

Lincoln County Board of Supervisors

Meeting: June 20, 2023

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 Friske called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of allegiance followed.
3. Deputy Clerk Rauchle called Roll - Members Present: Allen, Anderson-Malm, Ashbeck, Callahan, Cummings, DePasse, Detert, Friske, Lemke, Loka, McCrank, Meunier, Osness, Rusch, Thiel, and Wendorf. (16) Virtual: Bialecki, Hafeman, and Hartwig (3) Excused: Boyd, and Wickham (2) Absent: Simon (1)
4. Announcements/Recognitions/Awards/Appointments
 - A. Announcements - None
 - B. Service Recognitions – June
 - 15 Years: Jamie Taylor, Social Services
 - 25 Years: Garrett Dinges, Social Services
 - 30 Years: Tracey Schroeder, Social Services
 - C. Appointments & Re-Appointments:
 1. Reappointment of Traffic Safety Members: John Hanz, County Highway Commissioner; Ken Schneider, Sheriff; Tyler Iverson, Chief Deputy; Gerald Baier, Department of Transportation Highway Representative; Dales Bergman, Education Representative – MAPS; WI Department of Transportation Law Enforcement Representative; Rick Olig, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Highway Safety Representative (term expires 5/2024) M/S Ashbeck/Loka to approve the reappointment of Traffic Safety Members: John Hanz, County Highway Commissioner; Ken Schneider, Sheriff; Tyler Iverson, Chief Deputy; Gerald Baier, Department of Transportation Highway Representative; Dales Bergman, Education Representative – MAPS; WI Department of Transportation Law Enforcement Representative; Rick Olig, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Highway Safety Representative (term expires 5/2024). Motion carried by a voice vote.
 2. Appointment of Tyler Verhasselt, Emergency Management /Safety Director to the Traffic Safety Committee (term expires 5/2024) M/S Osness/Cummings to approve the appointment of Tyler Verhasselt, Emergency Management /Safety Director to the Traffic Safety Committee (term expires 5/2024). Motion carried by a voice vote.
 3. Approve the nomination of Hans Breitenmoser as Governor Appointee for North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (term expires 6/1/2029) M/S McCrank/Rusch to approve the nomination of Hans Breitenmoser as Governor Appointee for North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (term expires 6/1/2029) Motion carried by a voice vote.
5. Approval of Journal – May 16, 2023: M/S Osness/Wendorf to approve the May 16th minutes as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote.
6. Letters, Petitions and Memorials
 - A. Letters – None
 - B. Memorials – None
7. Reports of Standing & Special Committees:
 - A. Finance & Insurance Committee: 2023 Year-to-Date Budget Report – Finance Director (Samantha Fenske) Director Fenske gave her report and answered questions.
 - B. Finance & Insurance Committee: 2024 Budget – Finance Director (Samantha Fenske) Director Fenske mentioned that five (5) budgets were returned to committees for revisions; they are Maintenance, Sheriff, Coroner, Highway and Emergency Medical Services.
8. Public Comment – None
9. Resolutions and Ordinances

A. 1) Resolution 2023-06-41

Approval of Department of Social Services - Lead Social Worker Position

WHEREAS, the powers and duties of intake workers and dispositional staff are established through Wisconsin State Statutes under Chapter 48 and 938; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin statutes direct the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to establish standards for conducting child abuse and neglect Initial Assessments that must be followed by local child welfare agency professionals [Wis. Stat. § 48.981(3)(c)1.a.]. DCF has developed the CPS Access and Initial Assessment Standards to meet this mandate; and

WHEREAS, these standards provide local child welfare agencies and CPS professionals with specific direction in screening and assessing reports of child maltreatment within the requirements of Wisconsin and Federal statutes. The process relies on gathering, understanding, and assessing family information and dynamics that contribute to threats to child safety or maltreatment, in order to make decisions about which families receive CPS Ongoing Services; and

WHEREAS, there are specific functions of the CPS processes that require formal decision making by a supervisor (or that of her or his designee) within required timelines, such as screening of an access report; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin statutes direct training for child protective services caseworkers and supervisors under Wis. Stat. §43.05.

FURTHERMORE, Lincoln County Department of Social Services has relied on the Director of Social Services to provide the supervisory roles as established by the Department of Social Services in the absence of the Child Welfare Manager's ability; and

WHEREAS, the current structure of the Department of Social Services has experienced and trained staff that are capable of providing supervisory functions in limited capacity as a designated Lead Social Worker.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors recognize the critical importance of the timely oversight of the Child Protective Services process and approves the conversion of one approved social worker position to Lead Social Worker position, placed on the Grade I of the Lincoln County Wage Scale, to support the Child Welfare unit in times where the Child Welfare Manager is unavailable.

