

Lincoln County Board of Supervisors

Meeting: October 19, 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 6:000 p.m.
2. Pledge of allegiance followed.
3. Roll was called with the following present (in person): Allen, Ashbeck, Bialecki, Breitenmoser, Friske, Gilk, Gorski, Heller, Koth, Loka, McCrank, Panfil, Peterson, Rusch, Simon, Voermans, Weaver and Woller. (virtual) Hafeman, and Wendt. (21) Excused: Callahan (1)
4. Announcements/Recognitions/Awards/Appointments
 - A. Announcements: None
 - B. Service Recognitions for October 2021: None
 - C. Appointments & Re-appointments:
 1. Appointment of Clyde Nelson to the International Trade, Business & Economic Development Council (ITBEC) to fill the unexpired term of Debbie Kinsey (Term expires April 2022) M/S Heller/Bialecki to International Trade, Business & Economic Development Council (ITBEC) to fill the unexpired term of Debbie Kinsey (Term expires April 2022). Motion carried by a voice vote.
5. Approval of the Journal: M/S Heller/Panfil to approve the September 21, 2021 as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote.
6. A. Letters: None
B. Memorials: None
7. Reports of Standing & Special Committees:
 - A. Administrative & Legislative Committee: Presentation from Pine Crest Nursing Home addressing options to increase revenue and utilization of the facility. – Pine Crest Administrator (Zach Ziesemer) and NCHC Operations Executive (Jarrett Nickels) Nickels provided an update on opportunities to increase revenues at Pine Crest as well as an update related to bed licensures. He provided explanations to the study conducted by CliftonLarsonAllen Wealth Advisors, LLC 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: 2022 Preliminary Budget Proposal – Finance Director (Dan Leydet) Leydet reviewed the 2022 Preliminary budget explaining the process details and reasoning behind the Finance Committee’s finalized report. Discussion followed where Leydet answered questions and provided more insight.
 - D. Administrative & Legislative Committee: Administrative Coordinator/HR Director’s Written Report – Administrative Coordinator/HR Director (Cate Wylie) Wylie reviewed her report and answered questions.
 - E. Administrative & Legislative Committee: Corporation Counsel Written Report – Corporation Counsel (Karry Johnson) reviewed her report and answered questions.
8. Resolutions and Ordinances

A. 1) Resolution 2021-10-40

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WDNR) LAKE MONITORING AND PROTECTION NETWORK
(LMPN) GRANT

WHEREAS, Lincoln County has over 720 lakes, over 650 miles of rivers and streams, and contains one of the highest concentrations of natural lakes in the world; and

WHEREAS, the quality of these waters and wetlands are being threatened by aquatic invasive species; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County recognizes the importance of the quality of our waters to its citizens and local economies; and

WHEREAS, education is one of the keys to increasing public awareness as to the adverse impacts of aquatic invasive species on the quality of Lincoln County waters and our local economies; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County recognizes the need for a workable plan that will prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species into new waters, and control, reduce, or eliminate aquatic invasive species already present in some bodies of water; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Land Services Department (LSD) will continue to increase public awareness of the aquatic invasive species problem by implementing activities to prevent and control the spread of aquatic invasive species; and

WHEREAS, 100% of the cost of such prevention and control activities ~~will~~ may be paid by a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR); and

WHEREAS, the LSD must apply to the WDNR for the purpose of a Lake Monitoring and Protection Network (LMPN) grant.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the LSD will meet the financial obligations necessary to fully and satisfactorily complete the project and hereby authorizes and empowers the Land Services Administrator to submit the following documents to the WDNR for financial assistance that may be available: sign and submit a grant application, enter into a grant agreement with the WDNR, submit quarterly and/or final reports to the WDNR to satisfy the grant agreement as appropriate, submit reimbursement request(s) to the WDNR no later than the date specified in the grant agreement, and sign and submit necessary supporting documentation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Land Services Administrator shall sign the grant application and any grant contracts as Lincoln County's designated agent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the LSD will comply with all local, state, and federal regulations and ordinances relating to this project and grant agreement.

Dated this 19th day of October, 2021

Introduced by: Land Services Committee

Endorsed by: Christopher Heller, William Bialecki, Greta Rusch, Elizabeth McCrank, Julie Allen, Hans Breitenmoser, and Joshua Wendt.

