

Lincoln County Board of Supervisors

Meeting: March 15, 2022

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 6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of allegiance followed. Immediately following the pledge.
3. Roll was called with the following present (in person): Allen, Ashbeck, Bialecki, Breitenmoser, Friske, Gilk, Gorski, Hafeman, Heller, Koth, Loka, McCrank, Nelson, Panfil, Peterson, Rusch, Simon, Voermans, Weaver and Woller (19) (virtual) Breitenmoser, Callahan, and Wendt (3)
4. Announcements/Recognitions/Awards/Appointments
 - a. Announcements: Supervisor Voermans mentioned that there is Broadband Software that can be used to test band width speed for the next year. This information will help determine where the needs are in the county.
Chair Koth thanked the outgoing board members (Bob Weaver, Ann Nelson, Paul Gilk, and Tim Panfil) for their years of service to the county.
 - b. Service Recognitions – March: None
5. Appointments & Re-Appointments
 - a. Appointment of Judy Woller to Local Emergency Planning Committee (Term Expires 4/19/2022) M/S Heller/Gilk to appoint Judy Woller to Local Emergency Planning Committee (Term Expires 4/19/2022). Motion carried by a voice vote.
6. Approval of Journal – February 15, 2022 and February 28, 2022: M/S Heller/Hafeman to approval the minutes as presented.
7. Letters, Petitions and Memorials
 - a. Letters – None
 - b. Memorials - None
8. Reports of Standing & Special Committees:
 - A. Finance Committee: 2022 Year-to-date Budget Report – Finance Director (Dan Leydet) Leydet reviewed the year-to-date report.
 - B. Finance Committee: Liability Analysis – Finance Director (Dan Leydet) Leydet explained the Liability Accounts and answered questions.
 - C. Finance Committee: 2023 Budget Guidelines – Finance Director (Dan Leydet) Leydet went over the budget guidelines for 2023 and answered questions. Leydet is concerned about the Fiscal sustainability of Health Insurance Fund, EMS Fund, Social Services Fund, General Fund, Pine Crest Nursing Home and Lincoln Industries. Leydet mentioned his Operational/Program Concerns with the Wheel Tax, Fees/Revenues, Cost of Living Adjustment, No Program Expansion without Funding, and Vacant Positions. Supervisor Gilk starting making statements as if campaigning and Supervisor Friske called for Point of Order. Chair Koth eventually stopped Supervisor Gilk from speaking. Leydet mentioned three Capital Improvement Projects; Highway Facility, Lincoln Industries Building and Pine Crest.
 - D. Administrative & Legislative Committee: Administrative Coordinator/HR Director’s Written Report – Administrative Coordinator/HR Director (Cate Wylie) Wylie reviewed her report and answered questions. Wylie mentioned that Oneida & Langlade Counties Veterans Service Officers with be conducting the interviews to fill our vacant Veterans Service Officer position. Wylie also mentioned that the Tri-County Agreement with North Central Health Care has been approved by all three counties (Langlade, Lincoln & Marathon).
 - E. Administrative & Legislative Committee: Corporation Counsel Report – Corporation Counsel (Karry Johnson) Johnson reviewed her report and answered questions. Johnson mentioned that the Solar Array isn’t going to work at this time. Johnson mentioned that she signed a new 2-Year contract with the Lincoln County Child Support Agency. Johnson was asked about the Harrison Tower for the Sheriff’s Office; she mentioned that the Sheriff’s Office is currently testing a State Patrol Tower and it seems to be working out fine.
9. Resolutions and Ordinances

