AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Establish a Quorum ~ Roll Call
3. Adopt Agenda / Properly Noticed
4. Approve Minutes of September 10, 2020 Legislative Committee Meeting
5. Communications
6. Public Comment
7. Supervisor Response
8. Old Business
   A. Land Acknowledgement
9. New Business
   A. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
   B. Senate Bill 51 (SB51)
   C. Water Quality
      1. PAHs (Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons)
      2. PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances)
      3. State Water Quality Task Force Proposed Bills
      4. Clean Water Now
         a. https://voteforcleanwater.com/
   D. Review Resolutions from Other Counties and Refer to Appropriate Committees for Recommendation as to Action of the County Board
      1. Trempealeau County, Eau Claire County - Request Special Session of Legislature for COVID-19 Guidance
      2. Jackson County – Funding for APS and Long Term Care
      3. Jackson County – Utility Tax
      4. Eau Claire County, Winnebago County, Price County – Supporting Pending Legislation to Amend Hearing Time Frames for Juveniles Taken Into Custody
      5. Monroe County, Lincoln County - Support Increased Child Care Funding
      6. Kewaunee County – Requesting the State Senate Convene in Extraordinary Session to Address 13 Water Bills Passed by the WI Assembly
      7. Price County - Return Authority on Conditional Use Permits to Local Control
      8. Kenosha County – Supporting the Commitment to Veterans Support and Outreach Act (The Act)
      9. Outagamie County – Supporting Reauthorization of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program
      10. Lincoln County – Support for Action on Climate Change
10. Next Meeting Date: tbd
11. Meeting Per Diem Code
12. Adjourn

Deviation from the order shown may occur

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing assistance to participate in this meeting, should contact the Office of the County Clerk at (920)746 2200. Notification 72 hours prior to a meeting will enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to that meeting.
Call Meeting to Order
Chairman Bob Bultman called the October 8, 2020 Legislative Committee meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. at the Door County Government Center.

Establish a Quorum ~ Roll Call
Members present: Bob Bultman, Kara Counard, Alexis Heim Peter, and Erin Tauscher. Vinni Chomeau was excused.

Others present: Administrator Ken Pabich, and County Clerk Jill Lau. Assistant Corp Counsel Karyn Behling and Public attended virtually.

Adopt Agenda / Properly Noticed
Motion by Tauscher, seconded by Heim Peter to adopt the agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Approve Minutes of September 10, 2020 Legislative Committee Meeting
Motion by Counard, second by Heim Peter to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2020 meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

Communications
No communications were presented.

Public Comment
• Christie Weber, 311 Pennsylvania Street, Sturgeon Bay, President of Sturgeon Bay Historical Society

Supervisor Response
None given.

Old Business
Resolution 2020-__ Supporting Repair of the Potawatomi State Park Observation Tower
The draft resolution was reviewed. Extra word on line 27 was noted and a change to line 9 was reviewed and requested. Assistant CC Behling will edit as suggested and a final copy will go before the County Board.

Motion by Counard, seconded by Heim Peter to accept the resolution, with noted changes, supporting the repair of Potawatomi State Park Tower. Motion carried by voice vote.

Resolution 2020-__ Racism is a Public Health Crisis
The draft resolution was included in the meeting packet and was reviewed. Supervisor Heim Peter noted four specific areas/items for suggested changes/wording to the draft resolution: Line 39, Line 40, Line 41, and Line 44. Discussion followed. Concerns expressed related to overstepping HR laws and policies, how can this resolution affect change and do something, and first steps, continued with follow-up work. Administrator Pabich would take the resolution and review with each department to determine where/how each department can leverage and use the resolution.

Motion by Heim Peter, seconded by Counard to move the resolution to the full County Board, with noted changes to lines 39 and line 40. Motion carried by voice vote.
New Business
Land Acknowledgement
Information included in the meeting packet was reviewed. Administrator Pabich explained this topic was brought before the Soil & Water Conservation Department by a Member working on the updated Land & Water Plan. The topic was brought before the Administrative Committee who referred it to the Legislative Committee for discussion. This is a significant decision and significant research will be required. Discussion followed. If adopted it could become imbedded into the official documents/fabric of the County; part of County Board orientation, a special day(s) in recognition of, signage/information in county parks. Administrator Pabich, CC Thomas, and Assistant CC Behling will start to reach out and begin researching. Updates of progress will be provided.

Review Resolutions from Other Counties and Refer to Appropriate Committees for Recommendation as to Action of the County Board
Brown County – Requesting that the State Senate Convene to Address 13 Water Bills Passed by the State Assembly
Reviewed.

Next Meeting Date
TBD - at call of Chair.

Meeting Per Diem Code
151.

Adjourn
Motion by Tauscher, seconded by Counard to adjourn. Time: 2:10 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted by Jill M. Lau, Door County Clerk
LaU, Jill

From: FreixCompany 2012 <draftdepot04@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 6:00 PM
To: County Board; Bultman, Bob; LAU, JILL; Corp Counsel Dept Account; PABICH, KEN
Subject: RESOLUTION DEMANDING SENATOR JACQUE RESIGN IMMEDIATELY

Legislative Chair Bultman and Entire County Board

I am requesting that this correspondence addressed to the entire Board be included in the upcoming regular meeting informational packet and that the County Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator direct Corporation Counsel to immediately draft a Resolution directed to our State Senator Andre Jacque to demand that he immediately resign his legislative seat and furthermore that the State of Wisconsin revoke any accumulated or future retirement benefits and/or Wisconsin health insurance coverage presently enjoyed by him and his family as of the time of this request.


The Door County Legislative Committee, I feel, unquestionably has sufficient cause to act on this request at once.

Kindest Regards,

Donald Freix
PO Box 396
Fish Creek, WI 54212
From: FreixCompany 2012 <draftdepot04@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:14 PM
To: County Board; Bultman, Bob; LAU, JILL; Corp Counsel Dept Account; PABICH, KEN; NORDIN, COLLEEN; STERNARD, TAMMY; KANE, DAN
Cc: Debra Fitzgerald; David Eliot; Danny Allen; Myles Dannhausen; Bryan Mazur; Paul Schmitt; Tim Kowols; Chris Clough; Door County Advocate; Rep. Kitchens; Rep. Hintz; Sen. Cowles; Sen. Jacque
Subject: First They Came for the Communists and I said Nothing

To the Door County Legislative Committee and to the Door County Board of Supervisors

I'm forwarding follow up information regarding my very recent request for the Door County Board of Supervisors to bring at minimum a Resolution demanding that State Senator Andre Jacque immediately resign his legislative seat, as I am extremely saddened and thoroughly disappointed with the lack of reporting by our local 1st Amendment privileged free press who seem to have closed up shop with regard to honestly covering the widely available revelatory information that has come to light about the terrorist attack, by Americans on our US Capitol on January 6, 2020.

This media failure to report to the public as a Constitutionally regarded Fourth Estate, their responsibility that comes with the privilege granted with a freedom, to uphold our democracy on par with a virtually constructed but factually independent fourth branch of government, puts an even greater burden on you, our elected local government, in this county, to declare your alliance either to terrorists and those who would aid and comfort them perpetuating false narratives or to upholding and protecting the US Constitution that you have sworn an oath to perform, so help you God.

Kindly review the links to reputable sources for letters, records of financial backing (even from local groups receiving state grants) and a heartfelt statement from a US military veteran in the linked Youtube video, less than two minutes long, who now serves in the US Congress.

Forgiving home-grown terrorists and excusing their inside sympathizers for acts of blatant sedition leaves the door open wide for more of the same. Saying nothing will leave all of us wishing we had spoken up when they come for us.

Assigning responsibility and accountability for domestic terrorism is neither left or right politics. This is neither the time nor place for abandoning your responsibility to take an official stand by invoking feckless excuses such as "both sides do this."

Financial backers of the attempted January 6, 2020 coup:


15 WI State legislators arguably giving aid and comfort to seditionists:

https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2021/01/14/these-15-state-legislators-asked-pence-not-to-certify-election-results/

Congressman: DC Riots Were The Birth Of A Domestic Terrorist Movement

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DO1Sd5cAyRk

I would be happy to join as a listed agenda participant, not restricted to public comment, in any debate about the emergency response on the political level I am suggesting is unavoidable in the face of recent events and where doing nothing and saying nothing officially from our local elected leaders, sad enough nothing from the local media, amounts to complicity and cooperation, green-lighting further terrorist activity.
Peace and Resolve

Donald Freix
PO Box 396
Fish Creek, WI 54212

920 868 9513
We call on all individuals and organizations to open all public events and gatherings with acknowledgment of the traditional Native inhabitants of the land.
Dear Citizen Artist,

We launch this guide in the lead-up to Indigenous People's Day 2017, when each of us is free to choose whether to accept and perpetuate a distorted history or stand for truth and reconciliation grounded in acknowledgment. The time is long overdue for everyone to open all public events and gatherings with acknowledgment of the traditional Native inhabitants of the land. Please help to spread this guide, encouraging your colleagues, neighbors, officials, and institutions to adopt this practice as well.

The U.S. Department of Arts and Culture is a people-powered department, a grassroots action network inciting creativity and social imagination to shape a culture of empathy, equity, and belonging. We are grateful to all of the partners whose work inspired this guide. Special thanks to the following individuals who offered insight and support in its creation: T. Lulani Arquette (Native Hawaiian), Daniel Banks, Sherry Salway Black (Oglala Lakota), Lori Pourier (Oglala Lakota), Shirley Sneve (Rosebud Sioux), Rulan Tangen (mixed Indigenous heritage), Josh Reid (Snhoomish), Tanaya Winder (Duckwater Shoshone/Pyramid Lake Paiute/Southern Ute) and Larissa FastHorse (Sicangu Nation Lakota) and Ty Defoe (Ojibwe/Oneida) of Indigenous Direction. Thank you to Nicholas Ward, Connie Fitzpatrick, and the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation for use of their photographs, and Keith BraveHeart (Oceti Sakowin: Oglala Lakota), Bunky Echo-Hawk (Pawnee/Yakama), Marlena Myles (Spirit Lake Dakota), Bryan D. Parker (Muscogee Creek/Choctaw/White Mountain Apache), Remy (Diné), and William Wilson (Diné) for the use of their artwork. Any omissions or errors are the responsibility of the USDAC.

Please feel free to be in touch: hello@usdac.us.

With gratitude,

*The USDAC*

**Together, We Create.**
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“Before Here Was Here” by Bunky Echo-Hawk (Pawnee/Yakama)
IN COUNTRIES SUCH AS NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, AND AMONG TRIBAL NATIONS IN THE U.S., it is commonplace, even policy, to open events and gatherings by acknowledging the traditional Indigenous inhabitants of that land. While some individuals and cultural and educational institutions in the United States have adopted this custom, the vast majority have not. 

**Together, we can spark a movement to make acknowledgment of traditional lands a regular practice at public and private events.**

Acknowledgment is a simple, powerful way of showing respect and a step toward correcting the stories and practices that erase Indigenous people’s history and culture and toward inviting and honoring the truth. Imagine this practice widely adopted: imagine cultural venues, classrooms, conference settings, places of worship, sports stadiums, and town halls, acknowledging traditional lands. Millions would be exposed—many for the first time—to the names of the traditional Indigenous inhabitants of the lands they are on, inspiring them to ongoing awareness and action.

For more than five hundred years, Native communities across the Americas have demonstrated resilience and resistance in the face of violent efforts to separate them from their land, culture, and each other. They remain at the forefront of movements to protect Mother Earth and the life the earth sustains. Today, corporate greed and federal policy push agendas to extract wealth from the earth, degrading sacred land in blatant disregard of treaty rights. **Acknowledgment is a critical public intervention, a necessary step toward honoring Native communities and enacting the much larger project of decolonization and reconciliation.**

We call on all artists, cultural workers, public officials, educators, administrators, community leaders, organizers, and engaged community members to open all public events and gatherings with acknowledgment of the traditional Native inhabitants of the land.
Acknowledgment by itself is a small gesture. It becomes meaningful when coupled with authentic relationships and informed action. But this beginning can be an opening to greater public consciousness of Native sovereignty and cultural rights, a step toward equitable relationship and reconciliation. Join us in adopting, calling for, and spreading this practice.

Naming is an exercise in power. Who gets the right to name or be named? Whose stories are honored in a name? Whose are erased? Acknowledgment of traditional land is a public statement of the name of the traditional Native inhabitants of a place. It honors their historic relationship with the land.

A Land Acknowledgment is a formal statement that recognizes the unique and enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories.

Laurier Students’ Public Interest Research Group, Ontario, Canada
http://www.lspirg.org/knowtheland/

WHY INTRODUCE THE PRACTICE OF LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT?

