



Department Updates

Barron County

Office on Aging / Aging & Disability Resource Center

Charlene Oftedahl, Director

County Board Supervisors are invited to the Volunteer Recognition Dinner that honors persons who are donating their time and skills to help our county's elderly and disabled citizens in partnership with the Office on Aging, the Department of Health and Human Services, Interfaith Volunteer Services Inc., and the Circuit Court - Register in Probate. This annual event will be held on Thursday, April 22, at 5 p.m., in the St. Joseph's school gymnasium in Rice Lake. Entertainment will be provided by "Anything Goes," members of the Barron County Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. If you wish to join us, please RSVP to Terri Mikyska in the Office on Aging, 537-6227 before April 12.



"Building A Better World"

On March 19, 180 persons attended the all day workshop at the Government Center on practical skill building for dementia care. The workshop sponsors, including the Office on Aging, the Barron County Senior Review, Luther Midelfort Northland – Mayo Health System, Marshfield Clinic, Northwest Co-operative Employment Program, and Monroe Manor Assisted Living, deserve much credit for bringing Teepa Snow, a nationally known speaker to Barron County. Her "been there--done that" presentation was excellent --filled with information, advice, humor, and hope. www.teepasnow.com We greatly appreciated the cooperation of county employees who parked quite a distance away from their offices, leaving parking spaces for persons attending this event.

The Senior Statesmanship Program, sponsored by the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups, will be held April 19 – 22 in Madison. Each year since 1980, participants from all over the state of Wisconsin learn about the operation of their state government and the role they can play in forming good public policy. Senior Statesmanship graduates leave this educational, informative and worthwhile program with the skills of being effective advocates, leaders and role models in their communities. Graduates from Barron County include Ken and Roberta Mosentine, Dale and Ardis Thorsbakken, Donna Cordes, Lucille Christensen, and Mike Linton. April 5th is the deadline to apply for a scholarship awarded by the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. For more information contact Charlene Oftedahl at 715-537-6225.

County Clerk

DeeAnn Cook, County Clerk

The February Primary in the City of Rice Lake successfully narrowed the field to 8 candidates for their 4 at large position. We are now set for the April 6 Election where voter turnout is expected to be high in the City of Rice Lake due to the number of candidates vying for the at large position plus the contested mayor race. In addition, a high turnout is expected everywhere there are Barron Area School District voters due to their referenda

question. Other areas with contested races could also see a high voter turnout.

We will again be posting our election results to the Barron County website as they come in on Election night, April 6, 2010. This process has proven to be very popular with the media and all other interested parties. The best part is that it leaves our phone lines open so municipalities can report their results without delay which ultimately gets the results out faster for everyone.

Inside this issue:

<i>Register of Deeds</i>	2
<i>UW Extension</i>	2
<i>Human Resources</i>	3
<i>Economic Development</i>	3
<i>Administration / Committees</i>	4

Register of Deeds

Joyce Kaseno, Register of Deeds

While working on a project for the CSMs, interesting statistics became apparent. Below is a record of the number of CSMs that were recorded each year. The first year any were recorded was 1956 and to date in 2010 we have recorded 7. In the first 20 years only one year was over 100. In the next 20 years only one year was under 100. 2000 was the only year that exceeded 200. 2008 and 2009 were the lowest since 1975.

CERTIFIED SURVEY MAPS (CSMs)

YEAR	TOTAL	YEAR	TOTAL	YEAR	TOTAL
1956	18	1976	135	1996	155
1957	19	1977	163	1997	151
1958	5	1978	141	1998	198
1959	19	1979	139	1999	156
1960	8	1980	118	2000	208
1961	15	1981	124	2001	162
1962	21	1982	108	2002	143
1963	26	1983	151	2003	193
1964	37	1984	133	2004	192
1965	39	1985	95	2005	189
1966	55	1986	130	2006	158
1967	41	1987	128	2007	148
1968	44	1988	126	2008	82
1969	66	1989	142	2009	84
1970	53	1990	108	2010	7
1971	51	1991	119		
1972	75	1992	151		
1973	111	1993	157		
1974	73	1994	141		
1975	87	1995	136		

Updated: 3/17/2010

TOTAL 5734

UW Extension

Mary Pardee 4-H Youth Development Educator

I started in the Barron County UW-Extension office in late January. I will be working with the 4-H organization as well as additional community outreach efforts to benefit more youth in the county.

For the past three years, I have been the Youth Development Educator in Burnett County. I advised the 4-H organization and established a youth in governance program with the Burnett County Board. I taught life skills classes for youth and helped to

start and secure funding for the Youth AODA Prevention Coalition. In addition, I worked with youth on many environmental service-learning projects. Prior to working in the youth development field, I was a statewide Lakes Education Specialist for UW-Extension, and a naturalist and manager of nature centers in Calumet and Shawano Counties.

