as a Community Member at Large. He represents District 2.

D. PLANNING & ZONING

1. Accept the Findings and Recommendations of the Planning Commission

for the Request to Rezone: Charles Webb - (Southside Twp.) Rezoning the North 50 ft. of PID# 217-000-332404 from R1-Urban/Rural Transition & S2-Shoreland to R2-Suburban Residential & S2-Shoreland.

E. PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

1. Approve the following grant applications:

WQG-001 COKATO STORMWATER POND (\$250,000)
 WQG-002 MONTICELLO DITCH 33 OUTLET IMPROVEMENTS (\$970,625)
 WQG-003 INDIAN LAKE GULLY REPAIR (\$159,375)
 WQG-004 DELANO DITCH 34 IMPROVEMENTS (\$400,000)
 WQG-005 OTSEGO CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT (\$210,000)
 WQG-006 HOWARD LAKE WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT STUDY (\$10,000)

Upon approval, staff will execute grant agreements.

V. TIMED AGENDA ITEMS

A. 9:02 AM - MARC MATTICE, ADMINISTRATION

1. Authorize Signatures by County Board Chair on Xcel Energy Easement Relocation Affecting Wright County Property (Fairgrounds)

Assistant County Administrator Marc Mattice said he had been working with Xcel Energy for the redetermination of easement at the county fairgrounds. He said Xcel is looking for a signature from the board to authorize the easement relocation affecting the Wright County Fairgrounds. Kaczmarek said the fair board met Monday, March 6, and it is in favor of the relocation. He also said that if there are any poles that are not being utilized because of the relocation, the fair board would appreciate them being left in place. He said the board wanted them for future lighting.

Holland moved to authorize the signatures by the county board on Xcel Energy easement relocation affecting Wright County property (fairgrounds). Kaczmarek seconded the motion.

For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

B. 9:07 AM MATTHEW DETJEN - AGRICULTURE & DRAINAGE

1. Update County Board on the Purpose of Public Hearing Scheduled for 3/7/2023 At 10:30 a.m.

Agriculture & Drainage Coordinator Matthew Detjen said the scope of the Tuesday, March 7 public hearing will be changed. He said the hearing will be to schedule a future public hearing. He said that due to Commissioner Nadine Schoen's absence the board will need to appoint a replacement board member. Diedrick said she would sit in for Schoen.

Kaczmarek moved to appoint District 1 as the alternate to the Joint Drainage Authority of Wright, McLeod, and Meeker counties acting as the Drainage Authority for Joint Ditch #15. Holland seconded the motion.

For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

2. Joint Ditch Meeting to Schedule a Public Hearing on an Application to do Work Within the Drainage System Right of Way on Joint Ditch #15

Detjen said that while this project does not need a public hearing, it will be scheduled in addition to the future public hearing,

3. Approval of Payment Application #9 for \$41,258.58 to Blackstone Contractors, LLC for County Ditch (CD) #10.

Detjen said the public hearing was held and the decision was made to withhold 10 percent from the final payment until the ground has defrosted and the punch list is completed.

Holland moved to approve payment #9 for \$41,258.58 to Blackstone Contractors, LLC for CD #10. Diedrick seconded the motion.

For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

4. Resolution to Approve the Findings in Order and Accepting the Contract for Repairs on County Ditch #10

Detjen said staff had drafted the findings in order per the board's request. Diedrick asked how needed repairs will be handled once they become apparent after the snow melts. Detjen said there were repairs that were known and as further repairs become apparent, they would be added to the list. Kaczmarek said he had spoken with Detjen, and they agreed it would be best to have the final hearings once the thaw has happened to ensure the work is done.

