

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Janesville, Wisconsin
April 8, 2010

The Rock County Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment on April 8, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. in the Courthouse at Janesville, Wisconsin.

Chair Podzilni called the meeting to order. Supervisor Johnson gave the invocation.

3. Roll Call. At roll call, Supervisors Peer, Arnold, Grahn, Beaver, Ott, Kuznacic, Joiner, Yankee, Gustina, Bussie, Combs, Thomas, Knudson, Kraft, Bishop, Fizzell, Johnson, Thompson, Brill, Wiedenfeld, Jensen, Wopat, Bostwick, Sweeney, Collins, Owens, Mawhinney and Podzilni were present. Supervisor Diestler was absent. PRESENT – 28. ABSENT – 1.

QUORUM PRESENT

4. Adoption of Agenda.

Supervisors Arnold and Combs moved to the Agenda as presented. ADOPTED as presented. Agenda is as follows:

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL
4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 25, 2010
6. PUBLIC HEARING
7. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
8. NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATION
 - A. Appointment to the 911 Communications Commission
9. INTRODUCTION OF NEW RESOLUTIONS OR ORDINANCES BY SUPERVISORS FOR REFERRAL TO APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE
10. REPORTS
 - A. Presentation of the 2010 Alice in Dairyland Competition to be Held in Rock County – Cheryl O'Brien, 2009 Alice in Dairyland
11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
12. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Supplementary Appropriations and Budget Changes – Roll Call
 1. Amend the Budget to Create the 2010 Orthoimagery Project
 - B. Bills Over \$10,000 – No Roll Call
 - C. Encumbrances Over \$10,000 – Roll Call
 - D. Contracts – Roll Call
 1. Approve Lease With The United States of America for the Air Traffic Control Tower
 2. Establishment of a Mobile Data Transmitter Site
 3. Awarding Contract for Beckman Mill Park Lighting Project
 - E. Abolishment the Office of the Coroner and Establishing a Medical Examiner System
13. ADJOURNMENT

5. Approval of Minutes – March 25, 2010.

Supervisors Thomas and Bostwick moved the approval of the minutes of March 25, 2010, as presented. ADOPTED by acclamation.

7. Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements.

Tony Farrell Sr. of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. As a lifelong resident of Rock County and a volunteer of the Coroner's office, Mr. Farrell Sr. spoke to the respectful treatment and good-standing relationship with our current coroner. He indicated that the coroner's office is knowledgeable and duly recognized by her peers by being elected as the President of the Wisconsin Coroners and Medical Examiners Association. He is concerned for the future and welfare of the existing staff members should the board take action tonight to change the way this office is structured. He stated that perhaps a referendum to the voters of Rock County would be a more fair way to reconcile this situation.

Ty Bollerud of Milton spoke in favor of '*municipal electric cooperatives.*' Mr. Bollerud feels that we are "losing our freedoms because we are not living on mother's earth in mother earth's economy and as long as we don't do that, things will continuously get worse for our young people." He feels that the people who plan, or don't plan, for a nicer place to live shouldn't and don't deserve a nice place to live themselves.

Ronnie E. Thomas of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. Mr. Thomas would like the board to provide any overwhelming evidence that the Medical Examiner system would prove to be much better for Rock County. He used a football analogy in that he would like the board to 'throw the red flag and review the play.'

Jim Koeberl of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. Mr. Koeberl reminded the board that this exact board made this decision one year ago. He asked the board what has changed to bring this back to the board? One disgruntled employee isn't reason enough to take such drastic measure. Mr. Koeberl reminded the board that Ms. Keach has brought respect back to this office that had been missing for several years. He also reminded the board that just two days ago, the voters of Rock County elected the County Board of Supervisors to their seats and they shouldn't use that authority to take voting rights away from this position. He asked that the board keeps the trust in this position with the voters of Rock County.

John A. Merritt of Evansville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. He stated that the Rock County Board of Supervisors is elected to serve all of the people, not just the special interest groups that could benefit from these shenanigans. Mr. Merritt would like the board to fix something that is broke, fix prevailing wage. Don't fix something that is already doing well.

Bill Breidenstein of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. Mr. Breidenstein served on the County Board from 1972 – 1988, being re-elected every two years. He asked the board to leave the office elected.

Joyce Keller of Evansville spoke on Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. She asked the board what the exact difference is between a coroner and a medical examiner. She also asked the board for their specific reasons for changing the position and taking the voting right to elect the position. Is there a pro's and con's list? Don't make a decision for the citizens of Rock County without giving the citizens the facts. What authority gives the board the right to make such a change?