- Offer recognition and respect.
- Counter the “doctrine of discovery” with the true story of the people who were already here.
- Create a broader public awareness of the history that has led to this moment.
- Begin to repair relationships with Native communities and with the land.
- Support larger truth-telling and reconciliation efforts.
- Remind people that colonization is an ongoing process, with Native lands still occupied due to deceptive and broken treaties and practices of eminent domain and other mechanisms intended to benefit government or corporate America.
- Take a cue from Indigenous protocols, opening up spaces with reverence and respect.
- Inspire ongoing action and relationships.
Many countries are far ahead of the United States in adopting this practice. In Australia, New Zealand, and Canada there are protocols, maps, and pronunciation guides readily available. Many universities have made acknowledgment a policy, providing simple templates for students, staff, and faculty. Beginning in 2016, all Toronto public schools began opening their school days with a statement of acknowledgment.

The University of Alberta offers this explanation of acknowledgment:

To acknowledge the traditional territory is to recognize its longer history, reaching beyond colonization and the establishment of European colonies, as well as its significance for the Indigenous peoples who lived and continue to live upon this territory, and whose practices and spiritualities were tied to the land and continue to develop in relationship to the land and its other inhabitants today.

Acknowledgment in these countries is a small part of a more significant commitment to truth and reconciliation—including official government apologies and truth commissions leading to significant public recommendations and reforms.

In Australia, many formal events begin with a “Welcome to Country.” While a Land Acknowledgment can be offered by anyone hosting or leading an event, a Welcome to Country is offered by an Indigenous elder or community leader. The custom is to offer compensation for leading this more formal ceremonial welcome.

A FEW DISCLAIMERS ABOUT ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

• It’s simple. And also not so simple. In some cases the traditional inhabitants of a place may be clear. In other cases whom to recognize is much less so. Do your research. While the act of naming traditional inhabitants may not take much time, moving into right relationship requires preparation.

• This guide doesn’t offer the one right way to acknowledge. What’s offered here is not a comprehensive checklist or set of universally acceptable protocols. There are currently 567 federally recognized tribal nations, each with its own history and protocols for welcome and acknowledgment. There are also state-recognized tribes and peoples, including Native Hawaiians who reside on six islands. There is no one way of doing this.

• Acknowledgment is made meaningful through specific context and relationship. Whenever possible, the best entry point into the practice of acknowledgment is through relationship and dialogue with Native communities in the area.

• The practice of formal welcome and acknowledgment of land is not new. Acknowledgment has long been practiced—typically in much more nuanced, formal, and ceremonial ways—within Indigenous communities. Many artists, activists, presenters, academics, and others have been starting events with acknowledgment for decades. By publishing this guide, we hope to draw on these histories to help spark a movement to make acknowledgment commonplace.

• Acknowledgment is but a first step. It does not stand in for relationship and action, but can begin to point toward deeper possibilities for decolonizing relationships with people and place.

DID YOU KNOW? Between 1776 and 1887, the United States seized over 1.5 billion acres from America’s indigenous people by treaty and executive order. This interactive Invasion of America map shows how that happened over time. Note that Alaska and Hawaii are not included.
Below are suggested steps to acknowledging traditional land at the opening of a public gathering or event. The best way to root this practice in a local context is through dialogue with local Native groups. Not yet having those relationships doesn’t mean you can’t begin.

**STEP ONE: IDENTIFY**

The first step is identifying the traditional inhabitants of the lands you're on. This task may be complicated by multiple and contested histories of settlement, resettlement, and recognition. Many places are now home to Native people who have called that land home from time immemorial and also to those relocated from elsewhere. The goal of acknowledgment is recognizing and uplifting, not hurting or causing further division. So it is important to proceed with care, doing good research before making statements of acknowledgment.

Here are some places you can look online:

- Wikipedia entries on many cities document some history of Indigenous inhabitation. Be sure to cross-check what you find there with other sources.
- This map of Native Land is one of the more comprehensive maps available: [https://native-land.ca/](https://native-land.ca/)
- The Native Languages site offers breakdown by state, with contact information for local tribes: [http://www.native-languages.org/](http://www.native-languages.org/)

In addition to consulting local Native individuals and organizations, you can check to see if there are resources at local universities and colleges, especially those with American Indian/Native/Indigenous Studies centers, programs, and/or departments.

If multiple tribal groups claim belonging to the land, consider not naming one particular group or naming all of them. Ideally, this decision should be made through dialogue with local Native elders and culture bearers, respecting their wishes about how they desire to be named.

**A DEEPER STEP:** Identify Native elders and culture-bearers in your region to join in a conversation about how they would like to see this practice take shape locally, particularly how it could be of greatest benefit for their communities. You can use this guide as a jumping-off place for conversation. If you are part of an organization or group, consider offering an honorarium to those who take part in the dialogue. This dialogue could also be a public forum, engaging others who want to learn about this practice. Or you could share a video, transcript, or other reporting to inform and engage the wider community.
STEP TWO: ARTICULATE

Once you've identified the group or groups who should be recognized, formulate the statement of acknowledgment you'll share at the beginning of public gatherings. There is no exact script for this. Craft yours after considering several levels of detail you might introduce.

At its simplest, an acknowledgment could look like this:

“We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of the _________ People.”

Beginning with just this simple sentence would be a meaningful intervention in most U.S. gathering spaces.

From there, there are many other elements to bring into acknowledgment:

Often, statements specifically honor elders:

“I would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the _______ People, and pay my respect to elders both past and present.”

Some allude to the caring, reciprocal relationship with land:

“I want to respectfully acknowledge the ________ People, who have stewarded this land throughout the generations.”

Acknowledgments may also make explicit mention of the occupied, unceded nature of the territory in which a gathering is taking place:

“We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the occupied/unceded/seized territory of the _______ People.”

“I would like to begin by acknowledging that we are in _____, the ancestral and unceded territory of the ________ People.

In Canada it is not uncommon to make mention of the specific treaties by which land was designated to a particular tribal group. You may wish to do additional research to name the moment at which treaties were made as well as when they were broken and land unlawfully taken.

The truth is complicated. Beneath the contemporary surface of any site in the United States, there are histories of belonging that have been erased, overlooked, contested and forgotten, all ways to support ideas like “manifest destiny” which justified the conquest of Native lands. Lengthier statements of acknowledgment can center Native communities while also acknowledging the many communities that have contributed to the existing culture of place. For example:

Photo by Connie Fitzpatrick
“Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed their hopes, dreams, and energy to making the history that led to this moment. Some were brought here against their will, some were drawn to leave their distant homes in hope of a better life, and some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted. Truth and acknowledgment are critical to building mutual respect and connection across all barriers of heritage and difference. We begin this effort to acknowledge what has been buried by honoring the truth. We are standing on the ancestral lands of the _____________ People [if possible, add more specific detail about the nature of the occupied land]. We pay respects to their elders past and present. Please take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today. And please join us in uncovering such truths at any and all public events.”

You may choose to begin with a simple statement of acknowledgment and elaborate over time as you learn more, build relationships with members of local Native communities, and grow more comfortable with the practice.

“Takunsa Unsikila”
by Keith BraveHeart
(Oceti Sakowin: Oglala Lakota)
STEP THREE: DELIVER

Once you’ve identified whom to name and practiced your statement (including pronunciation of names), offer your acknowledgment as the first element of a welcome to the next public gathering or event that you host. If in the process of learning about acknowledgment you’ve built relationships with members of Native communities, consider inviting them to give a welcome before yours.

There’s a danger that a practice like this becomes just another piece of protocol, delivered flatly and falling on deaf ears. How many times have you spaced out as the flight attendant goes through emergency procedures? Or failed to silence your cell phone even though that was requested at the beginning of a show?

Acknowledgment should be approached not as a set of obligatory words to rush through. These words should be offered with respect, grounded in authentic reflection, presence, and awareness. As you step up to offer acknowledgment, breathe in awareness of both the present and of the histories that connect you with the people you are naming. Consider your own place in the story of colonization and of undoing its legacy. At your next gathering, try acknowledgment out, see how it feels, observe how or if it shifts the room. Over time, through practice, you’ll learn more about what it means and what it opens up for you and others.

Statements of acknowledgment don’t have to be confined to spoken words. Some artists, scholars, activists, and others have begun to include acknowledgment in email signatures or on websites. Consider using social media to amplify your acknowledgment. For example, post an image or a story of an event where your acknowledgment was offered, tagging it #HonorNativeLand to inspire others.

Any space, three-dimensional or digital, presents an opportunity to surface buried truths and lift up Native sovereignty, priming our collective culture for deeper truth and reconciliation efforts.

“We are still America. We Know the rumors of our demise. We spit them out. They Die Soon.”

Joy Harjo (Muscogee), 2015 Poetic Address to the Nation
BEYOND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Acknowledgment is the beginning. Acknowledgment—and the research required to do it with integrity—should be an invitation to deeper analysis, relationship, and action.

“I think we need to start imagining a constellation of relationships that must be entered into beyond territorial acknowledgments. Great, that’s awesome you know you’re on (for example) Treaty 6 territory. That’s great you acknowledge that perhaps the Indigenous view of that treaty, that the land was not surrendered, is correct. Perhaps you understand the tension of your presence as illegitimate, but don’t know how to deal with it beyond naming it. Maybe now it is time to start learning about your obligations as a guest in this territory. What are the Indigenous protocols involved in being a guest, what are your responsibilities? What responsibilities do your hosts have towards you, and are you making space for those responsibilities to be exercised? To what extent are your events benefiting your hosts?”

– Chelsea Vowel, Métis from the Plains Cree speaking community of Lac Ste. Anne, Alberta

LEARN MORE

Take time to learn about the Indigenous history of the land you live on, as well as the contemporary context of Native groups in your region. Search for books, articles, people, and organizations that you can learn from.

• Find syllabi online to follow on your own or with a study group. Here is an example of a thoughtful syllabus created in solidarity with efforts at Standing Rock to resist the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline.
• For an overview of Tribal Nations and their historical relationship to the U.S. government, read this primer from the National Congress of American Indians.
• Educate yourself on the history of settler colonialism and genocide in the United States by reading (or listening to) An Indigenous People’s History of the United States by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz.
• Read the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The United States was one of four nations to vote against the declaration when it was first adopted in 2007. It was the last of the four to reverse that in 2010.
• Where can a Truth and Reconciliation process lead? Check out the calls to action that emerged from Canada’s commission.
• Consider that the 2010 Census listed the percentage of urban Native people at 71%. Many Indigenous people are among those seeking or building community in cities.

BUILD RELATIONSHIPS AND TAKE ACTION

• Find out if there are active Native groups or organizations in or near your community. Learn about their work and see how you can support them.
• Be in touch with local Native community members to discern how best to introduce the practice of acknowledgment and explore how that might lead to further dialogue and collaboration.
• Look around and ask yourself: are there Native folks present at your events? On your team? On your board? If not, what would it take to begin building those relationships? How might you move from acknowledgment into relationship? If your role involves programming at a cultural or educational institution, how might you ensure that the programming itself represents a commitment to Native voices, stories, and perspectives?
• Follow Indigenous leadership on efforts to resist destruction of land and life. Read this powerful call to action from Indigenous Women Rising.

A FEW ORGANIZATIONS TO CHECK OUT:

• Native Arts and Cultures Foundation. Expose yourself to the work of Native artists, poets, musicians, authors, filmmakers working in community.
• Indigenous Environmental Network, “an alliance of Indigenous Peoples whose Shared Mission is to Protect the Sacredness of Earth Mother from contamination & exploitation by Respecting and Adhering to Indigenous Knowledge and Natural Law.”
• National Congress of American Indians: NCAl “founded in 1944, is the oldest, largest and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization serving the broad interests of tribal governments and communities.”
• First People’s Fund works to “honor and support the Collective Spirit® of First Peoples artists and culture bearers.”
• Vision Maker Media “empowers and engages Native People to tell stories.”
• Cultural Survival “advocates for Indigenous Peoples’ rights and supports Indigenous communities’ self-determination, cultures and political resilience.”
• Endangered Language Alliance: NYC-based organization that “documents and describes underdescribed and endangered languages, educating a larger public and collaborating with communities.”
• Indian Country Media Network: Source for Native news. On hiatus, but archive still accessible.

DOWNLOAD ART OR MAKE YOUR OWN!

Imagine going to a local coffee shop, music venue, grocery store, or even town hall, and finding a sign on the wall acknowledging traditional lands. Sound far-fetched? It doesn’t have to be! As part of this campaign to #HonorNativeLands, we partnered with several artists to create downloadable signs that you can customize and post in your community. Signs and posters are available for download from the Honor Native Land Public Folder.

You are also invited to make your own signs or posters. Consider partnering with local artists and a local printshop to make a customized set of acknowledgment posters for your community.

SPREAD THE WORD

Share the guide and call to action. In the Honor Native Land Public Folder there are sample social media posts, signs and other materials that you can use to spread the word about this campaign. Use the hashtag #HonorNativeLand.
TAKE THE PLEDGE

We urge organizations, collectives, institutions, and agencies to publicly commit to practicing traditional Native land acknowledgment. To stand and be counted and to inspire others with your commitment, take the pledge here.

ABOUT THE USDAC

The U.S. Department of Arts and Culture (USDAC) is a people-powered department—a grassroots action network inciting creativity and social imagination to shape a culture of empathy, equity, and belonging. Since 2014, the USDAC has engaged more than 25,000 artists, activists, and allies in 40+ states in arts-based dialogues and actions. By creating opportunities for learning, connection, and collective action at the local and national level, the USDAC works toward a society that affirms the right to culture; values each community's heritage, contributions, and aspirations; and dismantles all barriers to love and justice. For more information and to get involved visit: www.usdac.us.