As your 4-H Youth Development Educator, I plan to continue to build the 4-H organization by creating new communication tools and providing leadership development for adult and youth volunteers. The

youth development program will also be expanded through partnerships with existing community organizations such as the Safe and Stable Families Coalition, Boys and Girls Club, and school districts.

Human Resources

Rachael Richie, HR Director

New / Replacement Positions				
Position Title	Office / Department	Incumbent	Date Filled	New / Replacement
Fiscal / Administrative Assistant	Child Support	??	??	Replacement
Community Service Coordinator (PT)	Circuit Court	Shanda Harrington	3 / 15 / 10	Replacement
Finance Director	Administration	Interviewing		Replacement

- The mediation sessions with the AFSCME units (Highway and Courthouse) took place 3/15/10 and 3/16/10. A tentative agreement was reached with the Highway unit.
- The 2010 American Cancer Society Run / Walk will be held April 24th and Barron County will again have a team participating. If you are interested in running / walking and/or donating, contact the Department of Administration.
- The annual Mine Safety Health Administration (MSHA) training for the Highway Department will be held 4/7/10.

Economic Development

David Miller, Director

A Brief Summary of Activities:

The BCEDC Banquet Arrangements are now set for your reservations and there are awards to be presented to members from your community. Come, join us and recognize those from your business neighborhood!

The 2010 Award Recipients:

- Philanthropy: Tom & Deb Goldsmith
- Model Start-up: Cameron Heating and Air Conditioning
- Outstanding Growth: NORSWISS FARMS
- Longevity: Lamperts -County-Wide Rice Lake, Turtle Lake, Chetek

Plan ahead for this wonderful evening of entertainment, fine dining, insight honor and recognition. Banquet Information:

"Famous Dave Anderson" from "Famous Dave's BBQ" will be the Keynote Speaker at the 15th Annual BCEDC Business Awards Banquet, Thursday, April 22, 2010 at the Turtleback Golf, Dining and Conference Center in Rice Lake, WI.

Dave Anderson is a visionary, entrepreneur, speaker and author. Dave is the founder of Famous Dave's of America, the legendary BBQ franchise, with over 180 restaurants and growing. Voted the "Hottest Restaurant concept in America" by Nation's Restaurant News, Famous Dave's has received unprecedented recognition. Anderson has helped found several publicly traded companies on Wall Street and created over 20,000 new jobs. In Dave's own life, he has experienced adversity, frustration, and bankruptcy as well as tremendous success. As a highly sought after keynote speaker, Dave shares

his heartfelt optimism using his life's story to share valuable insight and life lessons in dealing with today's fast changing and challenging world. As a Native American, Dave devotes his life to making a difference in his community and in the lives of others less fortunate. Oprah Winfrey's Angel Network recently recognized Dave's leadership development work with at-risk youth. Quite frankly, this man is worth listening to.

Reservations are now open: 800-529-4148 or send the names in your party to: david.miller@co.barron.wi.us This includes dinner, the Keynote and the Award Presentations. You may include your check for \$20.00 per-person or pay at the door. Make your check payable to "BCEDC". Please send the names in your party to:

**BCEDC
P.O. Box 71
Barron, WI 54812**

I hope to see you there as we honor the businesses from your communities.

Current and New Projects:

To the date of this writing (3/23/2010), there are: 20 start-ups (119 total active); expansion projects leveled at 10 since the first of 2009 and there were seven that rolled over from 2009, so there are 17 currently in 2010.

Upcoming Events:

May 13: Momentum West - The Dept. of Commerce is again hosting their annual series of conferences including 1-on-1 consulting opportunities for businesses. There are several planned to be held throughout the state.

April 5: The Farm Technology Days Committee will be hosting a meeting on the UW BC Campus

to provide information to folks on the needs of a dozen committees for the event. Contact Tim in Extension for more details.

April 12: The first of several combined Labor market Study and Business Retention and Expansion Survey results will be held on the WITC Campus in the Conference Center. This will be a breakfast meeting. Contact my office if you would like more information.

Momentum West's Business Development Committee has been collaborating with the conference organizers (Commerce, UW-EC's SBDC and Northern WI Trade Assoc) to arrange time and opportunities for businesses in our region to network, to hear from colleagues who have been successful in international markets. There will also be a networking luncheon, sponsored by Momentum West.

Take special note: June 13-16, 2010, the Annual Native American Tourism of Wisconsin (NATOW) Conference will be held at the St. Croix Casino in Turtle Lake. This conference will bring hundreds of visitors from across the regions to our county.

