



**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT STRATEGY & OUTCOMES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024**

**A. Call to Order**

Co- Chair Tom Egan called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Members Present: 10 - Jon Doemel, Tom Egan, Chuck Farrey, Thomas Borchart, Andy Buck, Morris Cox, Tom Belter (arrived at 1:02 PM), Beth Oswald, Tim Galloway, and Paul Kaiser

Also Present at the Meeting:

Matthew Olson, Town of Winchester  
Holly Stevens, Larsen-Winchester Sanitary District  
Jeff Guth, Larsen-Winchester Sanitary District  
Connie Kreuzberg, Larsen-Winchester San. District  
Angie Flanigan, Oshkosh YMCA  
Jeff Schneider, Oshkosh YMCA  
Patti Weissling, Oshkosh YMCA  
Bruce Abraham, Oshkosh Pickleball Club  
Tanya Marcoe, Advocap Inc.  
Kathy Doyle, Advocap Inc.  
Adam Breest, Winnebago County Parks Director  
Kay Horan, County Board Supervisor, District 5  
Steve Binder, County Board Supervisor, District 13  
Candy Hall, Child Care Resource and Referral  
Tracy Gehrke, Winnebago County Health Dept.  
Frank Frassetto, Town of Black Wolf  
Bob Schmeichel, Town of Neenah  
Dave Pritzl, Poygan/Poy Sippi Sanitary District  
Nick Thorn, Menasha Police

via ZOOM

Conley Hanson, Supervisor District 26  
Koby Schellenger, Supervisor District 23  
Alana Erickson  
Barb Tengesdal  
Beth G.  
Ellen Skerke

**B. Public Comments**

Holly Stevens, Secretary; and Jeff Guth, Commissioner of the Larsen-Winchester Sanitary District addressed the commission regarding recent state of Wisconsin regulations regarding ammonia and phosphorus discharge limitations, which the existing treatment facility is unable to meet. The district provides only sewage disposal. The district board and staff have been working to comply with the unfunded mandate. The costs associated are quickly adding up to over \$6 million. The board and staff are looking for other funding options with state and federal legislators. They asked for the commission's consideration to support the cost of the project. Mr. Guth stated that the district has been raising rates, which is getting expensive for users.

Dave Pritzl, Commissioner for the Joint Towns of Poygan and Poy Sippi Sanitary District wanted to address the commission for consideration of a generator project on their lift stations, possibly utilizing Spirit Funds. The district is on the south shore of Lake Poygan and is looking at generators to prevent outages. There are increased permanent residences in the district and homes are adding stand-by generators which increase use during power outages. The generators would be powered by natural gas. Mr. Pritzl was not notified during the application process last summer.

Candy Hall, Executive Director of Child Care Resource and Referral in Kimberly, Wisconsin, stated the

organization serves Winnebago County and other counties around the region. Ms. Hall informed the commission that every year the organization does a survey, and that was updated in February for year-to-year comparisons. She understands their request will not completely solve the child care issues in the county or region. In Outagamie County, the sub/mentor program have covered 1400 hours and several maternity leaves. Ms. Hall admitted this could be considered a band-aid for these small businesses. Ms. Hall contended that supporting the current small businesses should be priority over expanding new businesses.

Nick Thorn of the Menasha Police Department, spoke in support of the mobile traffic barriers. He thanked the commission for their unanimous support. The set-up is under ten minutes. Barricade's are used for their intended purpose and can be reused if struck. These barricades are extremely maneuverable to provide more use. They come with a lifetime warranty and can be used for decades to come.

Chief Aaron Olson of the Neenah Police Department thanked the commission for unanimously supporting this project. He had sent an email to the board correcting information. Mr. Olson appreciates their support of reconsideration. These barricades are valuable for the safety of our community to protect our citizens and residents.

County Board Supervisor Kay Horan, District 5, voted "No" on the traffic barriers at the February 27, 2024, County Board Business Meeting. Ms. Horan intends to make a motion of reconsideration at the next County Board Business meeting. There has been some miscommunication. She stated that we need to have the communication for education and understanding the best solution for the municipalities and the county. We tend to isolate ourselves from communicating with each other.

County Board Supervisor Steve Binder, District 13 took offense in the way he was treated by an individual at the County Board meeting. proponents of the traffic barriers. Mr. Binder stated that he spoke to a gentleman before the ARPA meeting who answered his questions. Mr. Binder stated he will reconsider his vote at the next county board meeting.

Bruce Abraham of Algoma and Oshkosh Pickleball Club stated his group submitted a request for pickleball courts at Community Park. He was advised to wait until the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) was completed. He supports the resolution, "Allocation of \$3,900,000 in Spirit Funds from County Government Projects Category to Improve Outdoor Recreation in Winnebago County", which is on the agenda today. The results of the survey show there is demand in the community for more pickleball courts.

Bob Schmeichel, Town of Neenah Chairman & the Wisconsin Towns Association Winnebago County Units Chairman thanked the commission for their support of the \$145,000 allocation to the local units of government. He asked for the commission to provide more resources to local governments. Mr. Schmeichel asked where the interest is going and wondered if the interest could be passed through to the local units of government.