Gary Keller of Evansville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. He feels that you shouldn't abolish the office just because there is a history with problems. Address the problems. Appointed positions only answer to the few who appoint them and he doesn't want this position to be put in the hands of a few.

Julie Spangler of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. Ms. Spangler gives the current coroner a lot of credit for what she does and knows it is not an easy task. She doesn't

want the board to make decisions for her, rather represent her. She would like the position left elected and not have that right abolished.

Jason Dowd of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. Mr. Dowd spoke to the language of the resolution noting that it says, 'it may be possible to establish a medical examiner system at a cost comparable to a coroner's office.' He asked the board how that would be saving tax dollars. It sounds like you're just replacing the position to empower the County Board more authority, not the taxpayer. He believes such a decision is arrogant and would like the board to preserve his right to vote. The County Administrator doesn't appoint the County Board and the County Board shouldn't be appointing a medical examiner. Mr. Dowd has run for the offices of County Board, City Council and School board and lost every election, but still has trust in the electors of Rock County. The County Board who has been elected doesn't appear to have that trust. He asked the board to re-focus on everything that we are facing right now as a community, but keep the partisan politics out of it.

Wanda Sonnentag of Janesville and Gene Wendt didn't wish to speak to the board but registered in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System.

David Dobson of Beloit applauded the Public Works Committee for resolution 10-4A-534 for Awarding the Contract at Beckman Mill Park for a Lighting Project. He urged the board to support the project as a priority.

Jill Costerisan of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. She inquired to the board what the rush was in taking such action, fearing ulterior motives, and implored the voters of Rock County to speak against such action from the County Board.

Jennifer Youngblood of Nashotah, WI spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. As an educator of Medicine and Public Health with the University of Wisconsin, Ms. Youngblood has more than 17 years experience in both systems and can cite problems with both structures. She chose to work part time in Rock County as a deputy coroner because of the outstanding reputation of the Rock County Coroner's office. She shared with the board that an appointed position cannot be autonomous. An elected position answers to the voters. It has been evidenced over that years where an appointed position in a high profile has felt pressured to conduct death investigations or sign a death certificate or testify in a certain way. Two such high profile cases of appointed medical examiners were not able to testify because of their conflict of interest. She urged the board to let the system remain intact and to let it grow and blossom into the potential that it can be.

Paul R. Lembrich of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. He urged the board to not bury the coroner's office under another layer of bureaucracy. This office belongs in the hands of the people, not the controversial bureaucracy. The qualifications of Ms. Keach have nothing to do with this decision, regardless of whether or not those qualifications exist. This decision is about changing the structure of an elected position and that is not the job of the County Board.

Sue Malmanger of Janesville spoke to Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. She has been following the story in the paper and suspects that there must be 'something' that has this board concerned about the current office of the Coroner. She wondered if the coroner was so highly qualified, then why couldn't she undergo the hiring process to a medical examiner and run the office from a medical examiner status. She trusts that the board will make good decisions on her behalf.

Steve Flood of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. He also has followed this resolution through the radio and papers and felt compelled to address the board and ask them to leave the office in the hands of the elector. The position is transparent and accountable to the people of Rock County and doesn't want to see that transparency buried.

Tom Brien of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. The resolution does not issue reasons or fiscal reasons to change the office, yet you want to take control of the office. Without

the why and at what cost, Mr. Brien doesn't feel the board should use the authority to change the office just because they can.

Danielle Darr of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. Ms. Darr is a deputy coroner who is also a forensic nurse and sexual assault investigator. She also shared the varied qualifications of other deputies, making it an experienced and qualified department on multiple levels.

Pam McCarty of Madison read a letter on behalf of Elizabeth Feagles written in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. Ms. McCarty shared her own credentials as a special agent and assured the board that Ms. Keach is well qualified to hold her office and she warned the board about the expenses that will be mandated to elevate this office to a Medical Examiner, beginning with the difference in pay of a deputy coroner and a deputy medical examiner.

Louis Smit of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System. Mr. Smit is the new Chief Deputy Coroner and recently moved his family across the country to be a part of the Coroner's team. He feels he was hired for his ability to bring balance and diversity to the office with his background in medicine and law enforcement (local, state and federal). Mr. Smit also comes with extensive knowledge of applying for grant funds that can further save time and money. He encouraged the board to improve the system Rock County has with the resources they've built.