BE IN TOUCH

Did this guide inspire you to action? Do you already have stories of success or challenges implementing acknowledgment as a practice at your organization or institution? Do you want to strategize about how to spread the practice of acknowledgment in your region or create a campaign to introduce acknowledgment as official policy in your town or city?

We'd love to hear from you. Drop us a line at hello@usdac.us.

“Auto Immune Response” by William Wilson (Diné)
MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Committee
FROM: Karyn E. Behling, Assistant Corporation Counsel
RE: Land Acknowledgement

DATE: 2/15/2021

A Land Acknowledgement (according to the U.S. Department of Arts & Culture’s Honor Native Land) is a “simple, powerful way of showing respect and a step toward correcting the stories and practices that erase Indigenous people’s history and culture and toward inviting and honoring the truth.”

Door County is considering the practice of Land Acknowledgement county-wide; versus simply including a Land Acknowledgement in the 2021-2030 Door County Land and Water Resource Management Plan. Staff conducted research and it was presented to the Land Conservation Committee. Land Conservation Committee referred it to the Administrative Committee and the Administrative Committee referred it to the Legislative Committee.

We would recommend including the below Land Acknowledgement in all County Plan documents. We would also recommend that the Land Acknowledgment be read aloud at the County Board’s Annual Meeting. The Land Acknowledgement would need to be endorsed by the entire County Board, by way of adoption of a resolution.

Thank you.

Door County’s Facilities and Parks are located on the ancestral homelands of the Menominee Nation. Currently, there are 11 federally recognized Native American sovereign nations in Wisconsin. We acknowledge these indigenous communities who have stewarded this land throughout the generations and pay respect to their elders past and present.
AN ACT to repeal 985.01 (1b) (a); to consolidate, renumber and amend 985.01 (1b) (intro.) and (b); and to amend 985.01 (3r), 985.02 (3), 985.03 (1) (a) 1m., 985.03 (1) (am) 1. and 985.08 (8) of the statutes; relating to: qualification of newspapers to receive compensation for publication of legal notices and requirements relating to publication.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill changes the criteria for a newspaper to be eligible for compensation for publication of legal notices. Under current law, with certain exceptions, in order for a newspaper to qualify for compensation for publication of a legal notice, the newspaper must have bona fide paid circulation, meaning the paid circulation of a newspaper for which 1) the publisher of the newspaper sells 50 percent or more of the circulation of the newspaper; and 2) the publisher of the newspaper has actual subscribers at each publication of not less than 1,000 copies in first and second class cities (cities of 150,000 people or more and cities with between 39,000 and 150,000 people, respectively); 300 copies in third and fourth class cities (cities with between 10,000 and 39,000 people and cities with less than 10,000 people, respectively); villages; or towns. The bill eliminates the requirement that the publisher of the newspaper sells 50 percent or more of the circulation of the newspaper.

Under current law, in addition to bona fide circulation, a newspaper must generally meet one of the following criteria to qualify for compensation: 1) for at least two of the five years immediately before the date of publication of a notice, have been
SENATE BILL 51

published regularly and continuously in the city, village, or town where published; 2) be a successor to such a newspaper and resumed publication following succession; or 3) have merged or consolidated with one or more other newspapers and one of the newspapers involved has been continuously published at regular intervals of at least once each week for at least 50 issues each year for at least one year prior to the first publication of the notice. The bill modifies the first qualification, eliminating the requirement that a newspaper be published regularly and continuously in the city, village, or town where published for at least two of the five years immediately before the date of publication of a notice, and instead allowing a newspaper to qualify that has been published at least once a week for at least 50 consecutive issues prior to the first publication of the notice in the city, village, or town where published.

Under current law, if there is not a newspaper in a city, village, or town that meets any of the general criteria, a newspaper may still qualify for compensation under an alternative provision if the newspaper is published regularly and continuously in the city, village, or town, publishing in the newspaper is likely to give notice in the area or to the affected person, and the newspaper is otherwise qualified for compensation. The bill changes the alternative criteria, modifying the “regularly and continuously” requirement to a requirement that the newspaper be circulated at least once each week for at least 50 issues each year for one year prior to the first publication of the notice in the city, village or town and requiring that the newspaper contain, on average, at least 10 percent news content per issue. The bill also provides an exception to the definition of “newspaper” to allow newspapers to qualify under these alternative criteria.

The bill adds a requirement that a newspaper that publishes a legal notice must place an electronic copy of the legal notice at no additional charge on that newspaper’s Internet site in addition to the current law requirement to place an electronic copy on the Wisconsin newspapers legal notices Internet site. Under the bill, every newspaper that publishes legal notices must have an Internet site and must include on its home page a prominent link to the newspaper’s legal notices section. The bill requires that a newspaper’s legal notices section must be available for viewing at no cost to the public and must include a link to the Wisconsin newspapers legal notices Internet site.

Finally, the bill provides that a tear sheet proof of a multiple insertion notice that must, upon request, be mailed to an advertiser or the advertiser’s attorney within 72 hours after the first insertion may be sent in electronic format.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 985.01 (1b) (intro.) and (b) of the statutes are consolidated, renumbered 985.01 (1b) and amended to read:
SENATE BILL 51

985.01 (1b) “Bona fide paid circulation” means the paid circulation of a newspaper that satisfies all of the following:

(b) The publisher of the newspaper has actual paid, digital, or electronic subscribers at each publication of not less than 1,000 copies in 1st and 2nd class cities or 300 copies in 3rd and 4th class cities, villages, or towns.

SECTION 2. 985.01 (1b) (a) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 3. 985.01 (3r) of the statutes is amended to read:

985.01 (3r) “Newspaper” Except as otherwise provided in this subsection or in s. 985.03 (1) (am), “newspaper” means a publication that is published at regular intervals and, except as otherwise provided in this subsection, at least once a week, containing, on average, [at least] at least 25 percent news content per issue, including reports of happenings of recent occurrence of a varied character, such as political, social, moral and religious subjects, designed to inform the general reader. “Newspaper” includes a daily newspaper published in a county having a population of 750,000 or more, devoted principally to business news and publishing of records, which has been designated by the courts of record of the county for publication of legal notices for a period of 6 months or more. “Newspaper” also includes a newspaper published in the town of Washington, Door County, at least 2 times a month.

SECTION 4. 985.02 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

985.02 (3) The newspaper that publishes a legal notice shall, in addition to newspaper publication, place an electronic copy of the legal notice at no additional charge on the publishing newspaper’s Internet site and on the Wisconsin newspapers legal notices Internet site. Every newspaper that publishes legal notices shall have an Internet site and include on its home page a prominent link to the
newspaper’s legal notices section, the contents of which shall be available for viewing at no cost to the public. The newspaper’s Internet legal notice section shall include a link to the Wisconsin newspapers legal notices Internet site as defined in s. 985.01 (7).

SECTION 5. 985.03 (1) (a) 1m. of the statutes is amended to read:

985.03 (1) (a) 1m. For at least 2 of the 5 years immediately before the date of the publication of the notice, the newspaper has been published regularly and continuously at least once each week for at least 50 consecutive issues prior to the first publication of the notice in the city, village, or town where published.

SECTION 6. 985.03 (1) (am) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

985.03 (1) (am) 1. The newspaper is published regularly and continuously has been circulated at least once each week for at least 50 issues each year for one year prior to the first publication of the notice and containing, on average, at least 10 percent news content per issue in the city, village, or town and publishing in the newspaper is likely to give notice in the area or to the affected person.

SECTION 7. 985.08 (8) of the statutes is amended to read:

985.08 (8) Upon request, a tear sheet proof of a multiple insertion notice shall be mailed or sent in electronic format to the advertiser or the advertiser’s attorney within 72 hours after the first insertion, and an additional charge of $1 for such tear sheet proof may be made.

(END)
Testimony on 2021 Senate Bill 51
Senator Robert Cowles
Senate Committee on Government Operations, Legal Review and Consumer Protection
February 4th, 2021

Thank you, Chairman Stroebel and Committee Members, for allowing me to submit testimony on 2019 Senate Bill 51. This bill helps to bring government transparency into the modern era by identifying the different patterns in the size and content of local publications and adapting qualification requirements to match products on the market along with bringing notices online to extend their reach.

To comply with open meeting requirements, election notice requirements, and other public notice requirements for certain actions by local governments, these entities are statutorily required to publish legal notices in newspapers that are likely to give notice in the area or to the person affected. As of December, 69 of Wisconsin’s 72 counties had a newspaper that’s qualified to publish legal notices, but 21 of those counties had only one newspaper certified in their county, while many more had two or three at the most. Even populous counties like Eau Claire and La Crosse only have one and two papers, respectively, qualified to publish notices in their counties, while Grant County has one of the highest concentrations of qualified papers at six.

This legislation looks to expand the number of newspapers in this state that are qualified to publish legal notices and makes other changes that should help to make the statutes more consistent and notices more transparent, which can help to keep local government more accountable. SB 51 makes the following changes:

1. Eliminates the requirement that a publisher sells at least 50% or more of their circulation to qualify as a “bona fide paid circulation,” and adds that subscribers may be digital versus simply in paper.
2. Eliminates a provision that the paper have been published at least two of the last five years to qualify to publish notices and replaces it with a provision that the paper shall have been published for at least 50 consecutive issues in the year prior to publication of the notice.
3. Adds a requirement that if a newspaper publishes a legal notice, they must place that notice on their website, with a link displayed prominently on the homepage, and that the notices page must be accessible to the public at no cost.
4. Changes the criteria for newspapers to qualify if no other newspapers meet legal requirements to instead require that the paper is circulated at least once each week for at least 50 issues each year for one year prior to the first publication of a notice as opposed to the current language of ‘regularly and continuously.’ Additionally, the paper must provide, on average, at least 10% news content.
5. Change a provision requiring that, if requested, the paper provide a tear sheet proof of a multiple insertion notice via mail to allow the tear sheet proof to be delivered via email as an alternative.

Ultimately, 2021 Senate Bill 51 provides a series of consensus, common-sense changes supported by Wisconsin’s newspapers that will benefit local government, hometown journalism, and taxpayers throughout the state. By creating a manner to get more local legal notices in front of more Wisconsinites, we can help to ensure that local government remains accountable and that residents have an easier time learning what their elected officials are doing. I’m glad to join Representative Kitchens in this effort.
Thank you Chairman Stroebel and committee members for holding a public hearing and allowing me to testify on Senate Bill 51. This proposed legislation would help smaller community newspapers with bringing in more revenue and make government operations more transparent for our residents.

Under current state law, all local units of government must publish the agendas and minutes of their meetings in a newspaper. Those newspapers also must meet certain requirements in order to be considered eligible to receive compensation for printing legal notices.

However, one of the issues we are seeing is that there are many communities in Wisconsin that do not have their own hometown newspaper that can meet all the criteria outlined in state statutes. SB 51 lays out specific guidelines that would allow for these publications to be compensated for printing notices.

The internet has created many challenges for the newspaper industry and many papers have gone out of business. Many people are unwilling to pay for a newspaper subscription when they can get news for free online. This bill recognizes that new business models are emerging, such as free newspapers, to compete in the modern marketplace.

First, SB 51 eliminates the requirement that a publisher must sell 50 percent or more of their newspaper’s circulation. The legislative proposal also does away with the stipulation that a newspaper must be published regularly and continuously in the same city, village or town for at least two of the five years immediately before the date a legal notice appears in print.

Instead, a newspaper could qualify if it has been published at least once a week for at least 50 consecutive issues prior to the first publication of the notice, matching other statutory criteria in an existing provision.
By providing more options in who can print legal notices, we will give governmental bodies more flexibility in determining which newspaper will better reach their constituents. We also expect the legislation to increase competition between those publications.

Furthermore, the bill takes advantage of modern technology by requiring all newspapers to publish their legal notices on their websites. The legal notices section must be available to the public at no cost.

Because of the internet, people's reading habits have changed over the past several decades, with most readers now going online to get their news. With this transformation, we must also adapt to ensure the public can better follow along with what their local elected officials are doing.

We believe a more transparent government is a better government.

SB 51 was drafted in consultation with, and is supported by, the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my testimony and I hope you will consider supporting this legislation. I would also like to thank Sen. Cowles and his office for helping us with this bill. I would be happy to answer any questions if you have them.
Good afternoon Chairman Stroebel and committee members. By way of introduction, my name is Beth Bennett and I am the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

First off, I am sorry I could not be present in person at today's hearing. The Wisconsin Newspaper Association has its annual convention today and tomorrow. I appreciate the opportunity to submit this written testimony and I look forward to follow up conversations with each of you about why WNA support Senate Bill 51.

I'd also like to thank Representative Kitchens and Senator Cowles for authoring this worthwhile proposal.

For more than 200 years, Wisconsin's newspapers have helped ensure our state's citizens are well informed through public notices. These notices serve as a critically important independent reporter between units of government and taxpayers, in addition to serving as the official notification vehicle for our court system.