Jeff Schneider, President and CEO of the Oshkosh YMCA thanked the commission for the consideration of their child care application. The mission of the YMCA is to meet the community need, which is the goal of the grant. The YMCA is the Oshkosh area's largest child care provider. The hardest to find child care is 0-2 years of age. Since the application, they have been focusing on that age group. Mr. Schneider commented on why the project has changed a little bit. The Oshkosh YMCA immediately provided support to take over the UW-Oshkosh childcare and grew that program from 32 to over 80 kids. Mr. Schneider explained some challenges of the initial project and that the YMCA was able to get the project cost down. The YMCA did look at a project in Omro for several long months. At the end of the day, that project was not fiscally viable. The 20th Avenue project is more viable. There is some federal legislation for rural child care which, if passed, would help. He asked for support of this project request.

County Board Supervisor Conley Hanson, District 26, thanked the commission for their the work. Mr. Hanson stated the buckets are rapidly being allocated and the funds are coming to an end. It is time to make some more difficult decisions. He pointed out that as the funds go down, more hands are raised. Mr. Hanson would like to see the traffic barriers come back and see some funding for the YMCA of Fox Cities. He would like to hear clarification on the Child Care Resource and Referral resolution. It is his

*understanding that the \$350,000 grant is more for administration rather than to the classrooms and to help children. Mr. Hanson is supportive of the space and needs study for county facilities. He cautioned that \$3.9 million is a huge ask for the Outdoor Recreation plan.*

*County Board Supervisor Koby Schellenger, District 23, believes child care is one of the bigger needs of the community. He stressed that there are several community members struggling with child care. His recommendation to send the Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) resolution grant back to the commission was to define the parameters of what CCRR's grant will go to and the concrete deliverables. Mr. Schellenger would like to see the Airport request on a future agenda. Co-Chair Egan has not seen anything from the Aviation Committee to put on the agenda.*

*Barb Tengesdal, Executive Director, First 5 Fox Valley (F5FV), apologized for not being able to be at the meeting in person. After the application, her organization has gone through numerous reviews and requests for more information. The pandemic required significant challenges to families and developmental concerns for our youngest children. The organization stretched their resources to keep providers open during the pandemic. Ms. Tengesdal thanked the commission for their time and consideration.*

*Bret Salscheider, President/CEO of the YMCA of the Fox Cities provided a brief overview of their project. The YMCA serves over 60,000 individuals. He discussed the organization's recent strategic plan, physical asset inventory and the possibility of significant redevelopment of the Neenah/Menasha facility. Mr. Salscheider thanked the commission for their time and consideration. Co-Chair Doemel thanked Mr. Salscheider with his patience; this project had been put on hold to see if the county could find a partnership with our governmental needs in Neenah.*

## **C. Approval of Minutes**

### **1. February 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

*There was a correction made to the Approval of February 15, 2024, meeting minutes.*

- A correction was made to item No. 14 to reflect the correct next meeting date. Item No. 14 should read, "The next meeting will be **Wednesday, March 6, 2024**, at 1:00 p.m. at the David W. Albrecht Administration Building in the Admin Fourth Floor Training Room."*

*Motion by Belter, seconded by Supervisor Buck, to approve the February 15, 2024, meeting minutes as amended. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.*

## **D. Business Items**

### **1. Update: Amount of Resources Available in Each Spirit Fund Category**

*Mr. Kaiser went through the approved allocations for each category. Mr. Hollenberger explained there is roughly \$550,000 left in the Government Identified Community Projects category. The \$550,000 did not account for the traffic barriers, which was \$487,000. This would leave about \$60,000 plus any interest allocated to the category.*

*Supervisor Buck mentioned that there are some claw backs of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans. He would like to make sure that our grants will be accounted for and used properly.*

*Mr. Galloway asked how the process for reconsideration works for the traffic barrier projects. Co-Chair Egan explained that is up to the County Board and believes that will be addressed and a motion to reconsider will probably take place at the March Business meeting.*

*The commission discussed ideas and options for how the interest should be handled.*

*Mr. Doemel thanked citizen members Belter, Oswald, and Galloway for their service. He said it was hard to pick potential winners and losers. The commission created a pretty good process.*

*Supervisor Farrey clarified that the consensus of the commission is to look at interest and then move the remaining Government Identified Community Projects to the County Government Projects. Mary Anne Mueller, Corporation Counsel, will assist in a future agenda item.*

**2. Discussion: Investment in Emergency Traffic Barriers**

*Co-Chair Egan explained the reconsideration process. Co-Chair Doemel stated this was on the agenda to ensure the commission considered failed resolutions. These resolutions will likely be reconsidered in March.*

**3. Investing Spirit Fund Dollars from the Government Identified Community Projects Category in Child Care**

- **Resolution: Approving \$500,000 from the Spirit Fund's Government Identified Community Projects Category to Expand the Childcare Space and Program Offerings at the Oshkosh YMCA**

*Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Buck, to adopt the request to Expand the Childcare Space and Program Offerings at the Oshkosh YMCA.*

