



**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT STRATEGY & OUTCOMES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2024**

A. Call to Order

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

Members Present: 10 - Tom Egan, Jon Doemel, Chuck Farrey, Andy Buck, Nate Gustafson, Morris Cox, Tom Belter, Beth Oswald, Tim Galloway, and Paul Kaiser

Also Present at the Meeting:

Cassie Smith-Gregor, Deputy County Clerk

Supervisor Stefanie A. Holt, District 5

Supervisor Steven Binder, District 13

Supervisor Conley Hanson, District 26

Supervisor Ralph Harrison, District 31

Cheryl Brehmer, Medical Examiner

Bob Doemel, Highway Commissioner

Holly Stevens, Larsen-Winchester Sanitary District

Mike Pfankuch, Larsen-Winchester Sanitary District Operator

Deb Martin, Oshkosh resident

Tony Daley

via TEAMS

Supervisor Kate Hancock-Cooke, District 7

B. Public Comments

Supervisor Conley Hanson mentioned he would continue to watch how the commission allocates and spends the remaining Spirit Funds. Mr. Hanson voiced his concerns about how the money has been spent so far. There are building repairs, improvements and roads that still need to be done, and now they will need to bond for some of these projects.

Supervisor Steven Binder spoke in support of utilizing Spirit Funds to purchase the Road Paver and Chip Spreader.

Supervisor Stefanie Holt spoke in support of utilizing Spirit Funds to purchase the Road Paver and Chip Spreader. Ms. Holt also voiced her concerns and feels the community needs affordable housing.

Holly Stevens, Secretary of the Larsen-Winchester Sanitary District, voiced her concerns regarding the state of Wisconsin's regulations regarding ammonia and phosphorus discharge limitations, which the existing treatment facility is unable to meet. The district board and staff have been working to comply with the unfunded mandate. The total estimated project costs \$4,650,000. Several representatives from the Larsen-Winchester Sanitary District have attended the last few ARPA Strategy and Outcome Commission meetings. They asked the commission to recognize the financial hardship the state's unfunded mandate has imposed on local constituents and respectfully request the commission's assistance to offset the related cost. Ms. Stevens handed out a letter to the commission members with more information and details about this project/issue.

Deb Martin, a resident of Oshkosh, urged the commission to continue to get these spirit funds out and help people in our community. Ms. Martin also stated the need for low-income housing.

C. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Belter, seconded by Farrey, to approve the April 3, 2024, meeting minutes. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

D. Business Items

1. Spirit Fund Update from Paul Kaiser, Finance Director

Paul Kaiser, Winnebago County Finance Director, reiterated that there are two categories; the County Government Project and the Government Identified Community Project Category. Mr. Kaiser provided an updated document that shows all the Spirit Fund Projects that have been presented and passed by the County Board; what has been approved and spent at this time. He briefly discussed and explained where the Spirit Funds are at. There is a balance of \$152,057 of funds that have not been approved for spending at this time. Nova and the Fox Cities YMCA are the only two projects from the Government Identified Project Category that have not received their funds yet. Mr. Kaiser stated they are waiting for their boards to decide on what projects they will be doing, and he is waiting on them to hear what projects they will be doing.

2. Discussion on the use of the Remaining Funds and Accrued Interest in the Government Identified Project Category.

The Government Identified Project Category's remaining fund balance is \$152,057; and the total accrued interest is \$1,404,000.

Supervisor Farrey would really like to see some funds appropriated to the request from the Larsen-Winchester Sanitary District and asked the commission to consider that, and then make that transfer of the remainder of the funds and interest into the County Government Project Category.

Executive Doemel is in support of transferring the remaining balance and interest accrued to the County Government Project Category. He stated the county has its own needs that they need to start prioritizing.

3. Authorization of \$700,000 from the Spirit Fund for the Purchase of a Road Paver

Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Buck, to approve. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

4. Authorization of \$505,000 from the Spirit Fund for the Purchase of a Chip Spreader

Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Buck, to approve. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

5. Authorization of \$125,405 from the Spirit Fund for the Purchase two Vehicles and Installation of Necessary Equipment for the Morgue

Motion by Supervisor Gustafson, seconded by Doemel, to approve. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

E. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will take place on Friday, September 27, 2024, at 1:00 p.m., in the Susan T. Ertmer Conference Room (Room 120) at the David W. Albrecht Administration Building.

F. Adjourn

Motion made by Doemel, seconded by Supervisor Buck, to adjourn at 2:00 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Submitted by:

*Cassie J. Smith-Gregor Winnebago
County Deputy Clerk*