Jenifer Keach, Rock County Coroner, of Janesville spoke in opposition of Resolution 10-4A-535 to abolish the office of the Coroner and establishing a Medical Examiner System.

Supervisor Kraft reminded all that the upcoming Prescription Drug roundup is scheduled for Saturday, April 17th from 9am-1pm in multiple locations. Please go to the County website for more details at <http://www.co.rock.wi.us/index.php/rx-roundup>.

Chair Podzilni announced April birthdays as Supervisors Arnold, Bussie, Fizzell, Jensen, Joiner, Kraft and Wopat. He also informed the board that with this election, current supervisors continue to serve until 6pm on April 20th at which time, the reorganization of the County Board will occur. Existing committees may continue to meet as long as there is a quorum of the current membership. New committee board appointments will be confirmed at the board meeting on May 13th.

Clerk Stottler asked the Board to save the date of Thursday, May 6th as the date for the outgoing supervisor dinner. More details will follow in the near future.

8.A. Appointment to the 911 Communications Commission.

NEW APPOINTMENT: Chief Loren Lippincott
Milton/Milton Township Fire Department
614 W Madison Avenue
Milton WI 53563
Alternate:
Deputy Chief Chris Lukas
Milton/Milton Township Fire Department
614 W Madison Avenue
Milton WI 53563
EFFECTIVE DATE: April 8, 2010

Supervisors Arnold and Collins moved the above appointment. ADOPTED by acclamation.

10.A. Presentation of the 2010 Alice in Dairyland Competition to be Held in Rock County – Cheryl O'Brien, 2009 Alice in Dairyland.

Supervisor Knudson introduced Alice O'Brien as the 2009 Alice in Dairyland as one of the most recognizable spokespersons of Wisconsin agriculture. Ms. O'Brien gave her background and began as the state's agricultural ambassador June 1, 2009. She is a one year state employee traveling over 40,000 miles across the state of Wisconsin and speaking at more than 300 events, visiting 100 schools and working with the media to educate on agriculture in

Wisconsin to all of our citizens. She talks about the impact agriculture has on the state – generating \$59.16 billion dollars per year into the state’s economy. That’s more than \$5 billion per month; more than \$1 billion dollars every week; over \$160 million dollars each day; more than \$6.5 million dollars every hour; or \$110,000 every minute!

Here in Rock County alone, agriculture alone contributes more than \$1.1 billion dollars annually to your local and state economy and provides jobs to 8,569 residents. Agriculture is an important economic force in Rock County and has the great honor of hosting the 63rd Alice in Dairyland finals May 20-22, 2010. This 3-day event showcases agricultural life in Rock County to people across the state. The 6 amazing finalists will participate in radio and T.V. interviews, a writing exercise, impromptu Q&A and an extensive interview from the selection committee as well as other various functions. The Alice in Dairyland Finals Banquet will be held at the Pontiac Convention Center in Janesville, on Saturday, May 22nd and 5:30 pm with the Finale Program beginning at 7:00 pm. Events are open to the public and interested parties can find more information at www.aliceindairyland.com for further information.

12.A.1. Amend the Budget to Create the 2010 Orthoimagery Project. Resolution No. 10-4A-530 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 8th day of April, 2010 does hereby amend the budget to create the 2010 Orthoimagery Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2010 budget be amended as follows:

<u>A/C-Description</u>	<u>Budget At 4/1/10</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>Amended Budget</u>
<u>Sources of Funds:</u>			
10-1725-0000-45200/ Intergovernmental Charges	0	\$101,460	\$101,460
10-1725-0000-47000/ Transfer In	0	\$95,400	\$95,000
<u>Use of Funds:</u>			
10-1725-0000-62119 Other Contracted Services	0	\$196,860	\$196,860

Supervisors Mawhinney and Kraft moved the above resolution. ADOPTED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Peer, Arnold, Grahn, Beaver, Ott, Kuznacic, Joiner, Yankee, Gustina, Bussie, Combs, Thomas, Knudson, Kraft, Bishop, Fizzell, Johnson, Thompson, Brill, Wiedenfeld, Jensen, Wopat, Bostwick, Sweeney, Collins, Owens, Mawhinney and Podzilni voted in favor. Supervisor Diestler was absent. AYES – 28. NOES – 0. ABSENT – 1.