A. 1) Resolution 2022-03-08

AMENDMENT AND UPDATE TO THE LINCOLN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, the County of Lincoln, Wisconsin, pursuant to Section §66.1001(4)(b) Wis. Stats., enacted Ordinance No, 2021-01-581 and formally adopted the amended Lincoln County Comprehensive Plan 2012-2021, dated December 2011; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lincoln is hereby amending the County Comprehensive Plan to update demographics, natural, agricultural, and cultural resources, housing, utilities and community facilities, transportation, economic development, land use and mapping, intergovernmental cooperation, and other changes that have occurred and to the extend the design year of the plan through the year 2031, as set forth in the amended County Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Land Services Committee finds that the County Comprehensive Plan, with the proposed amendments, addresses all of the required elements specified in section §66.1001(2) Wis. Stats., and that the comprehensive plan, with the proposed amendments, is internally consistent; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lincoln has duly noticed and held public hearing on the proposed amendment and plan/map update, following the procedures in Section §66.1001(4)(d) Wis. Stats., and the public participation procedures for comprehensive plan amendments adopted by the County of Lincoln through Resolution 2019-04-NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section §66.1001(4)(b) Wis. Stats., the County of Lincoln County Board hereby adopts this resolution approving the amended comprehensive plan as the 10-year update to the County of Lincoln Comprehensive Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Land Services Committee does hereby recommend that the Lincoln County Board enact an ordinance adopting the amendment to the Lincoln County Comprehensive Plan. Dated: March 15, 2022

Introduced and Endorsed by: Chris Heller, Julie Allen, Hans Breitenmoser, Greta Rusch, and Bill Bialeck.

Date Passed: March 10, 2022 Committee Vote: 5-0 Fiscal Impact: None

M/S Heller/Hafeman to adopt Resolution 2022-03-08. Land Services Administrator Huth explained the resolutions and answered questions. Motion carried by a voice vote.

2) Resolution 2022-03-09

Resolution Accepting \$2,000 Donation from Northwoods 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 \$2,000 from the Northwoods Coalition through their 2022 Project Options to offset the costs to implement the following three projects:

- Conduct a community assessment project to assess the current impact of substance use in our community and react to these results by creating and implementing an action plan to address identified problem areas; and
- Conduct a drug prevention awareness campaign to communicate the prevalence, risk and dangers of use and encourage residents to take action; and
- Coalition members participate in a Sustainability Training.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors accepts and expresses gratitude for the \$2,000 donation from Northwoods Coalition on behalf of the Healthy Minds of Lincoln County who is responsible for implementing these projects.

Dated: March 15, 2022

Introduced by: Administrative and Legislative Committee

Endorsed by: Kevin Koth, Don Friske, Julie Allen, Paul Gilk, Greta Rusch, Hans Breitenmoser

Date Passed: March 2, 2022

Committee Vote: 6-0

Fiscal Impact: Receiving \$2,000 towards the implementation of the projects identified above.

Supervisor McCrank abstained. M/S Heller/Panfil to adopt Resolution 2022-03-09. Motion carried by a voice vote.

3) Resolution 2022-03-10

Resolution Accepting \$500 Donation from Optimist Club of Merrill and \$3,320.83

Donation from Church Mutual CARES, the Church Mutual Insurance Company Foundation

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, a donation of \$500 from Optimist Club of Merrill has been received towards the Merrill Social Norms Educational Campaign sponsored by the Healthy Minds Coalition with leadership for this project by Debbie Moellendorf, UW-Madison Division of Extension Positive Youth Development and Health and Well Being Educator; and

WHEREAS, a donation of \$3,320.83 from Church Mutual CARES, the Church Mutual Insurance Company Foundation has been received towards the Healthy Minds Coalition educational campaign that combines the Small Talks campaign developed by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, along with a local social norms message and promotion of the Parent Pact as a way to provide parents, caregivers and other adults with resources for talking with youth about the risks associated with alcohol and other substances.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors accepts and expresses gratitude for the \$500 donation from Optimist Club of Merrill and \$3,320.83 from Church Mutual CARES on behalf of the Healthy Minds of Lincoln County who is responsible for implementing this project.

Dated: March 15, 2022

Introduced by: Administrative and Legislative Committee

Endorsed by: Kevin Koth, Don Friske, Julie Allen, Paul Gilk, Greta Rusch, Hans Breitenmoser

Date Passed: March 2, 2022

Committee Vote: 6-0

Fiscal Impact: Receiving \$3,820.83 towards the implementation of the projects identified above.

M/S Heller/Allen to adopt Resolution 2022-03-10. Motion carried by a voice vote.

4) Resolution 2022-03-11

Relocation of Maintenance Department to 912 N. Memorial Drive

WHEREAS, Lincoln County is the owner of the building located at 912 N. Memorial Drive, Merrill, WI which was previously occupied by Lincoln Industries. The building is structurally sound and in good shape, but no longer an appropriate venue for Lincoln Industries programing needs and requirements.

