

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
COUNTY OF PIERCE

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**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE  
ARPA Adhoc Committee  
June 21, 2022 – 2:30 p.m.  
Meeting held remotely via Zoom  
In person for Committee Members in County Board Room;  
124 N. Oak St. ELLSWORTH, WI  
2022 – 04**

**1) Meeting Convened**

The Pierce County ARPA Adhoc Committee met in County Board Room & via Zoom. Committee Chair Jon Aubart called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

**1a) Those Present**

A quorum was established acknowledging 4 members present, 1 excused.

Members present:

Kris Sampson            District #1  
Jon Aubart                District #3  
Jason Matthys            Administrative Coordinator  
Michelle Drury            Assistant Finance Director

Members excused:

Kathy Fuchs                Treasurer

Others present: Neil Gulbranson-Co. Board District #11, Dale Auckland-Co. Board District #12, Jerry Kosin-Co. Board District #15, Brad Lawrence-Corp Counsel, Cyndi Kern-Deputy County Clerk, Greg Weaver-Administration, Nathan Boettcher-Pierce Pepin Cooperative, Sarah Nigbor-Pierce County Journal, Joe Folsom-Economic Development Director, Paula Lugar-Spring Valley Resident, Matt Wolf & Rob Daugherty-City of Prescott, Kim Beebe-Ellsworth Resident, Mindy Anderson, Bradley Vick, Becky Beissel, Dale Hines, Tony Hines & Andrew Borner-Village of Ellsworth

**1b) Public Comment**

None

**2) Establish & Adopt Agenda**

Motion by J. Matthys/K. Sampson to approve the agenda as presented; motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**3) Approve Minutes**

Motion by J. Matthys/M. Drury to amend meeting time to 3pm and approve minutes of April 4, 2022 as amended, motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**4) Presentation by City of Prescott regarding a submitted ARPA request for Well #3 treatment/remediation**

Matt Wolf, Prescott City Administrator addressed the committee regarding the high nitrate levels in the City's Well #3 and the need to provide safe drinking water for the citizens of Prescott. Reverse Osmosis treatment creates the best solution at a cost of \$1,023,175.50. The City of Prescott is applying to the Wisconsin DNR Safe Drinking Water Loan Program to receive a 49% forgiveness rate leaving a balance of \$521,819.51. City of Prescott is requesting the committee consider funding \$260,909.75, half of the remaining balance, with the County ARPA funds and the remaining half be paid by the City of Prescott ARPA funds.

**5) Presentation by Village of Ellsworth regarding a proposed demolition project – Old Middle School**

Becky Beissel, Ellsworth Village President addressed the committee seeking \$943,530 in County ARPA funds for the demolition of 254 S. Chestnut Street, (AKA Old Junior High). Beissel stated the Village has purchased the property for \$25,000, with the goal to revitalize the property and serving the needs of our local workforce with an average annual household income of up to \$112,000. Redevelopment of this property would increase the tax base and have a positive economic impact for the village and county.

**6) Discuss requests since last meeting**

J. Matthys presented a brief overview on approximately 19 new requests. There are currently 37 open requests at a total of \$28,581,191.70. Matthys noted this total did not include the Village of Ellsworth 245 S. Chestnut Street Revitalization project request.

**7) Discuss/take action to establish evaluation criteria for project consideration**

J. Matthys handed out draft of score matrix sheet. All request would be scored by each member of the committee. Suggestion was made to add a sustainability category to the matrix. Any further suggestions for the scoring criteria should be sent to Matthys and will be reviewed at the next meeting.

**8) Discuss/take action to consider and approve an RFP for a Broadband Consultant**

J. Matthys suggested that it may be in the best interest for the county to consider a 3<sup>rd</sup> party consultant to assist in determining the needs for broadband expansion in the county. ARPA funds are eligible for this project. J. Matthys noted RFP is ready for release if approved and RFPs would be due 7/29/22 with review of RFPs on 8/16/22. Motion by K. Sampson/M. Drury to approve an RFP for a Broadband Consultant, motion carried unanimously.

**9) Future Agenda Items**

- Discuss request since last meeting
- Evaluation criterial
- New presentations

**10) Next meeting date**

July 19, 2022 at 10:00am

**11) Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m. by motion of J. Matthys/K. Sampson; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by: Cyndi Kern, Deputy County Clerk