

Lincoln County Board of Supervisors
Meeting: August 17, 2021

The Lincoln County Board of Supervisors met at the Lincoln County Service Center, 801 N Sales Street, Room 257, Merrill, WI in session assembled pursuant to law.

1. Chair Koth called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
2. Pledge of allegiance followed.
3. Roll was called with the following present (in person): Allen, Ashbeck, Bialecki, Breitenmoser, Callahan, Friske, Gilk, Gorski, Heller, Koth, Loka, McCrank, Panfil, Peterson, Rusch, Simon, Voermans, and Weaver. (18) Excused: Hafeman and Woller (2) Absent: Simon and Wendt (2)
4. Announcements/Recognitions/Awards/Appointments
 - A. Announcements: None
 - B. Service Recognitions for August 2021: None
 - C. Appointments & Re-appointments:
 1. Appointment of Hans Breitenmoser, Jr. to North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) to fill the unexpired term of Frank Saal, Jr. (Term expires 6/1/2023) M/S Gilk/Allen to appoint Hans Breitenmoser, Jr. to North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) to fill the unexpired term of Frank Saal, Jr. (Term expires 6/1/2023). Motion carried by a voice vote.
 2. Appointment of Dora Gorski to Law Enforcement, EMS, Judicial, Emergency Management Committee to fill the unexpired term of Bob Lee (Term expires 4/2022) M/S Heller/McCrank to appoint Dora Gorski to Law Enforcement, EMS, Judicial, Emergency Management Committee to fill the unexpired term of Bob Lee (Term expires 4/2022). Motion carried by a voice vote.
 3. Appointment of Ann Nelson to Public Property Committee to fill the unexpired term of Calvin Callahan (Term expires 4/2022) M/S Heller/Bialecki to appoint Ann Nelson to Public Property Committee to fill the unexpired term of Calvin Callahan (Term expires 4/2022). Motion carried by a voice vote.
 4. Appointment of Norbert Ashbeck to North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board (Term expires 4/2022) M/S Heller/Panfil to appoint Norbert Ashbeck to North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board (Term expires 4/2022). Motion carried by a voice vote.
5. Approval of the Journal: M/S Heller/Panfil to approve the July 20, 2021 minutes. Motion carried by a voice vote.
6. A. Letters: None
B. Memorials: Kirby Crosby (2016-2018)
7. Reports of Standing & Special Committees:
 - A. Administrative & Legislative Committee Grow North Regional Economic Development Corporation – Broadband - Executive Director (Brittany Beyer) Beyer gave an overview of the process and answered questions.
 - B. Finance Committee: 2021 Year-to-date Report – Finance Director (Dan Leydet) Leydet reviewed his report and answered questions.
 - C. Finance Committee: Department Reports: Clerk of Courts, Circuit Court, and Family Court Commissioner - Finance Director (Dan Leydet) Leydet reviewed the Clerk of Courts, Circuit Court, and Family Court Commissioner budgets and their impact on the tax levy. Leydet answered questions.
 - D. Finance Committee: 2022 Tax Levy Review and Budget Issues – Finance Director (Dan Leydet) Leydet mentioned that report didn't make it to the packet. Leydet reviewed 2022 budget and issues. Leydet answered questions.
 - E. Administrative & Legislative Committee: Administrative Coordinator/HR Director's Written Report – Administrative Coordinator/HR Director (Cate Wylie) Wylie reviewed her report and answered questions.
 - F. Administrative & Legislative Committee: Corporation Counsel Written Report – Corporation Counsel (Karry Johnson) Johnson reviewed her report and answered questions.
8. Resolutions and Ordinances

A. 1) Resolution 2021-08-31
APPROVING CONVEYANCE OF REAL ESTATE

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 9th day August, 2021 that the following conveyance of real estate to be made by the County Clerk on behalf of Lincoln County, be and same are hereby ratified, confirmed, and approved:

Purchaser	Description	Amount
-----------	-------------	--------

Dennis and Gorgette Miller \$ 5,599.00
Unit Thirty-one (31) And an undivided interest in common area, of Clear Lake Condominium in the Town of Bradley, Lincoln County, Wisconsin. PIN: 004-3506-114-9965