From the early requests, 2010 is shaping up to be just as busy as 2009. If you know of a company in need of assistance, I always have room for more! But do ask them to call in advance, as there is no one to provide counseling if they drop in and I'm not available. All it takes is a phone call or an Email to me, as this process has worked extremely well over the years. If you want a glimpse of upcoming activities, be sure to review the January Economic Development Newsletter at www.barroncounty.com where all you need to do is click on "BCEDC News" and the PDF will open for you.

Administration / Committee Updates

Jeff French, Administrator

Property Committee:

- Approved allowing Barron County Horse Trail Association the use of County Forest lands in Bear Lake Township along with support for them in their application for a grant to develop trails. Grant to be provided through State Horse Association.
- Took no action on a request from City of Barron to help with repairs to clarion bell tower located on front lawn of Government Center.
- Agreed to sell used Sheriff's van to Barron County Humane Society with an estimated fair market value of \$2,000 for \$1,000. Amount can be paid for over time.
- Approved Capital Improvement Capital Outlay carryover request from Sheriff's department for \$ 21,148.42.
- Discussed potential purchase of County owned car to replace Enterprise Rental Cars.
- Approved budget control document for Capital Improvement Capital Outlay purchases.
- Approved purchase of 80 acres in Town of Doyle, land is adjacent to currently owned County land, for \$150,000. Contingent upon no-interest loan through DNR Forestry Loan Program.

Received staff updates on:

- *Sale of Office Complex:* meeting to be held later this month with potentially interested parties to determine if sale and/or lease is feasible.
- *WIC Farmers Market;* to be brought back as a separate agenda item at next month's meeting.
- *Martin Island:* work continues as weather will allow and is progressing nicely.
- *Energy Usage Justice Center:* referred to Staff with request to reduce by 25% the energy consumption at Justice Center.
- *Building Use Policy:* reviewed plans from Maintenance Director on installation of panic bars for doors and locks

for stairwells. Item to be brought back at a future date.

- *Conservation Enforcement Penalties:* approved motion to standardize County Forfeitures per Chapters 9, 18 and 19 of County Code.
- By unanimous consent allowed sale of land adjoining Mikana Dam 2666-27th Street & HWY 48 to Skaar as originally approved per minutes of 12-7-2009. Corporation Counsel informed Committee that Mr. Skaar has accepted our Counter Offer, for a total amount of \$ 3,103.10 which includes costs and is 3X \$855.

LCC/Extension:

- Met with Ron Schuler, General Manager, Wisconsin Farm Technology Days and reviewed potential appointments to the Barron County Farm Technology Days Executive Committee. Individual appointments to this Committee will be made by County Administrator and confirmed by County Board.
- Approved wage adjustments for Tyler Gruetzmacher with referral to Executive Committee for their approval.

Executive:

- Approved Sheriff's Dept. carryover request of Tribal Grant dollars from 2009 to 2010 of \$ 9754.
- Approved an additional amount of property taxes, \$65.46, different township, pertaining to the HWY 63 rail corridor for a total of \$1,673.11.
- Approved refinancing of 2001 Justice Center General Obligation Bonds. The plan for this refinancing will be presented at the March 15th meeting for approval. Potential interest savings in excess of \$400,000 over the remaining 12 year life of the debt.
- Tabled contribution to City of Barron Sesquicentennial Celebration. A brief search of County records did not indicate any County contribution for the centennial celebration (1960).
- Referred to Corporation Counsel the Memorandum of Understanding and By-laws of the I-94 Coalition.

- Referred Unpaid Leave Program to County Board for approval.
- Took no action on reconsideration of Comprehensive Plan. Time schedule to proceed as has been outlined on numerous previous occasions.

Staff Reports/Updates:

- Took no action on document provided to the Board Chair by members of CART following February 18th meeting.
- Per Diem Report, informational - completed annually.
- Sales Tax: sales tax collections for the months of January \$224,544 and February \$197,326 are \$50,732 below budget. Comparing the first two months collections 2010 vs. 2009 we are down \$ 127,609. The February collection is the smallest monthly distribution since March 2003 \$ 160,500.
- Clinton Tower, Managed Forest Crop penalty; with the passage of a new law sponsored by Representative Hubler and Senator Jauch it is my understanding that Barron County will not be required to pay the \$ 34,000 penalty for removing the Schauf property from Managed Forest Law.
- Levy Rate Repeal: took no action on request from eight other Counties to support legislation in support of the repeal of the 1992 levy rate limit law.
- Discussed information pertaining to Department Heads budget meeting and took no action.
- Took no action on request from Mr. Wayne Lamminen to purchase for \$35,000, (fair market value, \$59,900) parcel #47, 5 acres, Emerald Court sub-division, as Mr. Steve Swabota is the agent for the County and is attempting to sell these lots.