Kaczmarek moved to approve the findings in order and accept the contract for repairs on CD #10. The motion was seconded by Holland. There was a roll call vote:

Aye: 4; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

Names:

For: Diedrick-Tina, Holland-Jeanne, Kaczmarek-Michael, Vetsch-Darek

Absent: Schoen

C. 9:19 AM LINDSEY MEYER - FINANCE & TAXPAYER SERVICES

- 1. Schedule a Committee of the Whole (COTW) Meeting to Discuss Election Operations

Director of Finance and Taxpayer Services Lindsey Meyer said that a month ago there was a meeting held with Vetsch, herself, Assistant County Administrator Clay Wilfahrt, and several members of the public, discussing some concerns these individuals had in the operations of the election team. Meyer said that because of the meeting it was decided to present the findings to the full board. Vetsch had asked for some comparative information on registered voters, and absentee voting. Vetsch said the timeline was intended to ensure the members of the public could attend. 3 p.m. Monday, March 27 was recommended.

Kaczmarek moved to schedule a COTW meeting to discuss election operations at 3 p.m. Monday, March 27. The motion was seconded by Holland.

For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

D. 9:30 AM - LEE KELLY, ADMINISTRATION

- 1. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY
 - 1. Employee of the Year Award
 - 2. Group of the Year Award
 - 3. Quarterly Years of Service (2023 Q1)

County Administrator Lee Kelly said this day is one the board and administration looks forward to as it gets to celebrate the great work the staff does throughout the year. Kelly read the names of the Honorable Mention Individual Achievement nominees.

From Administration, Philip Hodges.

From the Attorney’s Office, Brian Lutes.

From Finance, Lindsay Salo.

From Health & Human Services, Kaylyn Sayen, Kelsey Collier, Ellen Tschimperle, Beth Hammer, Jill VanBeusekom, Lisa Wilson, Daisy Blanchette, Holly Hamers, Roseanne Duran, Janet Marquette, Andrea Bixby, Rachel Bratz, Emily Anderson, Jana Hogenson, and Kelly Hierstand.

From Human Resources, Lori Pawelk.

From Information Technology, Angelique Petitta.

From Parks and Recreation, Carson Law.

From Project Administration, Rebecca Murphy and Elizabeth Karels.

The winner of the 2022 Individual Achievement Award is:
Director of Public Health Sarah Grosshuesch.

Financial Services Manager Kim Johnson read her nomination of Grosshuesch.

Sarah has demonstrated her leadership and commitment to the well-being of the residents of Wright County. Through her hard work and dedication serving as the lead Public Health Strategist on the Community Dental project she played a significant role in bridging the gap in dental care for Wright County and surrounding areas.

Sarah's significant contribution leading this project demonstrates why she was chosen as Employee of the Year. There has been a gap in dental care in Wright County and across the state for many years. The Public Health Task Force had a vision of bringing a dental clinic to Wright County but prior to 2017 the project seemed almost unreachable. Sarah joined Wright County in August of 2017 and longstanding task force member Dr. Ray-Mader said, "Sarah came in and took to the project like she had been involved the whole time." Under Sarah's leadership things started to fall into place. One by one the task force started to overcome barriers by proving the need, recruiting dentists and insurance companies and by raising funds. Sarah not only served as the lead Public Health Strategist but she also promoted the idea at meetings across the state. All of the hard work came to fruition when Community Dental opened in the Wright County Government Center on September 19, 2022. Community Dental is filling the dental gap. As of January 7, 2023 they have served more than 1,600 unique patients. Through 2,800 patient visits 91 percent of the patients served use public programs, 4 percent are uninsured, 22 percent of the visits were emergencies, and 50 percent of the patients are children under the age of 21. Community Dental has scheduled 1,900 future appointments. Sarah attributes the success of the dental clinic project to the task force, she said "That group is a powerhouse".

Sarah stepped into the position as Public Health Director, she embraced the challenge of bridging the dental gap in our community, she made contacts, promoted the idea, followed up, and provided the direction needed to empower the taskforce to accomplish great things. Sarah has now taken this success and shared it at a national conference to help guide others who would like to do the same thing. Sarah is a shining example of the kind of leaders we need here at Wright County Thank you for your service to Wright County and your community.

