

RESOLUTION

ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Supervisors Mary Mawhinney and
Mary Beaver
INITIATED BY



8/30/2023
DATE DRAFTED

Creating the Ad Hoc Committee on the County Board of Supervisors' Rules of Procedure

WHEREAS, the Rock County Board of Supervisors is the government body charged with exercising the powers of the rock county government conferred under Chapter 59 of the Wisconsin Statutes; and,

WHEREAS, the Rock County Board of Supervisors Rules of Procedure govern the Board's organization and proceedings, so that it may as judiciously, efficaciously, and transparently conduct the business of the County in as orderly and expedient manner as practicable; and,

WHEREAS, it is the Board's responsibility to govern itself, setting its own policies and procedures for how resolutions, ordinances, and ordinance amendments should be submitted, routed, and considered by the Board and its committees; and,

WHEREAS, in April of even numbered years, the Board gathers at its organizational meeting to self-organize, elect a chairperson, and adopt the rules of procedure that will govern its proceedings for the next year; and,

WHEREAS, over the last year, there has been substantial use of the rules to challenge the consideration of resolutions and ordinances on procedural grounds, such that the Board's time and attention has been focused more on deliberating on the proper procedure instead of on the substantive policy decision of the board; and,

WHEREAS, over the last year, there have been many supervisors who have expressed their dissatisfaction with the rules in their status quo form, and a desire that certain revisions be adopted so that everyone knows and understands how the rules operate; and,

WHEREAS, there have been a significant number of attempts to amend the rules, with only one proposal able to garner the two-thirds of members present in order to pass; and,

WHEREAS, it is advisable to make a more systematic, holistic, and comprehensive evaluation of the rules in order to determine what, if any, revisions are advisable for the Board to adopt.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 14th day of September, 2023 does hereby create the Ad Hoc Committee on the Board of Supervisor's Rules of Procedure to conduct a wholistic and comprehensive evaluation of the Rock County Board of Supervisors Rules of Procedure and make a recommendation for revisions to said Rules to be reported to the Board at the Board of Supervisors Organizational Meeting in April 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Committee shall be composed of five supervisors, whom shall be appointed by the Chair and confirmed by the Board. Supervisors appointed to serve on the Committee shall be selected to represent multiple standing committees of the County Board and should represent as diverse a set of districts as is practicable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Rock County Corporation Counsel shall be an ex officio non-voting member of the committee and shall provide all necessary technical assistance to the committee in fulfilling its functions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee shall review, evaluate, assess the current set of Board Rules of Procedure, and from that assessment shall make a recommendation to the Board on revisions, making that recommendation first to the County Board Staff Committee at its first meeting in

April 2024, and then to the whole Board of Supervisors at its Organizational Meeting on the third Tuesday in April 2024 at which time, the Committee shall inform the Board which recommendations have been endorsed by the County Board Staff Committee.

FISCAL NOTE:

No immediate fiscal impact beyond normal committee operating expenses.

Ryan Wiesen
Assistant Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §§ 59.01 & 59.51, Wis. Stats., as well as Rule IV-C of the County Board Rules.

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Matter of policy.

Josh Smith
County Administrator

Committee Action