A&W Management \$ 5,700.00
A parcel of land being part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SE1/4 SW1/4), Section Twenty-eight (28), Township Thirty-three (33) North, Range Eight(8)East, Town of Russell, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, described as follows:
Commencing at the Quarter post on the Section line between said Section Twenty-eight (28) and Section Thirty-three (33), thence North on said Quarter line 278 feet; thence West 118 feet to the Place of Beginning; thence West 41 feet; thence in a northwesterly direction 60 feet, more or less to the South side of Russell Avenue at right angles with Russell Avenue; thence in a Northeast direction 41 feet, along the South side of Russell Avenue; thence 60 feet, more or less in a Southeasterly direction at right angles with Russell Avenue to the place of beginning. Subject to terms and conditions of Sanitary District No. 1, dated May 24, 1967, filed June 19, 1967 as #1 in the Office of the Register of Deeds, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, as Document No. 205718.
PIN: 020-3308-283-9975

Dated: August 17, 2021

Introduced by: Forestry, Land and Parks Committee

Endorsed by: William Bialecki, Norbert Ashbeck, Don Friske, Judy Woller, and Timothy Panfil,

Date Passed: July 12, 2021 Committee Vote: All ayes Fiscal Impact: \$ 11,299.00 plus recording fees

M/S Heller/Bialecki to adopt Resolution 2021-08-31. Discussion followed. Motion carried by a voice vote.
2) Resolution 2021-08-32

Resolution Accepting Donations for 2020-21 After the Bell Program

WHEREAS, the After the Bell program has provided a positive place for over 675 different middle school age youth to engage in positive educational opportunities after school for the past sixteen years; and
WHEREAS, Holly Luerssen, 4-H Educator and Debbie Moellendorf, Positive Youth Development and Health and Well Being Educator with UW-Madison Division of Extension Lincoln County provide leadership for the development and implementation of this program; and

WHEREAS, the following individuals, businesses and organizations have made donations to the 2021-22 After the Bell program:

- Church of the Ascension
- Fidelity Charitable on behalf of Lisa Skofronick
- Optimist Club of Merrill
- St. Paul’s Ladies Aid
- T.B. Scott Library Board
- Turtle Lake Forestry LLC

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors accepts the \$6,375 for snack and other program supplies needed to implement the After the Bell program.

Dated: August 17, 2021

Introduced by: Administrative and Legislative Committee Date Passed: August 4, 2021

Committee Vote: 7-0 Endorsed by A&L Committee member Don Friske

Fiscal Impact: Receiving \$6,375 in funds for snack and other program supplies for the After the Bell program.

M/S Heller/Ashbeck to adopt Resolution 2021-08-32. Motion carried by a voice vote.
3) Resolution 2021-08-33

Resolution Accepting 2020-21 State Opioid Response Project Funds and Donation from Northwoods Tobacco Coalition

WHEREAS, the Healthy Minds for Lincoln County brings the community together to empower people through education and resources to support healthy choices regarding substances and social and emotional well-being.; and
WHEREAS, the Healthy Minds for Lincoln County is currently co-chaired by Debbie Moellendorf, UW-Madison Division of Extension and Kristin Bath, Health Department; and

WHEREAS, the Healthy Minds for Lincoln County is eligible to receive a total of \$5,730 in funds and \$1,550 in materials (400 Deactivation Units) from the Alliance for Wisconsin Youth through their 2020-21 Menu Options to offset the costs to implement the following four menu projects:

- Distribution of Prescription Drug Lock Boxes; and
- Distribution of Prescription Drug Deactivation Units; and
- Implement Dose of Reality educational campaign; and
- Host a Community Educational event.

WHEREAS, Northwoods Tobacco Free Coalition (NWTFC) with great pride presents UW-Madison Division of Extension Lincoln County with a *Certificate of Service* for their contributions to local youth tobacco prevention initiatives, specifically the e-cigarette epidemic; and

WHEREAS, to show their appreciation NWTFC will award \$250 as reimbursement for our contributions and continued tobacco prevention and control initiatives; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors accepts the \$5,730 in funds and \$1,550 in materials from the Alliance for Wisconsin Youth and the \$250 donation from NWTFC on behalf of Extension Lincoln County and the Healthy Minds for Lincoln County who will continue implementing these projects.

Dated: August 17, 2021

Introduced by: Administrative and Legislative Committee Date Passed: August 4, 2021

Committee Vote: 7-0 Fiscal Impact: Receiving \$5,980 in funds and \$1,550 in materials for Healthy Minds for Lincoln County to implement projects identified above.

M/S Heller/Loka to adopt Resolution 2021-08-33. Discussion followed. Motion carried by a voice vote.