Newspaper publication of notices provides the necessary verification, certification and archiving that ensures individuals and taxpayers rights are protected and preserved. While notice publication in newspapers has been a constant and reliable third-party check on governmental actors for generations, Wisconsin's publishers have worked to continually adapt public notice requirements to ensure the broadest dissemination of public information.

For example, in 2005, the Wisconsin Newspaper Association began digitally archiving all public notices published in the state, making them available online at WisconsinPublicNotices.org. This online clearing house of notices from across the state serves as a one-stop shop for notice seekers and can be searched a number of ways. And, the online posting is provided at no additional cost to the governmental and private entities required to publish public notices.

In our continued effort to expand the reach of public notices, while ensuring that important third-party verification, the Wisconsin Newspaper Association was pleased to work with Representative Kitchens and Senator Cowles in developing Senate Bill 51. This proposed legislation will significantly expand which publications can qualify to publish public notices — including expanding the eligibility of free distribution newspapers to qualify to publish notices.

SB 51 also requires any newspaper that publishes legal notices to place all notices on their websites (in addition to current statutory requirements mandating publication in the print copy and on WisconsinPublicNotices.org) with a prominent link to legal notices on its home page.

SB 51 also modernizes some of the terminology and requirements in Chapter 985 to, again, ensure maximum opportunity for publication of legal notices to best inform your constituents.

On behalf of the 221 members newspapers of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association, I urge you to support Senate Bill 51 and move it forward in the committee. Thank you.
February 4, 2021

Committee on Government Operations, Legal Review and Consumer Protection

Re: SB 51 Qualification of Newspapers

Good afternoon committee members:

Please consider approving SB-51. I know there's been attempts in the past that were appreciated, but this one looks like a winner. In Sheboygan Co. there is a long-standing weekly direct mail newspaper that can reach about 98% of county residents, but it doesn't qualify as a newspaper under current statutes, so it can't be the one used for official publications. Because of the excellent reach of this paper, I would like to use it for certain election notices, among others, to get more people to the polls. Also, municipalities would be able to choose which "newspaper" better suits their needs for any of their required notice publication. The current allowable "newspapers" in Sheboygan Co. combined distribution does not cover even half the county's population (subscription numbers drop every year!), limiting an avenue to help promote more participation by county residents. Having options on how to best get the word out for any required publication of notices is a good thing.

-Current distribution of allowed "newspapers" is only 12,926 households (total of 4 "newspapers").
-Direct mail weekly newspapers have "verifiable distribution directly to residences," meaning they could show an audit, USPS receipts, etc., if necessary, which is proof that the tax base is receiving notices.
-Current subscription-based newspapers have ever decreasing subscriptions over the years showing a definite pattern of declining readership of the paper version. And currently no insert gets posted to the web.
-Many of the subscription-based newspaper's actual subscriptions are for businesses, where often the end user does not reside in this county, so using subscription-based multipliers skew results of to whom the notices are actually getting out to. Are they actual residents of the county, or residents out of the area?
-Making these simple changes would give clerks options. Give us choices as to how we can best get notices out to our residents. Getting the notices out to where they need to go, in the most economical way for our taxpayers. If in one city the best way to send notices was in a direct mail newspaper, but in another city, or village, a subscription-based newspaper would be best, clerks should have that option.

Thank you for your time, consideration and service!

Sincerely,

Jon G. Dolson

email: Jon.Dolson@SheboyganCounty.com 
Phone: 920.459.3003
Rep. Kitchens introduces bill banning coal tar sealants

MADISON, Wis. – Rep. Joel Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay) and Sen. Robert Cowles (R-Green Bay) have once again introduced a bill that would prohibit the sale and use of coal tar-based sealants, as well as other similar products that contain high levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.

Last year, Rep. Kitchens and Sen. Cowles brought forward the same legislation and it was passed unanimously by the Assembly. However, it did not receive a vote in the Senate because that governing body’s final floor session was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The bill was drafted based on feedback gathered by the Speaker’s Task Force on Water Quality, which hosted 14 public hearings across the state in 2019 to obtain information on Wisconsin’s water challenges.

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, also known as PAHs, are persistent organic compounds that come from both natural and man-made sources. Tar-based pavement sealants are a primary source of toxic PAH pollution in Wisconsin.

Research has shown that PAHs are especially harmful to human health and the animals that live in the state’s lakes and rivers. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, at least six of the PAHs found in coal tar pavement sealants are probable human carcinogens and one PAH is a known carcinogen.

“The EPA says that banning coal tar sealants may be the most cost-effective way for communities and taxpayers to handle the pollution impacts of these products, and I completely agree,” Rep. Kitchens said.

For example, several government entities are currently in the process of spearheading a $300 million project to remove PAH-contaminated sediment from the Milwaukee Estuary Area of Concern. A U.S. Geological Survey study has revealed that nearly 80 percent of that PAH contamination has come from coal tar sealants.

“We believe our bill takes a common-sense approach to addressing this issue, especially when we know there are already numerous coal tar alternatives available that are similar in cost and have comparable life expectancies,” Rep. Kitchens said. “Plus, they are much safer for both our health and our environment.”

###
PFAS-CONTAINING FIREFIGHTING FOAM

Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large group of human-made chemicals that have been used in industry and consumer products worldwide since the 1950s. PFAS have been used specifically in some synthetic Class B firefighting foams, including aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF). For additional details, read the Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council (ITRC) Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF) fact sheet [PDF exit DNR].

On June 26, 2020, the DNR mailed posters titled Firefighting Foam & PFAS in Wisconsin [PDF] to Wisconsin fire departments offering an easy-to-follow overview of 2019 Wisconsin Act 101. The Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association (WSFCA) and DNR worked together to create this poster as a quick and general clarification of the new state law related to PFAS-containing firefighting foam. Fire departments with multiple stations can contact the DNR by email at DNRFireFightingFoamStudy@Wisconsin.gov if additional copies are needed.

FLUORINE-FREE FIREFIGHTING FOAMS

A few organizations offer lists of what are believed to be fluorine-free firefighting foams, including:

- Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse (IC2) [exit DNR]
- Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association [exit DNR]

The DNR does not endorse or confirm the validity of claims that foams listed by other organizations are fluorine free. Firefighting agencies may wish to contact these organizations directly to evaluate their claims. It may also be productive to work with foam manufacturers and their vendors to inquire about specific products and request fluorine-free certifications or other evidence of PFAS-free ingredients.

The U.S. Department of Defense [exit DNR] is engaged in ongoing research on fluorine-free foams.
2019 WISCONSIN ACT 101

2019 Wisconsin Act 101 was published on February 6, 2020, is codified in s. 299.48, Wis. Stats., and will become effective on September 1, 2020. This new law prohibits the use of Class B and Class A/B firefighting foams that contain intentionally added per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), except in the following two situations:

1. when used as part of an emergency firefighting or fire prevention operation; and
2. when used for testing purposes at a testing facility that has implemented appropriate containment, treatment and disposal or storage measures to prevent discharges of the foam to the environment, and does not flush, drain or otherwise discharge the foam into a storm or sanitary sewer.

FOAM USE FOR TRAINING

Effective September 1, 2020, the use of firefighting foams with intentionally added PFAS is explicitly prohibited for training purposes. Training means providing first-hand field experience to a person who may use a firefighting foam as part of an emergency firefighting or fire prevention operation.

2019 Wis. Act 101 requires DNR to promulgate emergency rules that establish appropriate containment, treatment and disposal or storage measures for firefighting foam testing facilities by September 1, 2020. Public comment period, public meeting and public hearing information is available in the Public Input tab on this page.

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS WHEN CLASS B AND A/B FOAM IS USED

Section 292.11(2), Wis. Stats., requires fire departments to notify DNR immediately when PFAS-containing foams are discharged to the environment.

When PFAS-containing firefighting foam is used as part of an emergency firefighting or fire prevention operation, notify DNR immediately or as soon as practicable without hindering firefighting or fire prevention operations.

When PFAS-containing firefighting foam is used for testing purposes, notify DNR immediately of any discharge of the foam to the environment.

Call the 24-hour emergency hotline at 1-800-943-0003 to report firefighting foam spills and discharges.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS
Effective September 1, 2020, fire departments are required to retain manufacturers' safety data sheets (SDSs) for all Class B and A/B firefighting foams they possess. When reporting foam discharges, fire departments must make these SDSs available to DNR for examination.

**EMERGENCY RULEMAKING, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PUBLIC INPUT**

2019 Wis. Act 101 requires DNR to promulgate emergency rules that establish appropriate containment, treatment and disposal or storage measures for firefighting foam testing facilities.

**DRAFT EMERGENCY RULE WA-06-20(E): MANAGEMENT OF FIREFIGHTING FOAM THAT CONTAINS PFAS**

The DNR is developing Emergency Rule WA-06-20(E) related to firefighting foam that contains PFAS. Some firefighting foams currently used to extinguish flammable liquid fires, such as Class B and Class A/B foams, include intentionally added PFAS, meaning PFAS is a constituent of the foam. This rule is primarily concerned with preventing the discharge of these foams to the environment.

2019 Wisconsin Act 101 also requires the department to promulgate rules to implement and administer s. 299.48, Wis. Stats., including to determine appropriate containment, treatment and disposal or storage measures for testing facilities.

A public listening session was held on September 15, 2020, to allow an opportunity for the public to provide oral comments. The proposed rule [PDF] will be presented to the Natural Resources Board on October 28, 2020. Members of the public may offer testimony at the meeting or submit written comments via email (preferred) or mail. Pre-registration to testify is required. The public participation deadline for NRB Liaison receipt of your request to testify or submittal of your written comment is 11 a.m. on Wednesday, October 21, 2020, and should be sent by email to Laurie.Ross@Wisconsin.gov or by mail to Laurie Ross, NRB Liaison, WI DNR - AD/8, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921.

[September 15, 2020, Listening Session](#)

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

The DNR held a preliminary public hearing on June 4, 2020, on the Statement of Scope related to the creation of chapter NR 159 to promulgate emergency and permanent rules concerning the regulation of firefighting foam that contains certain contaminants. This hearing was held via Skype due to pandemic-related social distancing.

The public was given the opportunity to testify at the hearing by attending the Skype meeting or by submitting written comments received on or before June 4, 2020. Written comments were submitted by U.S. mail, email or through the internet and held the same weight and effect as oral statements presented at the public hearing.

- [Statement of Scope](#)
STATE SURVEY OF WISCONSIN FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Wisconsin has joined Minnesota, Michigan, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, Colorado and other states in working with local fire departments to address the environmental and human health risks associated with PFAS. As part of a larger statewide initiative, the DNR, in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin Survey Center and other state agencies, conducted a survey of all Wisconsin fire departments from January through March 2020 to better understand how much, how often and why fluorinated foam is used across Wisconsin.

The survey closed on March 17 with a response rate of 72%. Results indicate that 77% of respondents had purchased, stored, trained with or used fluorinated foam at some point in the past. The majority used fluorinated foam for emergency fires involving flammable liquids or gas. The DNR estimates that the total amount of fluorinated firefighting foam currently in storage across the state is at least 63,200 gallons and might be as high as 96,300 gallons. It was also determined that there may be expired or unwanted foam in excess of 30,000 gallons that requires disposal.

The results of this survey will inform the state's efforts to mitigate the use and discharge of fluorinated firefighting foams. The DNR would like to thank the hundreds of fire departments across the state for their participation in this survey. The DNR will continue to work in partnership with Wisconsin's fire departments to address PFAS in firefighting foam and protect the health of the firefighting community, the environment and the general public.

- Fluorinated Firefighting Foam Survey Results [PDF]

If you have questions about the content or results of the survey, please contact the DNR at DNRFireFightingFoamStudy@Wisconsin.gov.

FIRE CHIEFS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following is a list of questions that have been asked by various representatives of fire departments within the state of Wisconsin and includes questions from two Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association meetings held in February 2020 regarding PFAS-containing (fluorinated) foam. As more questions on this topic are addressed by DNR staff, they will be added to this FAQ list. The questions below are also available for download and printing [PDF].

- For non-emergency discharges of fluorinated (PFAS-containing) foam, can fire departments use the email form to notify DNR? The email form does not currently include PFAS as an option. The DNR should define which scenarios require emergency call-in reporting and which could be handled with the email form.
- In an emergency fire situation where fluorinated (PFAS-containing) foam is discharged for fire suppression, who will be considered the "spiller" or "discharger" of the foam? Will fire departments be responsible parties? What about property owners? Causers of the fire?
- Would it not be more appropriate for the fire department to complete the foam cleanup and then bill the responsible party?
- What are the processes fire departments must follow after a discharge of fluorinated foam is reported? Where can they get guidance on these topics? Is a fire department going to be in a position to recapture spent foam?
- What if a fire department uses a fluorinated foam on a structural fire that doesn't require the use of fluorinated foam? Is the owner of the structure or the fire department the responsible party for the foam discharge?
- Is PFOA-free and PFAS-free the same thing?
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The DNR intends to maintain a partnership with the Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association, the Wisconsin State Firefighters Association and all Wisconsin fire departments to address this issue. Emergency rulemaking is underway to provide more structure and definition to the new statutory requirements. The DNR will work with the state's firefighting community after the development of these rules to efficiently and effectively implement the new laws. Resources, information and guidance will be posted below as they become available.