WHEREAS, the location and structure of the building located at 912 N Memorial Drive would be appropriate for Maintenance with some modifications. The building also allows for the Coroner to have an office, garage space and a refrigeration unit on the premises.

WHEREAS, currently the Maintenance team occupies a building on the Highway grounds which does not suit their departmental needs. The Highway department is in need of the building on the highway grounds currently occupied by Maintenance. The Coroner currently occupies a small office at the Sheriff's department but does not have a garage.

WHEREAS, the use of the building by other County entities requires substantial updates and refurbishments to accommodate prospective needs for programs and work space. Additionally, these proposed use-of-building by other entities are contingent on approval for additional programming and non-budgeted expenses.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the building owned by Lincoln County located at 912 N. Memorial Drive, Merrill, WI will house the Lincoln County Maintenance Department and the Lincoln County Coroner, contingent upon funding approval by Finance Oversight Committee.

Dated: March 15, 2022

Introduced by: Cate Wylie/Pat Geirl

Endorsed by: A&L Committee: Kevin Koth, Hans Breitenmoser, Jr., Julie Allen, Don Friske, Paul Gilk, and Greta Rusch

Date Passed: 3/2/2022 Committee Vote: 6/0 Fiscal Impact: Max - \$75,000 estimated

M/S Heller/Bialecki to adopt Resolution 2022-03-11. Maintenance Director Geirl explained that they have been using a building within the Highway Department grounds. There is room at old Lincoln Industries building to house Maintenance Department and Coroner's Office. Discussion followed. Motion carried by a voice vote.

5) Resolution 2022-03-12

SETTING ANNUAL COMPENSATION FOR COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS (Clerk of Courts, Sheriff, Coroner) January 2023 through January 2027

WHEREAS, pursuant to sec. 59.22 of the Wisconsin State Statutes, the County Board must establish the total annual compensation to be paid to county elected officials (other than supervisors and circuit judges) prior to the earliest time of filling nomination papers for the county elective office; and WHEREAS, the Board desires to establish the total annual compensation for the county elected officials, which is separate and distinct from the fringe benefits offered by the County to elected officials, and which fringe benefits are subject to increase or decrease during the officer's term at the discretion of the Board and in accordance with state and federal law; and WHEREAS, as part of the County's fringe benefit programs, county elected officials may participate in fringe benefits in accordance with state law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the total annual compensation for county elected officials of Clerk of Courts, Coroner and the Sheriff under sec. 59.22(1) Wis. Stats, shall be as follows, effective on the first day of the term of office that begins after the date of this resolution:

ELECTED OFFICE	2023	2024	2025	2026
Clerk of Court	\$70,356.76	\$71,412.11	\$72,483.29	\$73,570.54
Coroner (1040 hours)	\$29,880.00	\$30,627.82	\$31,393.70	\$32,178.54
Sheriff	\$90,046.58	\$91,847.51	\$93,684.46	\$95,558.15

This compensation shall be in lieu of any fee for service or any other payments of any kind, with the exception of standard reimbursement of business expenses set forth in the Lincoln County Personnel Policy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as and for fringe benefits, the aforementioned county elected officials are entitled to (a) participate in Wisconsin Retirement System in accordance with law and the County shall pay only its share of the contributions required by law; and (b) are eligible to participate in the County's health insurance program subject to the terms and conditions of the program, which may be modified from time to time, under the same terms and conditions as the plan and coverage offered to non-represented managerial county employees who are not law enforcement managerial employees or non-represented managerial employees described in sec. 111.70(1)(mm2) Wis. Stat.

Dated: March 15, 2022

Introduced by: A&L Committee

Endorsed by: A&L Committee: Kevin Koth, Hans Breitenmoser, Jr., Julie Allen, Don Friske, Paul Gilk, and Greta Rusch Date Passed: 3/2/2022 Committee Vote: 6/0 Fiscal Impact: Wage increase total over 4 year period for all listed positions equals \$14, 557.24.