4) Resolution 2021-08-34

American Rescue Plan Act 2021 Fund Request Process

WHEREAS, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) into law on March 11, 2021 with the intent to provide economic and other relief related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County is the recipient of \$5.36 million dollars in ARPA funds and is directed by the Federal Treasury to utilize allocated funds within specific context and provisions; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County must account for all expenditures through a yet-to-be-defined federal audit features associated with the implementation of the ARPA program; and

WHEREAS, non-compliance will result in repayment of ARPA funds and could include sanctions for misuse.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Lincoln County has created the following outline to address requests for ARPA fund distribution:

- All requests will be vetted by the ARPA Project Team. Vetting will ensure requests fit the provisions set out by the Federal Treasury as appropriate usage for ARPA funds. The ARPA Vetting Team is comprised of the Administrative Coordinator, Corporation Counsel, Director of Finance and the County Board Chair.
- All appropriately vetted requests will go before the ARPA Joint Committee, which will be comprised of the Administrative & Legislative Committee conjoined with the Finance & Insurance Committee. The ARPA Joint Committee will meet on a quarterly basis to review appropriately vetted requests beginning March 2022.
- All pre-approved requests from the ARPA Joint Committee will be forwarded to the next County Board meeting for approval by majority vote from the County Board.

Dated: August 4, 2021

Introduced by: ARPA Project Team

Endorsed by: Administrative & Legislative Committee - Kevin Koth, Bob Weaver, Greta Rusch, Paul Gilk, Julie Allen, Hans Breitenmoser, Jr., Don Friske Fiscal Impact: TBD

M/S Heller/Gilk to adopt Resolution 2021-08-34. Discussion followed. Motion carried by a voice vote.

5) Resolution 2021-08-35

Granting Permission to Replace Harrison Tower, Using \$175,000 from CIP

WHEREAS, in 2021 this tower owned by Lincoln County was deemed unsafe and not repairable. This tower was evaluated by two independent tower companies and both have advised the same remedy; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Sheriff's Office relies on this tower for broadcasting radio signals on local government frequency and needs to resolve this issue and construct a new tower. The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office has researched options and considered renting space on neighboring towers, which are determined to be cost prohibited; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office has considered constructing a new tower, with greater capabilities to support additional equipment, in addition to the equipment needed by the sheriff's office to continue with services provided by this tower site; and

WHEREAS, The Lincoln County CIP Fund currently has a balance of \$1,604,423.37.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors approves the Harrison Tower replacement for the amount not to exceed \$175,000 using CIP Funds.

Dated this 17th day of August, 2021

Introduced by: Law Enforcement, EMS, Judicial and Emergency Management Committee, Finance and Insurance Committee Endorsement: Weaver, Allen, Rusch, Ashbeck, and Simon

Date Passed: Law Enforcement, EMS, Judicial and Emergency Management Committee July 14th, 2021 passed unanimously (4-0); Finance and Insurance Committee on August 6th, 2021 passed unanimously (5-0)

Fiscal Impact: An amount not to exceed \$175,000 from the CIP Fund

M/S Loka/McCrank to adopt Resolution 2021-08-35. Discussion followed. M/S Gilk/Bialecki to postpone to September until maintenance and inspection details are determined and the costs of these are known. Discussions continued. Roll call vote - Aye's: Allen, Bialecki, Breitenmoser, Gilk, Gorski, Koth, Panfil, Rusch, Voermans, and Weaver (10); Nay's: Ashbeck, Callahan, Friske, Heller, Loka, McCrank, Nelson, and Peterson (8). Motion passed 10-8.

6) Resolution 2021-08-36

Title: Committing \$438,000 in the Social Services Fund to be Used for Out-of-Home Placements

WHEREAS, Lincoln County Department of Social Services places children in out of home care when cases involve an unsafe child where impending danger is controlled through an out-of-home placement, and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County Department of Social Services places children in out of home care in cases where a child may be safe, but it is determined that a child requires either specific services or placement setting to manage the community safety, and

WHEREAS, the level of care is determined based on a Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths(CANS) assessment tool, which also sets the level of care required, and

WHEREAS, the daily rate approved by the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families for a residential setting typically used by Lincoln County ranges between \$345 and \$600 per day, and

WHEREAS, a placement in an average residential placement at \$400 per day for 365 days costs the county \$146,000. Thus, the Lincoln County Social Services budget is significantly impacted by any single higher level of care placement and multiple placements in the same year is not predictable nor absorbable in the routine budgeting process, and

WHEREAS, the cost of three placements would cost the County \$438,000 annually, and

WHEREAS, the Social Services Budget is separate and distinct from the general fund and has a total fund balance of \$744,462:

WHEREAS, the committed amount of \$438,000 will be adjusted annually based on the current year drawdown of committed funds and available fund balance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors does approve and authorize committing \$438,000 in the Social Services Fund to be used for out-of-home placements. The established fund should be on-going with no end date, and open to review based on increases in care costs as set through the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families.