- **Firefighting Foam & PFAS in Wisconsin Poster** [pdf]
- **DNR Fire Management**
- **Fire Department Safety & Health** [exit DNR] (Wisconsin Dept. of Safety and Professional Services)
- **The Hidden Dangers in Firefighting Foam** [exit DNR] (U.S. Fire Administration)
- **Airport Resources** [exit DNR] (Wisconsin DOT)
- **PFAS Frequently Asked Questions** [PDF exit DNR] (Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry)
- **Wisconsin Fire Service Education Office** [exit DNR] (Wisconsin Technical College System)
Evers Administration Seeks Outside Firm To Prosecute PFAS Polluters

Move Is Part Of The State’s PFAS Plan To Hold Polluters Accountable

By Danielle Kaeding
Published: Friday, January 22, 2021, 4:30pm
Updated: Monday, January 25, 2021, 11:30am

Gov. Tony Evers announced Friday his administration is seeking an outside law firm to help the state prosecute companies responsible for PFAS contamination in Wisconsin. The move is part of an effort to hold corporate polluters responsible under the state’s PFAS Action Plan, which was released in December.

Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, commonly referred to as PFAS, have raised concerns because they don't break down easily in the environment. The chemicals are found in firefighting foam and everyday products. Studies have linked PFAS to thyroid disease, reproductive health issues, and kidney and testicular cancers.
"PFAS can have devastating effects not only on our state's ecosystem and vital natural resources, but on the health of our families and communities across the state," said Evers in a statement. "It is unacceptable and those companies responsible for the contamination of our land and water should be held accountable so we can move forward in cleaning up this pollution for the health and safety of our communities."

Working with Attorney General Josh Kaul, Evers has asked the Wisconsin Department of Administration to solicit bids from law firms, according to a release. The administration did not provide details on what company or companies would be the target of litigation.

States like Michigan, New Hampshire and Vermont have mounted legal challenges against companies responsible for PFAS contamination to secure compensation for residents impacted by pollution.

Clean Wisconsin applauded the governor's announcement in a statement. Carly Michiels, the group's director of government relations, said the decision comes as lawmakers recently weakened an emergency rule to enforce restrictions as part of a law that bans the use of firefighting foam that contains PFAS except in an emergency and limited circumstances.

"Against legislative inaction and limiting any PFAS protections at the behest of industry and PFAS-users, this action finally provides accountability and prioritizes public health," said Michiels. "Industry and heavy PFAS-users cannot continue to drive the narrative to protect their own pocketbooks forgetting those most harmed by their actions."

In a statement, Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce (WMC) called the move a political stunt, highlighting that no state or federal PFAS standards currently exist for companies.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is in the process of crafting standards for the chemicals in groundwater, drinking water and surface water. State health officials have recommended a combined standard of 20 parts per trillion for six PFAS chemicals. No federal standards exist for PFAS, although the Environmental Protection Agency has set a health advisory level of 70 parts per trillion for PFOA and PFOS.

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"If the governor was truly looking to protect the environment, he would have continued to work closely with the business community on this topic," said Kurt Bauer, WMC president and CEO. "History has shown time and again that more lawsuits only add to the delay associated with environmental cleanups. Today's announcement will actually slow progress toward addressing contaminated areas in our state."
Wisconsin environmental regulators are monitoring more than 50 sites with PFAS contamination across the state, including in Superior, Marinette, Madison and Milwaukee. The sites include military installations, industrial areas and waterways. The contamination has required some residents of at least three Wisconsin towns to rely on bottled water due to elevated levels of the chemicals.

Tyco Fire Products is the focus of the state's largest, most complex investigation into PFAS contamination around its fire training facility in Marinette. Around 130 residents in the Peshtigo and Marinette area have been drinking bottled water since late 2017 after high levels of PFAS were found in private wells.

Peshtigo residents recently reached a $17.5 million settlement with Tyco over contamination stemming from the company's use of PFAS-containing firefighting foam.

The DNR referred Tyco and parent company Johnson Controls to the Wisconsin Department of Justice in 2019 for failing to report any release of PFAS when it was first discovered in 2013. Company officials have said they believed contamination had been confined to the site of its facility.

Evers' announcement came a day after the DNR announced surface water sampling confirmed traces of PFAS throughout Madison-area lakes and along the Yahara River. The agency began collecting samples after testing last year showed elevated levels of the chemicals in stormwater coming from the Dane County airport, which drains into Starkweather Creek and Lake Monona. The airport was the site of burn pits used for firefighter training.

The findings prompted a fish consumption advisory for those two waterbodies, and the agency is currently reviewing fish tissue samples for PFAS on the Yahara chain of lakes. The DNR also recently issued a fish consumption advisory for smelt on Lake Superior.

In September, the agency warned residents in the Marinette and Peshtigo area to avoid eating liver from deer harvested in a five-mile area around Tyco's facility in Marinette.

*Editor's note: This story was updated with comments from Clean Wisconsin and Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce.*

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Unpacking the Water Quality Task Force bills

by Carly Michiels | Feb 5, 2020 | clean water, PAHs, PFAS, Water

On January 8th, 2020, the Water Quality Task Force released their much-anticipated report containing a new package of bills and recommendations to address water quality issues in the state.

This comes roughly a year after drinking water pollution issues took the Capitol by storm. During his first State of the State Address last year, Gov. Tony Evers declared 2019 the Year of Clean Drinking Water, paving the way for a statewide discussion on water quality. In response to high rates of well water pollution in Southwest Wisconsin, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos formed the bipartisan Water Quality Task Force, consisting of 16 state representatives and senators. Through the spring and summer the task force held 14 hearings throughout the state to get input from
Wisconsinites on the numerous water issues affecting our local communities.

After hearing from hundreds of Wisconsinites about water quality issues, including drinking water pollution from PFAS, lead pipes, and nitrate runoff from farm fields, the Task Force released their bill package spending just $10 million on water quality initiatives. These proposals are a small step forward and even includes things that may be contradictory and harmful for water quality. People are already drinking contaminated water, playing in polluted waterways, and do not have the resources or access to safe, clean water. We have a lot of work yet to do to address water quality in Wisconsin.

The $10 million dollars the Task Force is willing to put forward to address water quality, after an entire year of working on the issue, is just a drop in the bucket.

Some of the bills proposed by the Task Force that we were happy to see included and will have a positive impact on water quality. These bills include:
**LRB-3915** increasing funding by $2,960,900 for *county conservation staff*, the boots on the ground that support farmers implementing sustainability practices. This is only one-time funding and brings the total just short of full funding for these statutorily required positions.

**LRB-3651** prohibits the sale or use of coal tar-based and PAH *driveway sealant products*. Coal tar-based driveway sealants are extremely toxic and can lead to increased cancer rates and impact aquatic habitats from runoff. *Over 20 Wisconsin communities* have prioritized this issue and already have similar ordinances in place.

**LRB-4717** provides about $850,000 in assistance to farmers for *conservation*. This money will include staff, resources for managed grazing, funding for the Alliance for Water Stewardship Program, creates a crop insurance program, and funding for producer-led watershed protection grants.

**LRB 4751** creates a pilot program from nitrate contamination focusing on *optimization*. Most of the nitrates contaminating our groundwater are coming from agricultural sources, incentivizing optimal usage of nitrates is an important preventative initiative for protecting water quality.

Two proposals in the Task Force package were disappointing to see included as water quality initiatives. These could be detrimental to preserving the scientific integrity of our health-based statewide groundwater standards.

**LRB-4806** allows special interests to undermine science used in *setting health-based groundwater standards* by opening up the
research process to industry influence. The safety of public health from harmful pollutants depends on sound science and independent research. This proposal would, for the first time, require the Department of Health Services to solicit input from self-interested parties on how health standards are developed, undermining the integrity of the scientific review process. No special interests should be able to influence the independent research that has regulated harmful pollutants in Wisconsin’s groundwater for over 35 years.

**LRB 4984** has little to do with water quality and is a legislative **overreach** by requiring DNR to consider the cost effectiveness of a project including any loss to the tax base when establishing criteria for the wetland and floodplain restoration grants. This further removes the systems in place that DNR currently uses to distribute these grants.

While the Task Force put in a lot of time, effort, and consideration into these recommendations in the spirit of bipartisan cooperation these recommendations do not come close to wholly addressing prevention or help people gain access to the clean, safe water they deserve.

In the face of similar water quality challenges, other states have stepped up in major ways. New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo recently invested $416 million in grants for water infrastructure improvements to protect public health and improve water quality, $120 million specifically to help communities address the emerging contaminants PFOA and PFOS. Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz is proposing the state invest $300 million to replace aging infrastructure and upgrade water treatment facilities across the state, with public health and the environment in mind. And in Ohio, with $172 million already invested this past budget, Gov. Mike DeWine unveiled **H2Ohio**, a comprehensive, data-driven water quality plan to reduce harmful algal blooms, improve wastewater infrastructure, and
prevent lead contamination focusing on developing strategies for long-term, cost-effective, and permanent water quality solutions.

By comparison, the $10 million dollars the Task Force is willing to put forward to address water quality, after an entire year of working on the issue, is just a drop in the bucket.

So, what’s next? We need to support the good water quality initiatives in the Task Force recommendations and see these important items signed into law. Next, it is important to oppose the items that would be outright detrimental and harmful to clean water. Additionally, there needs to a continued prioritization of water quality and drinking water well past 2019.

This package was a small step toward clean water, but there is a lot of work that needs to still be done. The governor’s 2021-23 State Budget can reprioritize water quality and take a more comprehensive, meaningful stand on addressing some of these issues like New York, Michigan, or Ohio. As these bills make their way through the legislative process, we’ll be sure to keep you updated on their progress.

You can sign up to get regular email updates and alerts to contact your lawmakers and make your voice heard at www.cleanwisconsin.org/act.

Read more

The vicious cycle of nitrate contamination

Clean Wisconsin applauds announced closing of Columbia power plant

Gutting of Wisconsin’s only protections from PFAS contamination through sham process “an absolute disgrace”
Looking back, looking forward

Environmental, agricultural groups form initiative to advocate for clean water, thriving farms
CLEAN WATER NOW REFERENDUM RESOLUTION

TO CONDUCT COUNTYWIDE ADVISORY REFERENDUM ON CLEAN WATER NOW FOR WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Supervisors on January 19, 2021 passed a resolution calling for the right to clean water, and

WHEREAS, there are numerous indicators that the citizens of Marquette County are concerned about clean drinking water and clean lakes because of the health of its people and the economic impact on its people.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Supervisors, in legal session assembled, does hereby approve that the following question be placed on the April 6, 2021 ballot as an advisory referendum:

Question: Should the State of Wisconsin establish a right to clean water to protect human health, the environment, and the diverse cultural and natural heritage of Wisconsin  YES_____ NO______

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Corporation Counsel prepare a Notice of Referendum to be published by the Marquette County Clerk in accordance with statutory requirements;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution and the referendum shall be filed with the Marquette County Clerk no later than 70 days prior to the April 6, 2021 election at which the question will appear on the ballot.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is directed to send results of the referendum to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Counties Association and to local members of the State Legislature.
Template for Clean Water Now Referendum Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. [resolution #] RE: TO CONDUCT COUNTYWIDE ADVISORY REFERENDUM ON CLEAN WATER NOW FOR WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, the [if applicable Name of County] County Board of Supervisors on [DATE] passed a resolution calling for the right to clean water; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous indicators that the citizens of [Name of County] are concerned about..... (Custom for each county. List the water issues that are most prevalent in your county and the health and economic impacts).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the [Name of County] County Board of Supervisors, in legal session assembled, does hereby approve that the following question be placed on the [Date of Election] ballot as an advisory referendum question: Question: Should the State of Wisconsin establish a right to clean water to protect human health, the environment, and the diverse cultural and natural heritage of Wisconsin? YES _____ NO _____

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Corporation Counsel prepare a Notice of Referendum to be published by the [Name of County] County Clerk in accordance with statutory requirements;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution and the referendum shall be filed with the [Name of County] County Clerk no later than 70 days prior to the April 6, 2021 election at which the question will appear on the ballot.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is directed to send results of the referendum to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Counties Association, the Wisconsin Towns Association, the Wisconsin League of Municipalities, all members of the State Legislature, and to each Wisconsin County Board.

FISCAL NOTE: There will be minimal cost to the County depending on the size of the ballot. Submitted by: [name of committee/supervisors] Resolution approved on this [date] on a vote of [vote count] with [number] ayes, [number] nays, [number] abstentions, and [number] excused.*

* The vote of the Board shall be by roll call with the results of such vote being recorded in the minutes of the meeting during which the vote was taken.
DATE: Tuesday, December 15, 2020
TIME: 8:30 AM
LOCATION: Wood County Courthouse, Room 114

1. Call meeting to order.
2. Declaration of Quorum.
3. Public Comments (brief comments/statement regarding committee business)
4. Resolution – Clean Water Referendum
5. Consider Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for South Wood County bicycle and pedestrian trail wayfinding signage project
6. Adjourn

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Join by phone
+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll
Meeting number (access code): 146 957 6052

Join by WebEx App or Web
https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=m54f6e0e3b2b399d6c017cce9f02f5615
Meeting number (access code): 146 957 6052
Meeting password: CEED1215
INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To place on the Wood County April 2021 ballot a referendum question on Clean Water.

