

**LANGLADE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MONTHLY MEETING OF THE LANGLADE COUNTY BOARD – JUNE 24, 2024**

Chairman Pierce called the June 24, 2024, Monthly Meeting of the County Board to order at 5:31 p.m. On call of the roll, 17 Supervisors were present, and 4 were absent. Absent: Supervisors Below, Zagar, Bina, and Wickersheim. Motion by Supervisor J. Wagner, second by Supervisor Bardo to excuse Supervisors Below, Zagar, Bina, and Wickersheim. All ayes, motion carried. The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance and observed a moment of silence.

**Citizens and Delegations, Recognize others in Attendance:** Chairman Pierce welcomed all in attendance for tonight's meeting.

**Approve or Amend the Agenda:** Motion by Supervisor Balcerzak, second by Supervisor Curler to approve the agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

**Approve or Amend the Minutes of the May 20, 2024 meeting as printed:** Motion by Supervisor Haatvedt, second by Supervisor Baumgartner to approve the May 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes. All ayes, motion carried.

**Recognition of County Employees:** Milestones: Kelly Hays, District Attorney (State Employee) 5 years. Retirements/Resignations: Takiya Husnick, Dispatch, 2 months; Cheyenne Younker, Dispatch, 5 months; Austin Worzalla, Deputy, 6 months; Jeff McKinney, Code Administrator, 27 years; Paula Resch, Sheriff Office Manager, 33 years. New Hires: Amanda Keesling, Sheriff's Office Administrative Assistant; Nathan Loeffler, Forester; Bravin Burow, Forestry Parks and Rec LTE; Amy Reichl, Forestry, Parks and Rec LTE; Brynn Devore, Forestry, Parks and Rec LTE; Jordan Bahr-Bender promotion Code Administrator; Katie Bahr-Bender, promotion Conservation Technician.

**Correspondence:** no correspondence to the Board.

**Public requests for items to be added to future meeting Agendas:** no public requests.

**Old Business:** Reminder of the forms that need to be filled out for the WCA September 2024 Conference: County Board Supervisors that have committed to the WCA September 2024 Conference need to complete the registration form and return it to the County Clerk's Office.

**New Business:**

**Court Update by Judge Rhode and District Attorney Kelly Hays:** District Attorney Hays updated the Board on the Staff in the District Attorney's Office, stating there are three full-time District Attorneys, two Office Support Staff, one Victim Witness Coordinator, and one Diversion Coordinator. Hays noted that there have been five Jury Trials so far this year. Judge Rhode stated he and the County Administrator review monthly Court data, noting a decrease in meth case numbers, but other drug choices increasing. Judge Rhode stated Attorney Kawalski is the Family Court Commissioner and Attorney DeBord, the Court Commissioner, has case types of Traffic, Juvenile, and Bail Hearings. Discussion on mediation services, creation of an emergency Courtroom, Courthouse third-floor glass panels installed for security, and lack of defense counsel.

**Corporation Counsel Stowe to provide an Educational Presentation on the Use of Social Media:** Corporation Counsel Stowe discussed social media and the use of personal devices for government business and government on social media. Stowe also discussed electronic devices subject to open meeting law and public record requests. Stowe also reminded the Board by acting individually you have no authority, as your authority comes from a Board.

**Report out on the Antigo Public Library Electronic Devices:** County Board Chairman Pierce stated Library Board Electronics provided by Langlade County was discussed and approved at the recent Administrative Meeting. County-provided tablets will be discussed at the next Library Taskforce. Discussion on charging for email use, maintenance costs, and IT support from WVLS.

**IT Update: Thomas Eldredge:** IT Director Eldredge provided the Board with an IT Security update, using a PowerPoint Eldredge showed security measures that are in place and how they are managed, IT goals, technology changes, endpoint security, firewalls, installation of new systems for security, bolstering password security, employee authority, using multi-factor authentication. Eldredge also discussed disaster recovery measures and secure risk management plans. Discussion held.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion by Supervisor Curler, second by Supervisor Mayr to approve the Consent Agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

**Appointments: Appointment request for the ADRC Advisory Committee: Barbara Damuth**

**Ordinances: ORDINANCE #4-2024Z**

The Langlade County Board of Supervisors do hereby ordain as follows:

**SECTION 1:** That the lands described as PT SW NW Sec 20 T32N R11E being a 2-acre building site (Parcel # 014-0304), Town of Neva.

Now comprising a part of the A-2 w/ Farmland Preservation District is hereby rezoned into the AFR District.

**SECTION 2:** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 3:** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its date of adoption.