*Vote on resolution: AYES: 9; NAYES: 0; ABSTAIN: 0; ABSENT: 0. PASSED.*

- **Resolution 333-022024: Approving \$350,000 from the Spirit Fund's Government Identified Community Projects Category for Child Care Resource and Referral To Support Child Care Providers with Training and Mentoring and In Turn Provide Increased Available Child Care Openings in Winnebago County**

*Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Buck, to require a mission document as an attachment to the resolution. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.*

*Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Buck, to adopt the request for Child Care Resource and Referral To Support Child Care Providers with Training and Mentoring and In Turn Provide Increased Available Child Care Openings in Winnebago County.*

*Vote on resolution: AYES: 9; NAYES: 0; ABSTAIN: 0; ABSENT: 0. PASSED.*

- **Presentation: Childcare Incubator Program**

*County Executive Doemel introduced this item and requested to receive the commission's feedback on the project and whether the county should continue pursuing this.*

*Tanya Marcoe, Executive Director from Advocap, presented a Childcare Incubator Project that would help low-income individuals start-up their own childcare business that would be housed under one roof. Advocap would help individuals get licensed in childcare or low-income individuals already licensed the opportunity to build their*

*business by renting space in a licensed facility. Each room in this facility would be used for childcare incubators to provide childcare services, along with a shared outdoor playground area. Each childcare incubator would be responsible for obtaining their own license, proper insurance, and recruiting their own clientele. The clientele can consist of anyone who needs childcare and there are no income restrictions. Qualified childcare providers will have access to Advocap's Business Development Program and can provide incubators with technical assistance in developing business plans, marketing plans, and business expansion plans.*

*Ms. Marcoe then took questions from the commission. A copy of this presentation was provided which included a sample floor plan.*

4. **Resolution: Approving \$\_\_\_\_\_ from the Spirit Fund's Government Identified Community Projects Category for First 5 Fox Valley To Promote Cross-Sector Collaboration and Build an Efficient, Effective, and Equitable Family Support System (Request \$300,000)**

*Motion by Doemel, seconded by Supervisor Buck, to require a mission document as an attachment to the resolution. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.*

*Motion by Doemel, seconded by Supervisor Cox, to adopt the request to Approve \$270,000 for First 5 Fox Valley To Promote Cross-Sector Collaboration and Build an Efficient, Effective, and Equitable Family Support System.*

*Vote on resolution: AYES: 6; NAYES: 3 - Farrey, Cox, and Buck; ABSTAIN: 0; ABSENT: 0. PASSED.*

5. **Discussion/Possible Action: Request from the Spirit Fund's Government Identified Community Projects Category for Property Expansion or Programming at the YMCA of the Fox Cities**

*Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Buck, to adopt the request for Property Expansion or Programming at the YMCA of the Fox Cities.*

*Vote on resolution: AYES: 9; NAYES: 0; ABSTAIN: 0; ABSENT: 0. PASSED.*

6. **Presentation: Proposed Allocations of the County Government Projects**

- **Resolution: Approval of \$300,000 in Spirit Funds for Comprehensive Space Needs Assessment and Facility Master Plan from the County Government Projects Category**

*Mike Elder, Winnebago County Facilities & Property Management Director, reported on the Facilities Condition Assessment (FCA) that was completed in 2023. The next step in the planning process would be a space needs assessment and a master plan; to meet the needs of the county departments for the services they provide to the public. Mr. Elder reported that there is about a million square feet of space and would like an impartial party to work on a master plan.*

*Mr. Elder then took questions from the commission.*

*Motion by Doemel, seconded by Supervisor Buck to approve a resolution, "Approval of \$300,000 in Spirit Funds for Comprehensive Space Needs Assessment and Facility Master Plan from the County Government Projects Category .*

*Vote on resolution: AYES: 8; NAYES: 1 - Cox; ABSTAIN: 0; ABSENT: 0. PASSED.*

- **Resolution: Allocation of \$3,900,000 in Spirit Funds from County Government Projects Category to Improve Outdoor Recreation in Winnebago County**

*Adam Breest, Winnebago County Parks Director, presented his recommendation for Allocating \$3,900,000 in Spirit Funds to Improve Outdoor Recreation in Winnebago County.*

*Mr. Breest then took questions from the commission. A copy of this presentation was provided as a handout.*

*Motion by Supervisor Farrey, to make an amendment to the resolution, to remove the \$500,000 for the WIOUWASH Trail. The motion did not advance due to a lack of a second.*

*Motion by Doemel, seconded by Belter to approve a resolution: "Resolution: Allocation of \$3,900,000 in Spirit Funds from County Government Projects Category to Improve Outdoor Recreation in Winnebago County".*

*Vote on resolution: AYES: 7; NAYES: 1 - Farrey; ABSTAIN: 0; ABSENT: 1 - Belter. PASSED.*

#### **E. Next Meeting Date**

1. **Set next meeting date, time, and location.**

*The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at the David W. Albrecht Administration Building in the Fourth Floor Training Room.*

#### **F. Adjourn**

*Motion made by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Belter, to adjourn at 4:56 p.m. MOTION CARRIES.*

*Submitted by:*

*Cassie J. Smith-Gregor*

*Winnebago County Deputy Clerk*