Holland congratulated Grosshuesch and thanked her for her kindness and knowledge. Grosshuesch said she could not underscore the importance of the task force. She said this was a project that was driven by the community. The idea was brought forward for bonding to support the clinic were brought forward before Covid. She said thank you and said there were many who helped along the way. Vetsch congratulated Grosshuesch saying her work with the Opioid Task Force and the Pandemic support she gave locally and at the state level would have been enough to win this honor. Grosshuesch thanked the board and Goodrum.

Kelly moved to the group achievement award recipient. Seven groups received

honorable mention. The Finance Team, Alicia Gillham, Carla Nelson, Christy Houle, Dianna Zubrod, Donald Baron, Heather Lemieux, Janice Edmonson, Jennifer Rasset, Joseph Rotz, Kate Dahl, Kellie Niesen, Kristan Engel, Marcus Yang, Marsha Kutz, Patsy Waytashek, Ryan Kotila, Sara Hamann, Shawne Lindenfelser, and Wendy Marschel.

The Information Technology (IT) Development Team: Mike Janckila, Angelique Petitta, David Angell, Kolja Sommer, Alba Kampa, Christopher Greenwald.

The IT Team: Belynda Pageau, Brandon Rathe, Brent Cornillez, Frank Petitta, III, Frank Petitta Jr., Isaac Mize, Jacob Swanson, Jason Brown, Jason Banick, Jesus Castillo, Jollette Adelman, Joshua Fox,, Mark Staller, Mark Kellogg, Mason Coaty, Matthew Fomby, Misty Thibodeaux, Ryan Parnell, Stephen Mize, Tau Pho, Travis Earls, Zack Kuphal, Mike Janckila, Angelique Petitta, David Angell, Kolja Sommer, Alba Kampa, Christopher Greenwald.

The Recorder's Office: Tanya West, Angela Angerhofer, Anne LaTour, Casey Badeaux, Danielle Lee, Jeanne Lewandoski, Kathleen Albers, Kathy Green, Kelly Day, Kyle Myers, Mary Cogley, MaryJo Faulhaber, Michelle Gardner, Paula Thompson, and Trinity Nathe.

The Sheriff's Jail Division: Edward Adams, Alex Anderson, Lauren Arnevik, Terry Baxter, Blake Baynes, Kimberly Bodem, Darrell Bruestle, David Carlson, Heather Clanton, Robert Dubois, Cynthia Dupont, Danielle Elliott, Chad Engel, Noelle Flesher, Charron Gobind, Cori Hemming, Kaitlyn Hoffmann, Samuel Hoover, Vincent Horn, Quinn Huebner, Shannon Hunter, Lukas Husom, Nicholas Johnson, Milly Koscianski, David Lamberts, Brett Larose, Renita Lewis, Kent Lipelt, Daniel Lothert, Ashley Martineau, Christopher Mazer, Joshua Mertens, James Miller, Tyler Neibert, Jacob Nelson, Leah Novak, Richard Olson, Patrick O'Malley, Joshua Orsatti, Joseph Paskach, Robert Rajtar, Anthony Robeck, Nathan Roemer, Jacob Scheierl, Kyle Shea, Matthew Silbernagel, Michael Silbernagel, Brandon Steen, Eric Stemper, Anthony Tugbe, Melissa Tverberg, Alexander Vars, Joseph Vollbrecht, Andrew Wallisch, Ian Warpula, David Wermerskirchen, Alexander Willems, Jeremy Wojciechowski, Lori Wojciechowski, William Wolak, and David Yang.

The Sheriff's Office Patrol Sergeants: Peter Walker, Kevin Triplett, Benjamin Schaap, Jason Oltmanns, Mark Olson, Joleen Miller, Dustin Miller, Jeffrey Mc Mackins, Adam Lund, Nicholas Lee, Russell Erkens, and Jordan Barto.