FISCAL NOTE: Minimal cost to the County depending on the size of the ballot.

WHEREAS, a cheap plentiful supply of drinking water is necessary for the health and well-being of all Wisconsinites; and

WHEREAS, keeping Wisconsin's rural drinking water free of pollutants, especially nitrogen and phosphorus, benefits not only citizens but also Wisconsin’s tourism industry as well as rural economic development; and

WHEREAS, Governor Evers declared 2019 to be the “Year of Clean Water”; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Speaker’s Task Force on Water Quality brought to the attention of state legislators and the state’s residents, as a whole, the immensity of this problem; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Assembly took a step in addressing the problem by passing 13 “Water Bills” on February 18, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the State Senate never had the opportunity to consider these “Water Bills” when its last scheduled session on March 24, 2020, was postponed by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin voters can encourage continued legislative attention to the issue of water quality by speaking out.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY RESOLVES, in legal session assembled, to hereby approve that the following question be placed on the April 6, 2021, ballot as an advisory referendum question: “Question: Should the State of Wisconsin establish a right to clean water to protect human health, the environment, and the diverse cultural and natural heritage of Wisconsin? YES ___ NO ___”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Corporation Counsel prepare a Notice of Referendum to be published by the Wood County Clerk in accordance with statutory requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution and the referendum shall be filed with the Wood County Clerk no later than 70 days prior to the April 6, 2021, election at which the question will appear on the ballot; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is directed to send results of the referendum to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Counties Association, the Wisconsin Towns Association, the Wisconsin League of Municipalities, all members of the State Legislature, and to each Wisconsin County Board.
TRAIL SIGNAGE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into between Wood County (County) and the Village of Port Edwards (Village) effective on the date it is last signed, below.

WHEREAS, certain municipalities within the county, specifically, the Village of Port Edwards, the City of Nekoosa, the Town of Saratoga, the Town of Grand Rapids and the Village of Biron, which municipalities are collectively referred to herein as the Community Partners, desire to work with the County to develop and maintain standardized signage for trailheads and local trail networks for biking, hiking, ATV and snowmobile usage, and

WHEREAS, the Community Partners have arranged for the 2021 Chamber of Commerce Leadership class to properly identify and map all of the trails and recreational and activity features in those parts of the county covered by these municipalities, and

WHEREAS, the County has agreed to provide funding for the signage and the Community Partners have agreed to accept responsibility for the installation of the signs, and

WHEREAS, the Village has agreed to serve as the agent of the Community Partners in far as entering into a single MOU with the County for setting and implementing terms of the signage program,

Now, therefore, the County and Village agree as follows:

1. The County will pay $14,400 to the Village as the agent for the Community Partners to acquire from a local vendor metal Trail Head signs with wooden posts all having a life span of at least 15 years as follows:
   - Port Edwards: 6 signs
   - Biron: 4 signs
   - Grand Rapids: 4 signs
   - Nekoosa: 6 signs
   - Saratoga: 4 signs

2. The County will pay $4,000 to the Village for one Common Area sign for each Municipal Partner which sign shall include a map of the community and the location of commodities along the trail.

3. The County by means of its Planning and Zoning Director and the Village by means of its Administrator will agree to the design of both the Trail Head and Common Area signs prior to the signs being ordered by the Village.

4. The Village will procure and distribute to the other Community Partners the Trail Head and Common Area signs and wooden posts within 6 months of the effective date of this MOU.

5. Each Community Member shall install each sign within 6 months of receipt.
6. The Trail Head and Common Area signs shall all be of similar design. The Trailhead Signs shall be located so as to mark the trailheads of the official county bike/hike/ATV/snowmobile trail networks in the respective Community Partners.

7. At six and nine month intervals after the effective date of this MOU the Village shall provide an update to the Wood County CEED Committee on the design, acquisition and installation of the signs. The Village will also provide at these times an update on the cost of the acquisition of the signs.

8. The Village will return to the County within 10 months of the effective date of this MOU any funds not used by the Village in the acquisition of the signs. The Village will also return to the County within 10 months of the effective date of this MOU the cost of any sign herein that has not been installed.

On Behalf of Wood County

Jason Grueneberg

On Behalf of the Village of Port Edwards

Raymond D “Boz” Bossert Jr
Village Administrator

Date

Date

Dec 2020
December 3, 2020

Raymond Bossert
Port Edwards Village Administrator
PO Box 10
Port Edwards WI 54469

Dear Raymond,

At the December 2nd, 2020 Town Board meeting, the Town Board of Saratoga made a motion to support the Memorandum of Understanding that involves the Village of Port Edwards as lead agency working with the City of Nekoosa, Town of Saratoga, Town of Grand Rapids, and Town of Biron. The MOU would allow grant money to be used to assist in funding the Trail Sign Program in Wood County.

Sincerely,

Heidi Kawleski, Clerk
Town of Saratoga
Hello Boz,

On behalf of myself and the other members of Swiftwater Trails, we fully endorse the HEART Network vision. As you know, Swiftwater Trails, which is located in Nekoosa, has already decided to take action to strengthen our partnership with your organization. Pam Piotrowski, a member of Swiftwater Trails, is going to be the liaison between the groups. I have included her in this email. Feel free to reach out to her as needed.

Thanks, Jon Sprehn

--

Jon Sprehn, Principal
Humke Elementary School

"Love Every Child, Engage Every Learner"
Village Admin

From: Rick Schmidt <RSchmidt@nekoosawi.com>
Sent: Friday, October 30, 2020 9:26 AM
To: Village Admin; a.nystrom@grandrapidswi.org; saratogaclerk@wctc.net; clerk@bironwisconsin.org
Subject: RE: Town/ Village signs

Boz~
I attended a kick off meeting several months ago at the City of Wisconsin Rapids and they had hired a consultant to help the city with wayfaring and signing.
At this meeting it was discussed about renaming the bike trail that wound its way to all our communities. That way we would have one trail name for the long bike trail in our area and be more appropriate for marketing to visitors.
What happened to this project and how does this tie into Wood County? I never have seen a follow up meeting to Rapids work effort. Maybe they downsized their project? I also know the Ho-Chunk Nation was interested in assisting in this effort also (James Webster).

Nekoosa has a trail group working locally on nature trials. We are calling (when complete) all of our trails in Nekoosa the "Swift Water Trail System". We have a ways to go.
I’m sure our city is interested in working with a larger group and help support the signage effort.
If I have some more details on cost and schedule I would to place on an upcoming city committee agenda.
Thanks,

Rick

Rick Schmidt, P.E.
Director of Public Works

City of Nekoosa

From: Village Admin [mailto:villageadmin@port-edwards.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2020 4:22 PM
To: a.nystrom@grandrapidswi.org; saratogaclerk@wctc.net; Rick Schmidt; clerk@bironwisconsin.org
Subject: Town/ Village signs

Fellow Towns, Villages and Cities, Hope all is well.

I am the new administrator for the Village of Port Edwards. I have been here over 5 months and look forward to working with you’ all in the future. I have been working with the County on some sign concepts to help our Villages and Town better label our trails, boundaries and city centers. I am also working with a Chamber of Commerce team on the mapping of all these existing services and trails and would be happy to chat about that in the future. I have gotten some County support and funding to pay for a few signs that our communities can use. We are trying to standardize the sign but also give each community the ability to personalize it. I have attached a DRAFT concept. If you are interested in joining our effort (there is success in numbers) I am happy to chat about this. We are in the infancy of this concept but must allocate the funds this year and get the design set for production, then we can install into next year and the Spring.

Not asking for money just your support and ideas in the design process. The County wants to do this but would rather be more community focused and not just one Village or city.

Interested???? Drop me a note and I can come by to chat or give you a ring back
RE: Conducting a Countywide Advisory Referendum on Clean Water Now for Wisconsin

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS OF THE PORTAGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

WHEREAS, there are numerous indicators that the citizens of Portage County are concerned about clean drinking water and clean lakes because of the health of its people and the economic impact(s) on its people and industries; and,

WHEREAS, the Land and Water Conservation Committee is directly involved in local and regional discussions focusing on surface water and ground water issues and is statutorily charged with considering issues related to these topics; and,

WHEREAS, the Portage County Board of Supervisors has passed resolutions asking for the State of Wisconsin to pursue initiatives related to surface water and ground water issues;

FISCAL NOTE. There are no fiscal obligations associated with this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Portage County Board of Supervisors, in legal session assembled, does hereby approve that the following question be placed on the April 6, 2021 ballot as an advisory referendum:

Question: Shall the State of Wisconsin establish a right to clean water to protect human health, the environment, and the diverse cultural and natural heritage of Wisconsin YES_____ NO_____; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Corporation Counsel shall prepare an explanation of a yes or no vote to be published by the Portage County Clerk in accordance with statutory requirements; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution and the referendum shall be filed with the Portage County Clerk no later than 70 days prior to the April 6, 2021 election, at which the question will appear on the ballot; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Portage County Clerk is directed to send the results of the referendum to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Counties Association, all Wisconsin County Boards, and to local members of the State Legislature.
Dated this, January _____ 2021

Respectfully submitted,

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE:

Date: ______________________________ 2021

______________________________    ______________________________
Barry Jacowski, CHAIR            Mildred Neville

______________________________    ______________________________
Gerry Zastrow, VICE CHAIR        Julie Morrow

______________________________    ______________________________
Matthew Jacowski                 John Ruzicka
WHEREAS, city by city and county by county guidance on COVID-19 prevention and mitigation across the State of Wisconsin represents an inconsistent patchwork of direction, and

WHEREAS, this patchwork direction allows for the unmitigated spread of the COVID-19 during a worldwide pandemic, and

WHEREAS, public health is not an issue that should be politicized, and

WHEREAS, convening a special session of the legislature to provide leadership and guidance would provide townships, cities, villages and county governmental bodies the needed and consistent direction to handle the spread of COVID-19.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED that the Trempealeau County Board of Supervisors formally requests a special session of the Wisconsin State Legislature be convened to develop state-wide direction on the handling of COVID-19 at a time of great need and to avoid catastrophe and economic harm to Wisconsin families and communities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is directed to send copies of this resolution to all counties in the State of Wisconsin, Office of Governor and to all members of the legislature for the State of Wisconsin

Introduced by: John Aasen, County Board Chair

Committee Approval Date: 12/8/2020

Committee Vote: NA

Resolution Drafted by: Paul L. Syverson, County Clerk

Reviewed by Corporation Counsel: YES

Fiscal Impact: (Fiscal Statement – as set forth in Project Initiation form) None
REQUESTING THE WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE A SPECIAL SESSION TO PROVIDE COVID-19 DIRECTION FOR THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, city by city and county by county guidance on COVID-19 prevention and mitigation across the State of Wisconsin represents an inconsistent patchwork of direction; and

WHEREAS, this patchwork direction allows for the unmitigated spread of the COVID-19 during a worldwide pandemic; and

WHEREAS, public health is not an issue that should be politicized; and

WHEREAS, convening a special session of the legislature to provide leadership and guidance would provide township, municipal and county governmental bodies the needed and consistent direction to handle the spread of COVID-19.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors formally requests a special session of the Wisconsin State Legislature be convened to develop state-wide direction on the handling of COVID-19 at a time of great need and to avoid catastrophe and economic harm to Wisconsin families and communities; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is directed to send copies of this resolution to all counties in the state of Wisconsin, the Office of the Governor and to all members of the legislature for the state of Wisconsin.