Dated: June 20, 2023

Authored by: Angela Cummings, District 20 Supervisor

Committee: Administration & Legislation

Committee Vote: 6-0

Date Passed: May.03.2023

Committee: Social Services

Committee Vote: 5-0

Date Passed: May.08.2023

Committee: Finance

Committee Vote:

Date Passed: June 2.2023

Fiscal Impact: Social Worker Grade H to Lead Social Worker Grade I – approximately an increase of \$3,630 (wage/fringe)

Administrative Coordinator Krueger explained resolution. M/S Cummings/Osness to approve Resolution 2023-06-41. Discussion followed. Motion carried by voice vote.

2) Resolution 2023-06-42

Amendment to 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 provide for an opportunity to be reviewed and amended; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County has limited opportunity for camping with large self-contained camping units and utility trailers, and

WHEREAS, interest has been expressed in the development of a new campground facility with access to the ATV/UTV trail system; and

WHEREAS, development of a new campground with access to the ATV/UTV trail system will provide more recreational opportunity in Lincoln County;

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee has reviewed the plan and approved an amendment to Chapter 6: Recommendations & Capital Improvements to include:

Recommendation 2: Develop a new campground accessible from the ATV/UTV trail system.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this 20th day of June, 2023 that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors hereby adopt the proposed amendment to the 2022-2026 Lincoln County Outdoor Recreation Plan and that the amended plan be forwarded to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for their acceptance.

Dated: June 20, 2023

Authored by: Ken Wickham

Co-Sponsored by: Greg Hartwig
 Committee: Forestry, Land and Parks
 Committee Vote: All ayes

Date Passed: June 12, 2023

Fiscal Impact: Eligibility to apply for state and/or federal grant monies to assist development of a campground. Supervisor Hartwig explained resolution. M/S Osness/DePasse to approve resolution 2023-06-42. Discussion followed. Motion carried by a voice vote.

3) Resolution 2023-06-43

Resolution Accepting and Expressing Gratitude to the Bierman Family Foundation, Inc. for the Grant of \$64,000.00 for Improvements at Camp New Wood Campground.

WHEREAS, Lincoln County wishes to improve County recreational facilities for the benefit of its citizens and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Camp New Wood Campground sites and restroom are in need of upgrading and replacement; and WHEREAS, County funding to make improvements to recreational facilities, without grants, is very limited; and WHEREAS, Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department has applied for and been denied other grant funding for this project the past two years; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department completed a Bierman Family Foundation, Inc. grant application for funding to make upgrades and improvements at the Camp New Wood Campground; and WHEREAS, the Bierman Family Foundation has responded with a donation of \$64,000.00 to assist Lincoln County in making upgrades and improvements at the Camp New Wood Campground.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the Citizens of Lincoln County, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors accepts and expresses sincere gratitude for the \$64,000.00 grant award from the Bierman Family Foundation, Inc. to be used for upgrades, improvements and replacement of the restroom facilities at Lincoln County's Camp New Wood Campground.

Dated: June 20, 2023

Authored by: Greg Hartwig
 Co-Sponsored by: Ken Wickham
 Committee: Forestry, Land and Parks
 Committee Vote:
 Fiscal Impact: \$64,000.00

Date Passed:

Supervisor Hartwig explained resolution. M/S: Thiel/Cummings to approve resolution 2023-06-43. Discussion followed. Motion carried by a voice vote.

4) Resolution 2023-06-44

Approval of ARPA Funding in the Amount of \$1,500,000.00 to be directed to the Highway Commissioner and allow him to prioritize reconditioning and maintenance of roads.

WHEREAS, Lincoln County Board of Supervisors identified Administrative and Legislative committee to review and vet all requests against the criteria that it does not create base building and creates economic growth and/or generates county revenue; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors engaged in a vision and branding activity and developed "Lincoln County: Where the Northwood's Start and Your Adventure begins; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the branding is to market tourism and bringing visitors to the community to visit/stay to increase sales tax; and

WHEREAS, the county highways and roads have fallen behind a desired 20 or 25 year maintenance schedule, leaving some in poor condition and making travel difficult; and

WHEREAS, these highways and roads are used by residents and visitors to the County for purposes of recreation and tourism, and improving the condition of some of these county highways and roads would further the objective of promoting and encouraging travel, tourism and recreation within Lincoln County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors, based on the recommendation of the Administrative and Legislative Committee who was charged with vetting all ARPA requests, approve \$1,500,000.00 to be directed to the Lincoln County Highway Department budget and direct the Highway Commissioner to use the funds to recondition, pave and/or perform maintenance on Lincoln County roads as presented and prioritized in the ARPA fund request to the Administrative and Legislative Committee.

Dated: June 20, 2023