Dated this 17th day of August 2021

Introduced by: Social Services Committee and Finance & Insurance Committee

Committee Action: Social Services Committee; Finance & Insurance Committee;

Fiscal Impact: Limiting the use of \$438,000 for out-of-home placements.

M/S Heller/Gorski to adopt Resolution 2021-08-36. Supervisor Ashbeck abstained from discussions and voting. Motion carried by a voice vote.

7) Resolution 2021-08-37

APPOINTING A TREASURER

WHEREAS, elected Lincoln County Treasurer Diana Petruzates has given her notice of retirement prior to the completion of her elected term; and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stats. §17.17 addresses the notice of vacancies and § 17.21(3) specifically addresses the issue of vacancy during an unexpired term for elected County Treasurer, and further prescribes filling a vacancy in the office

of the County Treasurer by appointment by the County Board for the residue of the unexpired term unless a special election is held by the County Board; and

WHEREAS, the Administrative & Legislative Committee weighed the options during the July 7, 2021 committee meeting and determined that the vacancy should be filled through the appointment process, to include: advertising the vacancy, conducting interviews with final interviews being before the Finance & Insurance Committee (oversight committee for the Treasurer) who then makes a final candidate recommendation to the County Board for approval of the appointment as Treasurer; and

WHEREAS, the Finance & Insurance Committee recommends the appointment of Robbin Gigl for the position of Treasurer for Lincoln County.

WHEREAS, the County Board hereby appoints Robbin Gigl to serve as Treasurer in and for Lincoln County; and WHEREAS, Robbin Gigl shall assume the office of Treasurer (after first being duly sworn) as soon as possible after the retirement of Diana Petruzates, on a date to be determined by the Administrative Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, this appointment shall terminate when an elected successor is sworn in January of 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors approves the recommendation of the Finance & Insurance Committee and hereby appoints Robbin Gigl as the Lincoln County Treasurer to serve for the residue of the unexpired term of Diana Petruzates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this appointment ends December 31, 2024 as the current term expires and once the elected Lincoln County Treasurer assumes the elected office in January 2025.

Dated this 17th day of August, 2021.

Introduced by: Finance & Insurance Committee

Endorsed by: Robert Weaver, Julie Allen, Greta Rusch, and Gene Simon Committee Action: 4-0

Fiscal Impact: None

M/S Weaver/Bialecki to adopt Resolution 2021-08-37. Clerk Marlowe stated that the resolution was updated to include the committees recommended candidate and is on your tables. Interviews concluded after the packet was completed. Discussion occurred concerning the process for determining how the position should be filled. Some supervisor's felt the decision to appoint or have a special election should have been decided before the full board and prior to the interviews. M/S Friske/Heller to amend the resolution as follows: Line 20, Strike ~~Administrative Coordinator~~ and add Lincoln County Board Chair. Line 21-22 strike ~~January of 2025~~ and add April of 2022. Line 25 strike ~~for the residue of the unexpired term of Diana Petruzates~~ and add as Lincoln County Treasurer until the next scheduled election on April 5th 2022. And Lines 26-27 strike ~~December 31, 2024 as the current term expires and once the elected Lincoln County Treasurer assumes the elected office in January 2025~~ and add April 29th, 2022 and the newly elected Treasurer is sworn in and assumes office on April 29th, 2022. Discussion followed. Roll call vote – Aye's: Callahan, Friske, Heller, Nelson and Peterson (5); Nay's: Allen, Ashbeck, Bialecki, Breitenmoser, Gilk, Gorski, Koth, Loka, McCrank, Panfil, Rusch, Voermans and Weaver (13). Motion defeated 13-5. Original motion carried by a voice vote.

B. Ordinances - None

9. Reports of Claims: None.

10. Closed Session: 19.85(1)(f) Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations;

to wit termination of employment contract which may include financial and personal histories.

M/S to go into close session and to include Corporation Counsel Johnson, County Clerk Marlowe, Admin. Coord./HR Director Wylie and Supervisors. Roll call: unanimous 18-0.

11. Open Session: M/S Panfil/ to go into open session. Roll call: unanimous 18-0.

12. M/S Panfil/Ashbeck approve the mileage and per diem for this meeting. Motion carried by a voice vote.

13. Next County Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., at Lincoln County Service Center, 801 N Sales Street, Room 257, Merrill, WI 54452

14. M/S Ashbeck/Panfil to adjourn. Motion carried by a voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