ADOPTED: December 1, 2020

Janet Loomis
County Clerk
RESOLUTION 53-12-20

To: The Honorable Jackson County Board of Supervisors

RE: The Request to review funding for APS and increase long term care placement locations within Wisconsin

WHEREAS, Jackson County like other counties across Wisconsin, continue to experience the effects of an increasingly aging population such as the need for additional health care, dementia care, and long-term care for disabled and aging seniors who can no longer care for themselves or who have long term cognition needs and,

WHEREAS, Adult Protective Service agencies are statutorily required to be the responsibility of each county in Wisconsin and,

WHEREAS, in 2010 the number of Elder Abuse reports in Wisconsin for persons 60 and older was 5,799 and in 2019 the number rose to over 10,033 demonstrating a 73% increase in Wisconsin and,

WHEREAS, Adults at Risk Incident Reports for persons with disabilities aged 18-59 increased from 1,861 to 2,974 in Wisconsin, demonstrating a 59.8% increase and,

WHEREAS, these increases have created an increased financial and staffing burden for counties all across Wisconsin and,

WHEREAS, in 2006 funding from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for Adults at Risk and Elder Abuse Funds were allocated to assist seniors in need of protection and,

WHEREAS this funding has remained flat since its inception, while the numbers of elders at risk and in need of protection have risen and,

WHEREAS, Jackson County has noted an increase in spending on Adult Protective Services from an average of $97,463 between 2010-2011 to $221,377.00 in 2019 and

WHEREAS, stagnant funding for 14 years in the allocation of $27,981 has been available from the Department of Health Services for Adult Protective Services and,

WHEREAS, referrals for Adults in Need of Protection, have become more complex due to the combination of long term cognition and difficult behaviors such as aggression and lack of placements for these clients as well as lack of providers and resources for caregivers and,

WHEREAS, difficulty in placing persons with long term cognition needs has resulted in clients left waiting for a place to reside, creating ethical and dangerous situations for police officers, care providers, local hospitals, and other health care facilities who are unable to safely care for these adults (in some instances up to 40+ facilities have been contacted who have stated they will not accept an elder at risk) and

WHEREAS, a survey completed by Jackson County DHHS, in 2018 showed that 92% of County Human Services respondents stated they were having increased difficulty finding placement locations for clients who have dementia and were demonstrating behavioral symptoms such as aggression and,
WHEREAS, attached items contain further supporting data for the increase in Elder Abuse reports and Adults at Risk Incidents,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Jackson County Board of supervisors urges WCHSA, WCA, and the State legislature to review and address the need for increased funding to assist in the care and coordination of elders who are at risk or can no longer care for themselves and work collaboratively toward assuring that an increase in placements for clients with long-term cognition needs occurs in Wisconsin and,

Therefore, be it further resolved that the Jackson County Board of supervisors directs this resolution be forwarded to WCA, WI DHS, WCHSA, Jackson County legislature, and the Office of the Governor.

DHHS Committee

Ron Caunce
Chairman

Executive & Finance Committee

Gary Branson
Chairman

Roger Estin

Desiree Dowd

Teresa

Thomas Clark (voted)

Michelle Crenner Rate

Michelle Clark-Easton

Lori Chown (voted)

Teri Badger (voted)
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P.O. Box 2659
Madison, WI 53701-2659
Phone: (608) 266-2658
Website: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/aps/index.htm
E-mail: Dbe DHSStopAbuse@dhs.wisconsin.gov
### Adult at Risk Incident Reports by County
(Adults at Risk Age 18-59)

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Compiled by the Wisconsin Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources
1 West Wilson Street, Room 551
P.O. Box 2659
Madison, WI 53701-2659
Phone: (608) 266-2658
Website: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/aps/index.htm
E-mail: Dbe DHSStopAbuse@dhs.wisconsin.gov

*Gross total prior to editing. Includes incomplete reports and those regarding calls for "information only."
Resolution 54-12-2020

RE: A Resolution in Support of State Funding For Equitable Return of Utility Tax Collections to Counties and Municipalities as Utility Aid

WHEREAS, shared revenue utility aid payments help counties and municipalities pay for services provided to tax-exempt utility property, and

WHEREAS, these payments-in-lieu of taxes are also viewed as partial compensation for the air pollution, noise traffic congestion, property maintenance, emergency services and land use limitations caused by the presence of utility property, and

WHEREAS, the state has typically retained about eighty percent of utility tax collections for use as General Purpose Revenue (GPR), rather than return those dollars to counties and municipalities where the utilities are located, and

WHEREAS, in 2019-20, the state collected $351.4 million in utility taxes, but only returned $75.6 million to local governments as utility aid, and

WHEREAS, moreover, payments generated through the current utility aid formula have largely been stagnant, both as a percentage of tax collections and in the actual dollars distributed to counties and municipalities. Stagnant or declining aid results in a burdensome shift in taxes to owners of the remaining taxable property.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Jackson County Board of Supervisors hereby encourage the Governor's 2021-2023 budget to include a provision in your 2021-2023 budget plan to provide a fairer, more equitable return of utility tax collections to counties and municipalities as utility aid with an inflationary increase built into the utility aid formula.

Executive and Finance Committee

[Signatures]

Signed at Jackson County, Wisconsin on this 21st day of December, 2020

[Signature]
RESOLUTION

SUPPORT PENDING LEGISLATION TO AMEND HEARING TIME FRAMES FOR JUVENILES TAKEN INTO CUSTODY UNDER WISCONSIN STATUTES CHAPTER 938 TO COINCIDE WITH HEARING TIMELINES FOR CHILDREN TAKEN INTO CUSTODY UNDER WISCONSIN STATUTES CHAPTER 48

WHEREAS, in Children in Need of Protection or Services (CHIPS) proceedings pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 48, when a child is taken into custody and not immediately released to a parent, guardian or legal custodian, the judge or circuit court commissioner in the county where the child is being held must hold a detention hearing within 48 hours of the time in which the decision to hold the child was made (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays); and

WHEREAS, in similar actions involving Juvenile Justice proceedings pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 938, when a juvenile is taken into custody and held by a county, the circuit court must hold a detention hearing within 24 hours after the end of the day on which the decision to hold the juvenile was made (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays); and

WHEREAS, as a result of the discrepancy in the timelines between the Chapter 48 and Chapter 938 proceedings, in Chapter 938 cases county circuit court judges, commissioners, juvenile intake workers, and other courthouse staff need to be prepared to conduct hearings in circumstances in which the county courthouse may otherwise be closed, such as the Friday after Thanksgiving, extreme weather days, etc. Failing to meet the statutory deadlines places the county at risk of losing jurisdiction over the pending matter. Additionally, concerns may arise regarding transportation of juveniles and children on non-workdays in order to accommodate hearings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors that it hereby supports legislation that would align the statutes that compute the detention hearing timelines for children in need of protection or services proceedings under Chapter 48 and juvenile delinquency proceedings under Chapter 938 by specifying that a day in which the Clerk of Circuit Courts Office is closed does not count toward the computation of the detention hearing timeline under Chapter 938. This will ensure county governments are in a better position to save limited resources and protect the safety of their employees and the public.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors that it hereby directs the Eau Claire County Clerk to forward a copy of this Resolution to all Wisconsin Counties, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all state senators and assembly members representing Eau Claire County constituents.

ADOPTED: December 20, 2020

Janet K. Loomis
County Clerk
RESOLUTION: Support Pending Legislation to Amend Hearing Timelines for Juveniles Taken into Custody (Chapter 938, Wis. Stats.) to Coincide with Hearing Timelines for Children in Need of Protection or Services (CHIPS) Taken into Custody (Chapter 48, Wis. Stats.) so that a Day in Which the Clerk of Circuit Court’s Office is Closed Does Not Count Toward the Computation of the Chapter 938 Detention Hearing Timeline

TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

WHEREAS, in Children in Need of Protection or Services (CHIPS) proceedings pursuant to Chapter 48, Wis. Stats. (The Children’s Code), when a child is taken into custody and not immediately released to a parent, guardian, or legal custodian, the judge or circuit court commissioner in the county where the child is being held must hold a detention hearing within 48 hours of the time in which the decision to hold the child was made (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays); and

WHEREAS, in similar actions involving Juvenile Justice proceedings pursuant to Chapter 938, Wis. Stats. (The Juvenile Justice Code), when a juvenile is taken into custody and held by a county, the circuit court must hold a detention hearing within 24 hours after the end of the day on which the decision to hold the juvenile was made (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays); and

WHEREAS, as a result of the discrepancy in the timelines between the Chapter 48 and Chapter 938 proceedings, in Chapter 938 cases county circuit court judges, commissioners, juvenile intake workers, and other courthouse staff need to be prepared to conduct hearings in circumstances in which the county courthouse may otherwise be closed, such as the Friday after Thanksgiving, extreme weather days, etc. Failing to meet the statutory deadlines places the county at risk of losing jurisdiction over the pending matter. Additionally, concerns may arise regarding transportation of juveniles and children on non-work days in order to accommodate hearings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby supports legislation that would align the statutes that compute the detention hearing timelines for Children in Need of Protection or Services (CHIPS) proceedings under Chapter 48 and juvenile delinquency proceedings under Chapter 938 by specifying that a day in which the Clerk of Circuit Courts Office is closed does not count toward the computation of the detention hearing timeline under Chapter 938. This will ensure county governments are in a better position to save limited resources and protect the safety of their employees and the public.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby directs the Winnebago County Clerk to forward a copy of this Resolution to all Wisconsin Counties, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all state senators and assembly members representing Winnebago County constituents.

Respectfully submitted by:

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Committee Vote: 12-0

Vote Required for Passage: Three-Fourths of Those Members Present

Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this ____ day of __________________________, 2020.

Mark L Harris
Winnebago County Executive
Resolution 5-21
Support Legislation to Align Detention Hearing Deadlines in Wisconsin Statutes Chapters 48 and 938

WHEREAS, in Children in Need of Protection or Services (CHIPS) proceedings pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 48, when a child is taken into custody and not immediately released to a parent, guardian or legal custodian, the judge or circuit court commissioner in the county where the child is being held must hold a detention hearing within 48 hours of the time in which the decision to hold the child was made (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays); and

WHEREAS, in similar actions involving Juvenile Justice proceedings pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 938, when a juvenile is taken into custody and held by a county, the circuit court must hold a detention hearing within 24 hours after the end of the day on which the decision to hold the juvenile was made (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays); and

WHEREAS, as a result of the discrepancy in the timelines between the Chapter 48 and Chapter 938 proceedings, in Chapter 938 cases county circuit court judges, commissioners, juvenile intake workers, and other courthouse staff need to be prepared to conduct hearings in circumstances in which the county courthouse may otherwise be closed, such as the Friday after Thanksgiving, extreme weather days, etc. Failing to meet the statutory deadlines places the county at risk of losing jurisdiction over the pending matter. Additionally, concerns may arise regarding transportation of juveniles and children on non-workdays in order to accommodate hearings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Price County Board of Supervisors that it hereby supports legislation that would align the statutes that compute the detention hearing timelines for children in need of protection or services proceedings under Chapter 48 and juvenile delinquency proceedings under Chapter 938 by specifying that a day in which the Clerk of Circuit Courts Office is closed does not count toward the computation of the detention hearing timeline under Chapter 938. This will ensure county governments are in a better position to save limited resources and protect the safety of their employees and the public.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Price County Board of Supervisors that it hereby directs the Price County Clerk to forward a copy of this Resolution to all Wisconsin Counties, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all state senators and assembly members representing Price County constituents.

Submitted by the Price County Health and Human Services Board:

[Signatures]

Reviewed by County Administrator:

[Signature]

Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 16th day of February 2021

[Signatures]

For 10 Against 0
RESOLUTION NO: 11-20-02

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED COUNTY CHILD SUPPORT FUNDING

1 WHEREAS: Monroe County administers the Child Support Enforcement Program on behalf of the state, providing services to Monroe County residents including paternity establishment, obtaining child support and health insurance orders for children, and enforcing and modifying those orders; and

2 WHEREAS: Our children’s well-being, economic security and success in life are enhanced by parents who provide financial and emotional support; and

3 WHEREAS: County child support agencies collected $935 Million in child support during 2019 and established 98,405 health insurance orders for Wisconsin children; and

4 WHEREAS: Monroe County’s Child Support Agency provides services to children as well as custodial and non-custodial parents that reduce childhood poverty rates, establish parental rights and promote the involvement of both parents in the lives of their children; and

5 WHEREAS: The economic security and social service programs provided by the Monroe County Child Support Agency are needed by Wisconsin children and families now more than ever due to the economic downturn caused by COVID-19; and

6 WHEREAS: State funding for county child support services has failed to keep up with county agency costs, which have steadily increased due to growing caseloads, inflation and new federal regulations; and

7 WHEREAS: Wisconsin’s Child Support Enforcement Program has fallen from 2nd in the nation for collecting current support to 5th; and

8 WHEREAS: Wisconsin’s decreased performance has led to the state losing out on an estimated $70,000 in potential federal incentive payments between Calendar Year 2019 and 2020; and

9 WHEREAS: An abrupt federal interpretation change in June 2019 eliminated $4.2 million in federal birth cost recovery matching funds for Wisconsin; and

10 WHEREAS: Wisconsin’s strong performance in child support is at risk without additional state funding. Further drops in performance would result in additional reductions to federal funding for Wisconsin; and

11 WHEREAS: Decreased federal funding results in less funding for Monroe County’s child support agency. This could lead to reductions in child support enforcement staff and services and reduced child support collections; and

12 WHEREAS: New state investments in child support are amplified by a generous federal match. Every $1 of state GPR invested in the Child Support Program generates roughly $2 in federal matching funds; and
WHEREAS: Wisconsin's Child Support Enforcement Program is incredibly cost-effective, collecting an average of $6.20 in support for every dollar invested in the program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monroe County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests that state funding for county child support agencies be increased by $4 million GPR in each fiscal year of the 2021-23 Wisconsin state budget, which will generate approximately $7.7 million in additional federal funding each year. This investment will ensure that Wisconsin counties can continue to effectively provide economic support to our children.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the County Clerk to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, State Senators and State Representatives representing Monroe County the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration, and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration.

Offered by the Administration & Personnel Committee this 19th day of November, 2020.

Purpose: Monroe County Board statement of support for increased funding for county child support agencies.