M/S Heller/Friske to adopt Resolution 2022-03-12. Administrative Coordinator Wylie answered questions on the percentages of each of the positions and mentioned that they are not the same across the board. Discussion followed. Motion carried by a voice vote.

6) Resolution 2022-03-13

SUPPORTING DEVELOPMENT OF GREAT PINERY HERITAGE WATERWAY

WHEREAS, Paddle sports, including recreational kayaking and canoeing, are becoming an increasingly popular form of outdoor recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin River extends for 420 miles through the State of Wisconsin and 52 miles virtually bisects Lincoln County, passing through both the Cities of Merrill and Tomahawk; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County segment of the Wisconsin River provides a variety of paddling opportunities including both rapids and calm segments; a wild, scenic, and remote feel; developed shoreline camping opportunities; and both short and long segments between access points; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County's Five Year Outdoor Recreation Plan defines Water Trails and refers to the development of this Water Trail and also states that 80% of respondents to the 2021 ORP survey use the water in a non-motorized way (canoe/kayak/rowboat); and

WHEREAS, the trail will highlight available launch locations, travel distances between locations, and historical signage that tell the story of the river, the heritage and the people; and

WHEREAS, the development of the Great Pinery Heritage Waterway is another way to bring tourism to Lincoln County and showcase the diverse recreational opportunities found here; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County Forestry, Land, and Parks Department manages and maintains Camp New Wood County Park along the Wisconsin River for boat access, a day use park and overnight camping; and
 WHEREAS, Lincoln County Forestry, Land, and Parks Department will serve as the project owner for the Camp New Wood Launch site and support the long term maintenance of that site; and
 WHEREAS, funding for project development and future maintenance assistance will come from state grants and private donations and is being organized through the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin; and
 WHEREAS, support from at least four municipalities and/or counties must be demonstrated to be eligible for select state grants.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the development of the Great Pinery Heritage Waterway through Lincoln County, so long as it remains consistent with Lincoln County's current and future Outdoor Recreation Plans, and with the understanding that the development and future maintenance costs (beyond the current maintenance costs of the site) will be funded through state grants, donations and/or fundraising.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any other improvements or development of the Camp New Wood Launch site will require the approval of the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors.

Dated: This 15th day of March, 2022.

Introduced by: Forestry, Land, and Parks Committee Endorsed by: William Bialecki, Don Friske, Timothy Panfil, Norbert Ashbeck and Judy Woller Date Passed: March 14, 2022 Committee Vote: All Ayes

M/S Heller/Friske to adopt Resolution 2022-03-13. Point of Order by Supervisor Friske as this resolution was just approved yesterday (3/13/2022) at the Forestry Committee Meeting. Discussion followed. M/S Friske/Bialecki to suspend rules and move forward. Motion carried by a voice vote. Forestry Administrator Bowe explained that this will add new signs that explain the history of the CCC Camp History and that they will be doing fundraising to pay for bathrooms and replacing bridges. Bowe answered questions. Original motion carried by a voice vote.

B. 1) Ordinance 2022-03-713

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE GENERAL CODE OF THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN (Chapter 17.1.12 LINCOLN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN)

The County Board of Supervisors of Lincoln County, Wisconsin, does hereby ordain:

WHEREAS, Pursuant to section 59.69(2) and (3) of the Wisconsin Statutes, the County of Lincoln is authorized to prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan as defined in section 66.1001(1)(a) and 66.1001(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

WHEREAS, Chapter XI of the 2011 Lincoln County Comprehensive Plan recognizes the requirement and process under law to update and amend the plan, and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution 2019-04-19 Authorizing Public Participation Procedures for the Lincoln County Comprehensive Plan Update and Subsequent Amendments as required by law, and

WHEREAS, The County of Lincoln has held at least one public hearing on this plan update and ordinance, in compliance with the requirements of section 66.1001(4)(d) of the Wisconsin Statutes, and

WHEREAS, the Land Services Committee (LSC) of the County of Lincoln, by a majority vote of the entire Committee recorded in its official minutes, has forwarded a resolution and ordinance recommending to the County Board of Supervisors the adoption of the amended Comprehensive Plan and containing all of the elements specified in section 66.1001(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Chapter 17.1.12, Lincoln County Code is amended to read:

17.1.12 LINCOLN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: The County Board of Supervisors of the County of Lincoln, Wisconsin, does, by enactment of this ordinance, formally adopt the amended Lincoln County Comprehensive Plan 2022-2031, dated March 2022, pursuant to section 66.1001(4)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

This ordinance shall take effect upon passage by a majority vote of the members-elect of the County Board of Supervisors and publication/posting as required by law.