ADOPTED: June 24, 2024

APPROVED: Benjamin Pierce  
County Board Chairman

ATTEST: Judy Nagel  
Langlade County Clerk

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION #8-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY: ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

**INTENT: INDIVIDUAL HEALTH DECISIONS PERTAINING TO COVID-19 GOVERNMENT LOCKDOWNS, VACCINE AND MASK MANDATES**

**WHEREAS**, on July 30, 2020, Governor Tony Evers issued Emergency Order #1 mandating face coverings (masks) throughout Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS**, some studies show vaccines and masks are not an effective way to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 31, 2021, the Wisconsin Supreme Court declared Wisconsin's statewide mask mandate invalid; and

**WHEREAS**, when dealing with the local conditions related to the COVID-19 virus, local authorities should exercise common sense; and

**WHEREAS**, health decisions are best made by individuals, not government; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the right of individuals to choose whether to wear a mask and whether to be vaccinated; and

**WHEREAS**, citizens have lived with COVID-19 for over 3 years and have been provided information regarding how to protect themselves from COVID-19 and are fully capable of making their own decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, lockdowns, vaccine, and mask mandates have been shown to have a negative impact on economies and mental health; and

**WHEREAS**, some entities are considering and have imposed new mask mandates in response to an apparent resurgence of the COVID-19 virus.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Langlade County Board of Supervisors, that it encourages individuals to make educated personal healthcare decisions to continue to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Langlade County Board of Supervisors does not intend to support nor impose any lockdowns, vaccine, or mask mandates related to COVID-19 or its variants; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Langlade County Board of Supervisors wishes to communicate to the people of Langlade County and to state and federal authorities:

- In the absence of a state or federal lockdown, vaccine, or mask mandate, Langlade County does not intend to create or enforce a mandate; and
- If the state or federal government creates a lockdown, vaccine, or mask mandate, Langlade County shall not voluntarily use its resources in support of the same and shall comply only to the extent required by law or superior authority; and
- As a statement of policy, Langlade County believes that such mandates are not proper; and
- As a matter of Constitutional Law, Langlade County believes that the prior precedent should not apply to current circumstances; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Langlade County Board of Supervisors that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to Langlade County's state and federal delegations, Governor Evers, all other Wisconsin Counties, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:**

Ben Pierce, Chairman  
Steve Maier  
John Medo

Bruce McDougal  
Todd Mayr  
Justin Sorano  
Andrew Bauknecht

Fiscal comment – The mask mandate cost the State millions of dollars and each County tens of thousands of dollars in sales tax. The net income lost by area businesses is infinitely large. Businesses Statewide/Nationwide have not recovered financially or in staffing since the pandemic when so many businesses were forced to close and people were forced to stay home. We do not support future mask mandates or interruptions to businesses.

Motion by Supervisor Medo, second by Supervisor J. Wagner to adopt RS #8-2024. Discussion held Roll Call vote: Ayes: Supervisors Dieck, Mayr, Bardo, J. Wagner, Balcerzak, Poltrock, Bauknecht, Sorano, McDougal, W. Wagner, Buck, Pierce, Medo and Maier. Nays: Supervisors Baumgartner, Haatvedt, and Curler. Absent: Supervisors Below, Zagar, Bina, and Wickersheim. 14 ayes, 3 nays, and 4 absent. RS #8-2024 is adopted.

Motion by Supervisor Maier, second by Supervisor Medo to excuse Supervisor Sorano at 7:37 p.m. All ayes, motion carried.

**Committee Referrals: Reports/Referral of any matters to committees having proper jurisdiction with no discussion or action taken:** Supervisor Curler updated the Board regarding the Mary Lake District Meeting. Supervisor Curler discussed the Public Safety Meeting, working with the EM Director on training for Town Chairs in emergencies. Supervisor Curler discussed his recent attendance at Dispatch, referring staffing issues to the Personnel Committee. Supervisor Dieck discussed the recent ADRC meeting he attended. Supervisor Haatvedt referred to the Community as a whole on how the County would like to comply with the Open Meeting Law, and where and how information should be posted to comply with the Open Meeting Law. Supervisor Maier discussed the Broadband Commission and the BEAD Funding opportunity. Supervisor Balcerzak reminded the Supervisors to review the recent North Central Regional Planning report. Supervisor J. Wagner referred to Public Safety Committee 911 Dispatch Center moving to be fully staffed.

**County Administrator’s Report:** County Administrator Hilger’s report was provided to the Board before the meeting. The report is available from the County Administrator.

**Any other business that may lawfully come before the Board:** Next County Board meeting is July 22, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room.

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Supervisor Haatvedt, second by Supervisor Mayr to adjourn the June 24, 2024 County Board Meeting at 8:01 p.m. All ayes, motion carried. The Board is adjourned.

I, Judy Nagel, Langlade County Clerk, Antigo, Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings of the Langlade County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting of June 24, 2024. Note: These minutes are not official until they are approved by the County Board at their next meeting. A complete copy of the minutes is available in the County Clerk’s Office.

Judy Nagel  
Langlade County Clerk

Dated this 29th day of June 2024.

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