12.C. Approval of Encumbrances Over \$10,000.00. Resolution No. 10-4A-531 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rock County Board of Supervisors at its regular meeting on April 8, 2010, approves payment and authorizes and directs the County Clerk and County Treasurer to pay the same, upon acceptance by the department head.

Community Health Systems Inc. Human Services Contracted Services \$47,500.00

Supervisors Mawhinney and Kraft moved the above resolution. ADOPTED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Peer, Arnold, Grahn, Beaver, Ott, Kuznacic, Joiner, Yankee, Gustina, Bussie, Combs, Thomas, Knudson, Kraft, Bishop, Fizzell, Johnson, Thompson, Brill, Wiedenfeld, Jensen, Wopat, Bostwick, Sweeney, Collins, Owens, Mawhinney and Podzilni voted in favor. Supervisor Diestler was absent. AYES – 28. NOES – 0. ABSENT – 1.

12.D.1. Approve Lease With The United States of America for the Air Traffic Control Tower.

Resolution No. 10-4A-532

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 8th day of April, 2010 that the County Board Chair/County Clerk are authorized to enter into this contract with the United States of America, Federal Aviation Administration.

Supervisors Yankee and Bussie moved the above resolution. ADOPTED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Peer, Arnold, Grahn, Beaver, Ott, Kuznacic, Joiner, Yankee, Gustina, Bussie, Combs, Thomas, Knudson, Kraft, Bishop, Fizzell, Johnson, Thompson, Brill, Wiedenfeld, Jensen, Wopat, Bostwick, Sweeney, Collins, Owens, Mawhinney and Podzilni voted in favor. Supervisor Diestler was absent. AYES – 28. NOES – 0. ABSENT – 1.

12.D.2. Establishment of a Mobile Data Transmitter Site. Resolution No. 10-4A-533
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 8th day of April, 2010 that a contract be awarded to General Communications, Inc., Madison, Wisconsin in the amount of \$17,100, with the County Board Chair herein authorized to execute the purchase agreement.

Supervisors Collins and Knudson moved the above resolution. ADOPTED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Peer, Arnold, Grahn, Beaver, Ott, Kuznacic, Joiner, Yankee, Gustina, Bussie, Combs, Thomas, Knudson, Kraft, Bishop, Fizzell, Johnson, Thompson, Brill, Wiedenfeld, Jensen, Wopat, Bostwick, Sweeney, Collins, Owens, Mawhinney and Podzilni voted in favor. Supervisor Diestler was absent. AYES – 28. NOES – 0. ABSENT – 1.

12.D.3. Awarding Contract for Beckman Mill Park Lighting Project. Resolution No. 10-4A-534
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 8th day of April, 2010 issue a Purchase Order to Richter Electric of Janesville, Wisconsin, in the amount of \$40,599.00 to install Light Emitting Diodes (LED) security and campus lighting at Beckman Mill Park.

Supervisors Yankee and Grahn moved the above resolution. ADOPTED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Peer, Arnold, Grahn, Beaver, Ott, Kuznacic, Joiner, Yankee, Gustina, Bussie, Combs, Thomas, Knudson, Kraft, Bishop, Fizzell, Johnson, Thompson, Brill, Wiedenfeld, Jensen, Wopat, Bostwick, Sweeney, Collins, Owens, Mawhinney and Podzilni voted in favor. Supervisor Diestler was absent. AYES – 28. NOES – 0. ABSENT – 1.

12.E. Abolishment the Office of the Coroner and Establishing a Medical Examiner System.
Resolution No. 10-4A-535
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 8th day of April, 2010 does hereby abolish the position of the coroner and establish a medical examiner system, effective January 3, 2011.

Supervisors Brill and Beaver moved the above resolution. Supervisors Brill and Fizzell moved to table the resolution indefinitely. No discussion. Tabled on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Kuznacic, Joiner, Combs, Thomas, Knudson, Bishop, Fizzell, Johnson, Thompson, Brill, Wiedenfeld, Jensen, Wopat, Bostwick, Sweeney and Mawhinney voting in favor. Supervisors Peer, Arnold, Grahn, Beaver, Ott, Yankee, Gustina, Bussie, Kraft, Collins, Owens and Podzilni voting no. AYES – 16. NOES – 12. ABSENT – 1.

13. Adjournment.

Supervisors Fizzell and Ott moved to adjourn at 7:28 pm to Thursday, April 20, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. for the reorganization meeting. ADOPTED by acclamation.

Prepared by Lorena R. Stottler, County Clerk
NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE COUNTY BOARD.