Fiscal Note: None

Drafted by: Pamela Pipkin, Child Support Director

Finance Vote (If required):

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Absent

Approved as to form:

[Signature]

Andrew C. Kaftan, Corporation Counsel

☐ ADOPTED ☐ FAILED ☐ AMENDED

☐ OTHER ______________________

County Board Vote on: Nov 19 20 20

12 Yes 0 No 4 Absent

Committee of Jurisdiction Forwarded on: 11 10 2020

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 2 Absent

Committee Chair:

[Signature]

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF MONROE

I, SHELLEY R. BOHL, Monroe County Clerk, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution #11-20-02 acted on by the Monroe County Board of Supervisors at the meeting held on November 19, 2020.

[Signature]

SHELLEY R. BOHL, MONROE COUNTY CLERK
A raised seal certifies an official document.
Resolution 2021-01-01

Support of Increased County Child Support Funding

WHEREAS: The Lincoln County Child Support Agency administers the Child Support Enforcement Program on behalf of the state, providing services to Lincoln County residents including paternity establishment, obtaining child support and health insurance orders for children, and enforcing and modifying those orders; and

WHEREAS: Our children’s well-being, economic security and success in life are enhanced by parents who provide financial and emotional support; and

WHEREAS: County child support agencies collected $935 Million in child support during 2019 and established 98,405 health insurance orders for Wisconsin children; and

WHEREAS: Lincoln County’s Child Support Agency provides services to children as well as custodial and non-custodial parents that reduce childhood poverty rates, establish parental rights and promote the involvement of both parents in the lives of their children; and

WHEREAS: The economic security and social service programs provided by Lincoln County Child Support Agency are needed by Wisconsin children and families now more than ever due to the economic downturn caused by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: State funding for county child support services has failed to keep up with county agency costs, which have steadily increased due to growing caseloads, inflation and new federal regulations; and

WHEREAS: Wisconsin’s Child Support Enforcement Program has fallen from 2\textsuperscript{nd} in the nation for collecting current support to 5\textsuperscript{th}; and

WHEREAS: Wisconsin’s decreased performance has led to the state losing out on an estimated $70,000 in potential federal incentive payments between Calendar Year 2019 and 2020; and

WHEREAS: An abrupt federal interpretation change in June 2019 eliminated $4.2 million in federal birth cost recovery matching funds for Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS: Wisconsin’s strong performance in child support is at risk without additional state funding. Further drops in performance would result in additional reductions to federal funding for Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS: Decreased federal funding results in less funding for Lincoln County’s child support agency. This could lead to reductions in child support enforcement staff and services and reduced child support collections; and

WHEREAS: New state investments in child support are amplified by a generous federal match. Every $1 of state GPR invested in the Child Support Program generates roughly $2 in federal matching funds; and

WHEREAS: Wisconsin’s Child Support Enforcement Program is incredibly cost-effective, collecting an average of $6.20 in support for every dollar invested in the program.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests that state funding for county child support agencies be increased by $4 million GPR in each fiscal year of the 2021-23 Wisconsin state budget, which will generate approximately $7.7 million in additional federal funding each year. This investment will ensure that Wisconsin counties can continue to effectively provide economic support to our children.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the County Clerk to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, State Senators and State Representatives representing Lincoln County, the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration, the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration and all other counties.

Fiscal Impact: none

Dated this 19th day of January, 2021

Introduced by Social Services Committee
Date Passed: December 9, 2020
Committee Vote: 5-0

Drafted by: Renee Krueger, Director of Social Services
RESOLUTION NO. 26-10-2020

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE STATE SENATE CONVENE IN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION TO ADDRESS 13 "WATER BILLS" PASSED BY THE WISCONSIN ASSEMBLY

TO THE HONORABLE KEWAUNEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

WHEREAS, a clean, plentiful supply of rural drinking water is necessary for the health and well-being of Wisconsinites; and

WHEREAS, keeping Wisconsin's rural drinking water free of pollutants, especially nitrogen and phosphorous, benefits not only the citizens of Wisconsin but also Wisconsin's tourism industry as well as rural economic development; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Speaker's Task Force on Water Quality brought attention to state legislators and the state's residents, as a whole, the immensity of water quality problems in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Assembly took a step in addressing water quality problems by passing (most unanimously) 13 "Water Bills" (AB 789 through AB 801) on February 18, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the State Senate never had the opportunity to consider these "Water Bills" when its last scheduled session on March 24, 2020 was postponed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Kewaunee County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 20th day of October 2020, that the Board hereby requests the State Senate convene in "extraordinary session" to address the 13 "Water Bills" passed by the Wisconsin Assembly (AB 789 through AB 801); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to all 72 Wisconsin counties, the Wisconsin Counties Association, Representative Joel Kitchens, Senator André Jacque, and all other State Senators.

Respectfully Submitted,

LAND AND WATER COMMITTEE

Charles Wagner, Chair

Aaron Augustin, Vice Chair

Nick Guilette

Tim Kinnard

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Jeffrey R. Wisnicky
Corporation Counsel

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

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Page 73 of 83
Resolution 6-21

Revise Wisconsin Act 67 to Return Authority on Conditional Use Permits to Local Control

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Act 67, as revised in 2017, substantially impacted local governments within counties to control "Conditional Land Use"; and

WHEREAS, Price County has unique waterfront and other neighborhoods that should be protected; and

WHEREAS, certain uses could have a negative impact on resale or use of nearby properties; and

WHEREAS, local governments are in a better position to determine fair and equitable outcomes; and

WHEREAS, local county governments are accountable to local constituents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby petition the Wisconsin State Legislators to return authority on conditional use permits to local control.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Evers, the Legislative Committee on Housing and Real Estate, the state legislators for Price County, all Wisconsin counties and the Wisconsin Counties Association, for consideration at the WCA annual business meeting to become part of the WCA platform.

Submitted by the Land Use / UW-Extension Committee:

[Signatures]

Reviewed by County Administrator:

[Signature]

Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 18th day of February 2021.

[Signatures]

For 10 Against 0
WHEREAS, the number of Veteran suicides continues to rise nationwide, and approximately 14 out of 20 Veterans who currently die by suicide are not under United States Department of Veterans Affairs’ (VA) care; and

WHEREAS, County Veteran Service Officers (CVSO) and Tribal Veteran Service Officers (TVSO) are often the first point of contact in the local community for Veteran’s services, and these Officers provide assistance to Veterans regarding a wide range of benefits, including mental health services, service-connected disability and pension VA benefits, enrollment in VA healthcare, VA home loans, education benefits and available job placement assistance; and

WHEREAS, Veterans are not always aware of available benefits, and CVSOs/TVSOs are often the first to inform Veterans of their eligibility. CVSO’s county employees are nationally accredited by the VA to prepare, present and prosecute VA claims, but currently there is no Federal funding available for CVSOs; and

WHEREAS, there is legislation pending in the U.S. Congress and U.S. Senate known as the “Commitment to Veteran Support and Outreach Act” (The Act). The Act also includes TVSOs. The Act authorizes the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts with States, and/or to awards grants to States to promote Veterans’ health and wellness, prevent suicide, improve outreach to Veterans, support activities to assist in the development and submittal of claims (training), and to create new CVSO offices in states without CVSOs. If passed, the Act will authorize $50 Million annually for five

[Signature]
years to support these initiatives, and to provide support to CVSO/TVSO offices who currently assist Veterans and their survivors with obtaining over $50 Billion in VA benefits annually; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors hereby supports the passage of pending legislation in the United States Congress known as the “Commitment to Veteran Support and Outreach Act”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Kenosha County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this resolution to all Wisconsin Counties, the Kenosha County Veterans Service Officer, the County Veterans Service Officer Association (CVSOAWI), the State of Wisconsin Department of Veteran’s Affairs (WDVA); the National Association of Counties (NACo), the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers (NACVSO), U.S. Congressman Bryan Steil, and U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson.

Respectfully Submitted: Kenosha County Supervisor Andy Berg

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE:

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ROLL CALL
OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE
January 12, 2021

RESOLUTION #
100, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110–2020–21

ORDINANCE #
Z-6-2020-21


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OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE
January 12, 2021

RESOLUTION #  100, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110–2020-21
ORDINANCE # Z-6–2020-21


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MADE BY: Culbertson
SECONDED BY: Patience

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ROLL CALL
OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: January 12, 2021
RESOLUTION #: 110-2020-21

Property, Airport, Recreation and Economic Development Committee. Support reauthorization of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program for ten years and consideration of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) budget request of $50 million per year.

MOTION:
Support reauthorization of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program for ten years and consideration of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) budget request of $50 million per year.

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SECONDED BY: Kiemp

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RESOLUTION NO.: 110—2020-21

TO THE HONORABLE, THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

The Wisconsin Legislature created the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program in 1989 to preserve valuable natural areas and wildlife habitat, protect water quality and fisheries, and expand opportunities for outdoor recreation. Per Ch. 23.0915(2c)(d), Wis. Stats., the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program is set to expire in 2022. The program has supported land acquisition and capital development by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), local governments, and nonprofit conservation organizations to preserve valuable natural areas, wildlife habitat, water quality and outdoor recreation for public benefit around the state. Outagamie County has utilized Stewardship grant funds to develop trails and other public outdoor recreation opportunities. This resolution supports the reauthorization of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program for ten years and consideration of the WDNR budget request of $50 million per year.

NOW THEREFORE, the following resolution is presented by the Property, Airport, Recreation and Economic Development Committee to the County Board.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors considers the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program a valuable tool to preserve and restore natural areas, wildlife habitat, and water quality while supporting the development of public nature-based outdoor recreation opportunities that promote economic development and enhance quality of life, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does support reauthorization of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program for ten years and consideration of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) budget request of $50 million per year, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Clerk be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Outagamie County Executive, the Outagamie County Development and Land Services Director, the Outagamie County Parks Director, the Outagamie County Greenway Implementation Committee, all Outagamie County Municipalities, all Wisconsin Counties, the Outagamie County Lobbyist for distribution to the Legislature and the Governor, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Secretary, 101 S. Webster Street, Madison, WI 53702.
Resolution No. 110—2020-21

Dated this 12th day of January 2021.

Duly and officially adopted by the County Board on: January 12, 2021

Signed: [Signature] Board Chairperson

[Signature] County Clerk

Approved: 1/15/21

Vetoed: 

Signed: [Signature] County Executive
Resolution 2021-01-02

Resolution Expressing Lincoln County’s Support for Action on Climate Change

WHEREAS, there is scientific consensus that human activity, especially the combustion of fossil fuels that create greenhouse gases, is an important driver of climate change; and

WHEREAS, climate change has been widely recognized by government, business, military and academic leaders as a worldwide threat to public safety, public health, local and global economies and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, local governments have an impact on greenhouse gas emissions through land use planning, transportation systems, buildings, energy, and water use and the many daily operations carried out to provide vital services to residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, one hundred and ninety-five countries, including the United States, vowed to address climate change in agreements reached in December 2015; and

WHEREAS, clean energy technologies was one of the few sectors of the economy that kept growing through the global recession, and it continues to be the fastest growing sector in the nation and there were more people employed in the solar industry in the U.S. last year than in energy production from coal, natural gas, and oil combined; and

WHEREAS, clean energy technologies have become a key area of manufacturing industry growth and Wisconsin already has more than 500 businesses that manufacture components for clean energy technologies such as wind, solar and bio-gas systems; and

WHEREAS, some of Wisconsin’s and Lincoln County’s most iconic industries, including agriculture, forestry, and tourism, are threatened by climate change; and

WHEREAS, improving energy efficiency and resilience in the face of potential disruption in energy production can attract jobs and economic development opportunities to Lincoln County, and increase the county’s long-term competitiveness and wealth; and

WHEREAS, actions that reduce the combustion of fossil fuels and the release of greenhouse gases, including prioritizing efficiency and transitioning to low-carbon energy sources, will improve air quality, public health, energy security, local natural environments, and quality of life for all; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County is joined in taking action on climate change by cities, counties, states, and national governments and community and private sector leaders who recognize the importance and potential of these actions to protect and enhance the well-being of current and future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors reaffirm their commitment to taking action to reduce its contribution to climate change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors also * recognizes that achieving a community wide goal cannot be done by county* government alone and will require leadership and commitment from businesses, community institutions, and utilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Lincoln County urges other counties in Wisconsin and the United States to join with it in its commitment to address climate change; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Tony Evers, Senator Tammy Baldwin, Senator Ron Johnson, Senator Mary Felzkowski, Congressman Tom Tiffany, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all the Wisconsin Counties.

Dated: January 19, 2021

Christopher J. Marlowe
County Clerk

Introduced by: Land Services Committee
Date Passed: 12-10-20 Committee Vote: 3-2
Fiscal Impact: None

Drafted by: Mike-Huth, Zoning Program Manager/Land Service Administrator
RESOLUTION 2021-01-02

**Motion by:** Weaver

**Second by:** Koth

to amend resolution 2021-01-02 to include the following wording after the word also and before the word government, in paragraph 12, first BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, and first line: "recognizes that achieving a community wide goal cannot be done by county"

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Roll Call

[County Clerk Seal]