The Project Portfolio Management (PPM) Intake Team: Rebecca Murphy, Zack Breyen, Jeremy Huebsch, Jeremy Kringler, Frank Petitta Jr., Misty Thibodeaux, Michael Janckila, Josh Fox, Jason Banick, Tau Pho, Caroline Bachun, Brent Cornillez, Tim Dahl, Larkin Walter, and Alek Halverson.

Kelly announced the winners of the 2022 Wright County Group of the Year to be the Facilities team, led by Facilities Director Alan Wilczek: They are Pete Kile, Robbie Klimmek, Kevin Worcester, John Pregler, Matthew Arant, Shawn Olson, Robert Burns, William Vogel, Luke Ross, Marc Thibodeaux, Jeffery Peterson, Dana Oliver, James Gulliford, Jack Jonas, and Tim Fox.

Wilczek read the nominations submitted by Communications Specialist John Holler and Audio/Visual Technician Frank Petitta III. Holler wrote:

Overseeing the once-in-a-generation move of hundreds of employees from two facilities (the old Government Center and

Human Services Center) into the new Government Center would be a massive undertaking under ideal conditions. Throw in a pandemic with constant supply-chain breakdowns during the construction process made this an epic challenge. Our facilities staff were (and remain) our frontline boots on the ground both for the new facility 400 employees moved into and the vacated facilities they have maintained for future sale. As with any project of this magnitude, change orders and unexpected hurdles came in their way often and our facilities staff addressed each issue as it arose and fixed it. They deserve a lot more credit than they receive for the awesome (and often unnoticed) work they do on a daily basis, and I was proud to nominate this crew for Group of the Year and recognize their achievement for making the transition as seamless as possible under far-from-ideal circumstances.

Petitta wrote:

They regularly help with the mounting of new equipment and changing conference room layouts. The facilities team is an integral part of the County. From everyday tasks like snow removal and general maintenance, the facilities team makes sure the county campus is a safe and well-maintained area for both the public and the employees. I've worked on many projects in my short two years with the county, each one involving help from the facilities team. I absolutely could not accomplish many of my daily tasks without their help. The facilities team always has a good attitude no matter what the project requirements, and truly set a great example.

Wilczek said his group is unique in that several their clients are the county departments. His team works with anybody who steps foot on the campus from citizens of the county to the landscapers. He said there have been challenges to overcome and multiple activities on the campus. He said they have multiple tasks that the team does behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of the county. He thanked the board and his team.

Vetsch congratulated the facilities team and said this honor had been building over the last two to three years. He said over the last couple of years the facilities group has had to work on things with no blueprints from Covid barriers to supply chain issues.

Kelly thanked the Employee Recognition Team for their tireless, hard work. The committee consists of Tanya West, Jessi Miller, Delia Scepaniak, Bridget McGriff, Brian Johnson, Casey Badeaux, Kim Johnson, Melissa Muering-Paulson, and Marc Mattice.

Vetsch and Kaczmarek read the names for the Years of Service Recognitions, Holland and Diedrick handed out the certificates and gifts to the employees.

Celebrating 30 years of service were: Michael Kaczmarek (County Board) and Michael MacMillan (Court Services.)

Celebrating 25 years of service were: Wendy Marschel (Finance), Alicia Gillham, (Finance), Tony Endreson (Sheriff), Lisa Fox (Sheriff), Raande Howe (Sheriff), and Troy Wachter (Sheriff).

Celebrating 20 years of service were: Joshua Wilson (Parks & Recreation) and Georgina Turner (Health & Human Services).

Celebrating 15 years of service were, Daniel Cotten (Sheriff), Brandy Vollbrecht (Health & Human Services), Marisa Ferguson (Health & Human Services), Colleen Majkrzak (Veteran Services), and Russell Erkens (Sheriff).

Celebrating five years of service were, Tayler Marschel (Sheriff), Steven Furry (Sheriff), Whitney Moran (Health & Human Services), Robbie Klimmek (Facilities), Thomas Peterson (Sheriff), Barbara Lee (Court Services) Ryan Kotila (Finance), Leah Novak (Sheriff), and Stephen Waddell (Planning & Zoning).