Date Passed: October 14, 2021 Committee Vote: 7-0 Fiscal Impact: None

M/S Heller/Simon to adopt Resolution 2021-10-40. Discussion followed. M/S McCrank/Heller to amend the resolution as follows: Line 19, correct text to read: NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the LSD will meet the financial obligations up to the full amount of the grant necessary to fully and satisfactorily complete the project etc. Motion carried by a voice vote. Original motion with amendment carried by a voice vote.

2) Resolution 2021-10-41

Adopt the 2022-2026 Lincoln County Outdoor Recreation Plan

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources requires counties to have current Outdoor Recreation Plans to be eligible for certain state and federal grant programs and funds; and

WHEREAS, said Outdoor Recreation Plans must be updated every five years; and WHEREAS, Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee retained the North Central

Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to assist in preparing the 2022-2026 Lincoln County Outdoor Recreation Plan; and

WHEREAS, said report sets forth goals and objectives to be used as guidelines in formulating future recreational projects; and

WHEREAS, said report establishes recommendations for improving the recreational system in Lincoln County over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee has taken public comment, reviewed and approved said plan;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this 19th day of October, 2021 that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors hereby adopt the proposed 2022-2026 Lincoln County Outdoor Recreation Plan and that the Plan be forwarded to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for their acceptance.

Dated: October 19, 2021

Introduced by: Forestry, Land and Parks Committee

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

Date Passed: September 13, 2021 Committee Vote: All Ayes

Fiscal Impact: Continued eligibility for certain state and federal grant programs.

M/S Bialecki/Friske to adopt Resolution 2021-10-41. Discussion followed. Motion carried by a voice vote.

3) Resolution 2021-10-42

Social Worker Certification Application and Renewal Reimbursement

WHEREAS, Lincoln County Department of Social Services is required to provide child welfare services under Wisconsin State Statutes Chapter 48 and 938; and

WHEREAS, according to 48.06(2)(b)1 "All intake workers providing services under this chapter who begin employment after May 15, 1980, shall have the qualifications required to perform entry level social work in a

county department and shall have successfully completed 30 hours of intake training approved or provided by the department prior to the completion of the first 6 months of employment in the position; and
 WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statute 457.04(1) states that in order for any individual to use the title of "Social Worker", they must be certified or licensed under said chapter; and
 WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statute 457.09(2)(a) authorizes the holder of a social worker training certificate to utilize the title of "Social Worker" during the period in which the certificate is valid; and,
 WHEREAS, Lincoln County Department of Social Services has had difficulty recruiting qualified applicants for the position of Social Work.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to support the recruitment and development of social workers eligible to perform child welfare services, Lincoln County will reimburse the initial application fee and initial examination fee for employees hired by Lincoln County who have completed all requirements to apply for their social worker certification, upon passing the state and national exam; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Lincoln County will reimburse employees hired for Lincoln County Child Welfare Services, upon renewal, the cost of their license renewal.

Dated this 19th day of October, 2021

Introduced and endorsed by Social Services Committee

Committee Action: Social Services Committee; Administrative and Legislative

Fiscal Impact: As of 2021, \$60 per licensed social worker every odd year; Initial Application Fee \$165; Examination Registration fee \$230

M/S Heller/McCrank to adopt Resolution 2021-10-42. Supervisor Ashbeck abstained. Motion carried by a voice vote.

4) Resolution 2021-10-43

LINCOLN COUNTY CONSERVATION AIDS PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Lincoln County desires to participate in county fish and game projects pursuant to provision of s. 23.09 (12) of the Wisconsin Statutes, and

WHEREAS, financial aid is required to carry out the program;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Lincoln County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project or acquisition; and

HEREBY AUTHORIZES the Lincoln County Forest Administrator, Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department to act on behalf of Lincoln County to:

Submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available;

Submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within 6 months of project completion date;

Submit signed documents; and

Take necessary action to undertake, direct, and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Lincoln County will comply with state or federal rules for the programs and will obtain from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources approval in writing before any change is made in the use of the project site.

Dated: October 19, 2021

Introduced by: Forestry, Land and Parks Committee

Endorsed by: William Bialecki, Norbert Ashbeck, and Judy Woller

Date Passed: October 12, 2021 Committee Vote: Unanimously

Fiscal Impact: Continued eligibility for County Conservation Aids (CCA) grants.