Dated: March 15, 2022

Introduced and Endorsed by: Chris Heller, Julie Allen, Hans Breitenmoser, Greta Rusch, and Bill Bialecki
 Date Passed: March 10, 2022 Committee Vote: 5-0 Fiscal Impact: None

M/S Heller/Allen to adopt Ordinance 2022-03-713. Land Services Administrator Huth spoke and answered questions. Motion carried by a voice vote.

10. Report of Claims - None
11. M/S Heller/Ashbeck to approve the mileage and per diem for this meeting. Motion carried by a voice vote. M/S Friske/Heller to suspend the rules and take up the Wolf Population Resolution. Corporation Counsel Johnson cautioned on proceeding with this Resolution as we need to follow open meeting rules and this was not properly posted neither is in the packet. Chair Koth mentioned that there are members of the public that are interested in speaking on this topic that are not here and that it would take a 2/3 vote to approve moving forward with this resolution. Roll call: Aye's: Ashbeck, Bialecki, Callahan, Friske, Heller, Loka, Peterson, Simon and Wendt (9); Nay's: Allen, Breitenmoser, Gilk, Gorski, Hafeman, Koth, McCrank, Nelson, Rusch, Voermans, Weaver and Woller (13). Motion was defeated 13-9.
12. Closed Session: 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public fund, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. To wit, approval for 2022 through 2025 Collective Bargaining Agreement. M/S Chris/Ashbeck to go into closed session. Roll call: Weaver – Aye, Rusch – Aye, Hafeman – Aye, Allen – Aye, McCrank – Aye, Gilk – Aye, Voermans – Aye, Gorski – Aye, Woller – Aye, Friske – Aye, Panfil – Aye, Peterson – Aye, Heller – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Loka – Aye, Ashbeck – Aye, Simon – Aye, Bialecki – Aye. Motion carried 22-0
- M/S McCrank/Hafeman to go to Open Session. Roll Call: : Weaver – Aye, Rusch – Aye, Hafeman – Aye, Allen – Aye, McCrank – Aye, Gilk – Aye, Voermans – Aye, Gorski – Aye, Woller – Aye, Friske – Aye, Panfil – Aye, Peterson – Aye, Heller – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Loka – Aye, Ashbeck – Aye, Simon – Aye, Bialecki – Aye. Motion carried 19-0.
- M/S Bialecki/Hafeman to go into closed session and to include Cate Wylie, Karry Johnson, and Debbie Rauchle. Roll Call: : Weaver – Aye, Rusch – Aye, Hafeman – Aye, Allen – Aye, McCrank – Aye, Gilk – Aye, Voermans – Aye, Gorski – Aye, Woller – Aye, Friske – Aye, Panfil – Aye, Peterson – Nay, Heller – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Loka – Aye, Ashbeck – Aye, Simon – Aye, Bialecki – Aye. Motion carried 18-1.
13. Open Session: M/S Heller/Peterson to go into Open Session. Roll call: Weaver – Aye, Rusch – Aye, Hafeman – Aye, Allen – Aye, McCrank – Aye, Gilk – Aye, Voermans – Aye, Gorski – Aye, Woller – Aye, Friske – Aye, Panfil – Aye, Peterson – Aye, Heller – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Loka – Aye, Ashbeck – Aye, Simon – Aye, Bialecki – Aye. Motion carried 19-0. M/S Friske/Voermans agree to accept both union contracts (Lincoln County Professional Deputies' Association and Lincoln County Sheriff's Office Supervisors). Motion carried by a voice vote.
14. Next County Board Meeting: is Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., at the Lincoln County Service Center, 801 N Sales Street, Room 257, Merrill, WI 54452
15. 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, Deborah A Rauchle, Deputy 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, March 15, 2022

Deborah A Rauchle, Deputy County Clerk