Vetsch thanked the employees for their hard work and loyalty.

A five-minute recess was called at 9:52 a.m. and the meeting reconvened at 9:57 a.m.

VI. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. Discuss March 14 Workshop Agenda

Vetsch said there was a request to put together an educational discussion based on items from the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), from scope, target, impact, and cost.

There is also a discussion request to go over regarding the ARP funding and history.

Vetsch said there will be an educational fiscal policy overview of the county board.

Vetsch said there would also be a legislative update. Schoen will call in as well.

Kelly said HHS would like to make a presentation on homelessness in Wright County.

Diedrick moved to approve the Workshop Agenda for March 14. The motion was seconded by Holland.

For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

2. COMMITTEE MINUTES

a. Approve Committee Recommendations:

1. Personnel Committee Recommendations (02-08-2023)
2. Personnel Committee Recommendations (02-28-2023)
3. Committee Of The Whole 10 a.m. Recommendations (02-27-

2023)

4. Committee Of The Whole 1 p.m. Recommendations (02-27-2023)

Vetsch read through the recommendations from the February 8, 2023 Personnel Committee. Kaczmarek said he wanted a discussion about Item IV, the request for the staff accountant. He said he had a budget amendment form that had the overtime figure at 1,855.50 hours and asked if there was an updated or revised amendment to that form. Vetsch said and Meyer affirmed that the dollar amount was correct while the hours were not correct due to exempt employees being added to the original equation. Kaczmarek said this request had come up for discussion in 2021. He said a part of the original request was approved in 2021, and now early in 2023 there is a request for the position that had been rejected in 2021. Kaczmarek said elected officials, often outside of boardrooms, say they are going to hold the line and tap the brakes on spending, and he was going to do that with this request in the boardroom. He said it would be appropriate to have a budget season where these kinds of requests are handled. He said he would not approve the recommendation for a Finance Staff Accountant.

Kaczmarek moved to deny the recommendation number IV from the February 8 Personnel Committee, "to have staff post an available position to hire a finance staff accountant. To have staff bring more information to an upcoming Personnel Committee meeting to discuss the need for a Human Resources (HR) Tech. To discuss the need to hire a Business Analyst at the next Personnel Committee meeting." The motion died for lack of a second.

Vetsch said these staff positions are not being driven by ERP. He said these positions were scouted years ago and are driven by the growth of the county. He said these positions are being created to handle the growing needs of the county.

Kaczmarek brought up Item VII of the February Personnel Committee, "to have Jacob Anson apply for a federally-sponsored Homeland Security training." He asked how many Emergency Managers were in the county. Kelly said there were three-two in the Sheriff's Office and one in HHS. Kaczmarek said he looked at the program being asked about and it is more of a master's degree program than a training program. He said the cost was about \$18,000 to \$20,000 to payroll, accounting for 12 weeks.

There was a discussion between Goodrum, Vetsch, Grosshuesch and Wright County Sheriff Sean Deringer regarding the position within the county of supporting the education of its employees for the betterment of the county. Deringer spoke of attending an 11-week Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) course in 2015 that is still paying dividends in 2023.

Grosshuesch said this request is not a given, rather it is a request for the employee to apply to the program. Deringer said if this program were available to any of his staff, he would do what was needed to ensure the position was covered. Vetsch said this program is a net zero cost for the county. It is considered training which means the employee is still working. Deringer

pointed out that most of these programs are paid with a grant. Diedrick said it was important to know that the board was behind them encouraging them to pursue furthering education.

Diedrick moved to recommend approval of the recommendations from the four committees The motion was seconded by Holland.

For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

VII. ADVISORY COMMITTEE / ADVISORY BOARD UPDATES

Vetsch said Advisory Committee/Advisory Board updates would be skipped due to scheduling conflicts.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

IX. WARRANTS ISSUED

A. Warrants Issued

*The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.
Minutes submitted by Philip Hodges, Administrative Specialist*