M/S Heller/McCrank to adopt Resolution 2021-10-43. Discussion followed. Motion carried by a voice vote.

5) Resolution 2021-10-44

TO APPROVE THE 2022 LINCOLN COUNTY FOREST ANNUAL WORK PLAN

WHEREAS, Lincoln County has lands enrolled in the Wisconsin County Forest Land Program commonly referred to as the Lincoln County Forest; and

WHEREAS, Wis. State Statute 28.11(5) (b) and Wisconsin Administrative Code 47.70 (4) (f) requires an annual work plan to be approved by the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors to be eligible for the County Forest Administration Grant; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee reviewed and approved the 2022 County Forest Annual Work Plan to supplement the Fifteen-Year Lincoln County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan as a way to help prioritize projects and emphasize the current needs of the County Forest and Recreational System.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors does hereby ordain and resolve to approve and adopt the 2022 Lincoln County Forest Annual Work Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2022 Lincoln County Forest Annual Work Plan will be included as an amendment to the Fifteen-Year Lincoln County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the approved Annual Work Plan be forwarded to the Department of Natural Resources for their acceptance.

Dated: This 19th day of October, 2021

Introduced by: Forestry, Land and Parks Committee

Endorsed by: William Bialecki, Norbert Ashbeck, and Judy Woller

Date Passed: October 12, 2021 Committee Vote: Passed Unanimously

Fiscal Impact: Loss of approx. \$53,300.00 of State Grant Funds if not approved.

M/S Heller/Ashbeck to adopt Resolution 2021-10-44. Discussion followed. Motion carried by a voice vote.

6) Resolution 2021-10-45

Lincoln County in Support of Low Income Housing Project

WHEREAS, Low income housing is housing which is deemed affordable to those with a household income at or below the median income. Low income housing in Merrill hasn't been addressed since 1979 and does not meet the current need; and

WHEREAS, Affordable housing projects for low income residents could be financed in part by the utilization of affordable housing tax credits administered the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA); and

WHEREAS, Horizon Development Group, Inc. proposes an approximately 50 unit affordable housing, non-age-restricted development at 300 S. State Street in Merrill that would qualify for WHEDA tax credit financing; and

WHEREAS Horizon Development Group, Inc. would manage the applications process in order to be considered for funding through WHEDA in 2022. Applications are due by December 10, 2021, and require a letter of commitment as part of the application process.

WHEREAS, Lincoln Economic Development Corporation has an interest in creating low income housing opportunities for the betterment of the County's economy.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Lincoln County will provide a letter of commitment to fund \$1million to support this project, with the provision that if the WHEDA application is denied for any reason, no obligation of the County exists to fund a housing project, in part or in full, with Horizon Development Group, Inc.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, the Lincoln Economic Development Corporation is seeking support through a letter of commitment from the County and no funds are to be allocated at this time.

Dated: October 19, 2021

Introduced by: Supervisor Bill Bialecki, Director of Lincoln County Economic Development

Date Passed: (by Committee) Committee Vote:

Fiscal Impact:

M/S Heller/ to adopt Resolution 2021-10-45. Supervisor Friske asked for Point of Order asking how this was allowed on the agenda citing that the A&L did not vote to forward it. Chairman Koth, after consideration, moved to send the resolution back to a committee.

B. Ordinance: None

9. Reports of Claims: None.

10. Closed Session: Sec. 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.

Update for the Sheriff Contract Negotiations

M/S Gilk/Allen to go into close session and to include Corporation Counsel Johnson, County Clerk Marlowe, Admin. Coord. /HR Director Wylie and Supervisors. Motion carried by roll call 20-0 with Supervisor Bialecki taking a short break

11. Open Session: M/S Panfil/Peterson to go into open session. Motion carried by roll call 21-0.

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

- 13. Next County Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 9:00 a.m., at Lincoln County Service Center, 801 N Sales Street, Room 257, Merrill, WI 54452
- 14. M/S Heller/Loka to adjourn. Motion carried by a voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) SS
COUNTY OF LINCOLN)

I, Christopher J Marlowe, County Clerk in and for said Lincoln County, Wisconsin do hereby certify the within and foregoing is a true and accurate recital of all proceedings by and before the Board of Supervisors at their regular meeting, October 19, 2021

Christopher J Marlowe, County Clerk