

**LANGLADE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING and
PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE**

These Board proceedings are published as prescribed by Section 59.14(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes at County Government expense.

The Langlade County Board of Supervisors met in the Safety Building, County Board Room. Chairman Pierce called the January 19, 2021 Meeting of the County Board to order at 5:31 p.m.

On call of the roll, 21 Supervisors present, 20 in person and 1 via Zoom: Supervisor Novak.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance and observed a moment of silence.

Approve or amend the Agenda: Motion by Supervisor Curran, second by Supervisor Balcerzak to approve the agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

Approve or amend the minutes of December 15, 2020 meeting as printed: Motion by Supervisor Krochalk, second by Supervisor Cahak to approve the December 15, 2020 meeting minutes as printed. On the call of the roll, all ayes, minutes are approved.

Recognition of County Employees: County Clerk Judy Nagel read the list: Milestones: Greg Carter, 10 years, Sheriff Deputy; Jordan Sorano, 5 years, Sheriff Deputy. Retirements and Resignations: Dianne Fristch, Child Support, 5 years; Amanda Budzenski, UWEX, 1.5 years; Sandra Warren, Clerk of Court, 1 year. New Hires and Promotion: Tanya Imig, Jail Sergeant, Promotion.

Correspondence/Grant Updates: Health and Social Services Director Barger updated on the recent grant award that the Health Department received, \$35,000. The Board thanked Health and Social Services Director Barger and Social Work Supervisor Chernetski for applying for the grant. The Board acknowledged the thank you cards for the gift of ham to the employees.

Public comment on agenda items and consideration of requests for items to be added to future meeting agendas: Terry Brand, Citizen, thanked those that worked on the Langlade County Strategic Plan.

Citizens and Delegations, recognize other in Attendance: Chairman Pierce welcomed all in attendance for tonight's meeting.

Old Business:

Updated from the Ad Hoc Committee: Planning for a Second Branch of Court: Facilities Management Director Heuss addressed the Board regarding the one-time capital costs to remodel and relocate offices in preparation of a Second Branch. Heuss's estimated cost is \$234,000, which does not include engineering costs. Discussion held. Corporation Counsel Stowe, on behalf of the HR Team, reviewed the personnel costs, giving an estimate of cost of \$148,390 up to \$248,100. Stowe also discussed the costs for a required Drug Treatment Court, estimated to be \$27,000. Discussion on the cost of technology required for the Second Branch Courtroom, Main Courtroom and Hearing Room, estimated over \$100,000. On or before May 31, 2021, the Director of State Courts will make an announcement of a Second Judge for Langlade County, with a start date of August 1, 2022.

Reconsider Resolution #29-2019, sponsored by the Forestry and Recreation and Finance Committees: Approve Enhancement Request and Funding Sources for 2019: Motion by Supervisor Curran, second by Supervisor Medo to bring RS #29-2019 on the floor for discussion. All ayes, motion carried. Forest Administrator Rantala addressed the Board regarding the 2020 Scout Camp Improvement money was not spent in 2020, with a remaining balance of approximately \$35,000. Rantala is requesting to move \$30,000 from the 2020 Scout Camp Improvement money to the 2021 Forestry Recreation Fund for further renovations and bathroom facilities at Scout Camp. Discussion held. Motion by Supervisor Scupien, second by Supervisor Nye to move \$30,000 from the 2020 Scout Camp Improvement money to the 2021 Forestry Recreation Fund. All ayes, motion carried.

Reconsider Resolution #106-2001: Enter Reclaimed Gravel Pit (Skidmore Pit) into the County Forest Crop Law: Motion by Supervisor Wiegert, second by Supervisor Medo to bring RS #106-2001 back to the floor for discussion. All ayes, motion carried. Forestry Administrator Rantala addressed the Board stating that in 2001 management was transferred from the Highway Committee to the Forestry and Recreation Committee and place this parcel in the County Forest Crop Law, and commence timber harvest on this parcel. Rantala noted that is parcel was never enrolled into the County Forest Crop Law, per RS #106-2001. Discussion held. Motion by Supervisor Krochalk, second by Supervisor Wiegert to keep Skidmore Pit out of the County Forest Crop Law. On the call of the roll, 20 ayes, 1 nay, motion carried.

New Business:

Final Wrap-up for Strategic Planning: The Final Draft of the Strategic Plan will be mailed out to the Supervisors for a final view prior to the February County Board Meeting and at which time the Board can approve the plan and prioritize the goals. Supervisor Medo reminded the Board that the Plan is working document that can assist Langlade County.

Consider Proposal to Create a Department of Administration, with the County Manager having direct supervisor and oversight over County Finances and Personnel; and recruit for a full-time County Manager Position: Corporation Counsel Stowe addressed the Board regarding the Administration and HR Team Proposal to consolidate the positions of HR Director, Finance Director and County Manager, all three stand alone positions and consolidate to County Manager/Director of Administration, with a focus on finance and personnel. Discussion regarding WI Stats. §59.19 and §59.18. Discussion on summarizing the job duties currently listed for the County Manager. Motion by Supervisor Benishek, second by Supervisor Wiegert to create a Department of Administration, with the County Manager having direct supervision and oversight over County Finances and Personnel and begin the recruitment for a full-time County Manager. On the call of the roll, 20 ayes, 1 abstain, motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA:
ORDINANCE #1-2021Z**

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

SECTION 1: That the lands described as:

Being NE SE SEC25, T34N, R10E being a 2-acre building site (Parcel #008-0470) Town of Elcho.

Now comprising a part of the FORESTRY 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: 1-19-2021
ADOPTED:

APPROVED: Ben Pierce, County Board Chairman

APPROVED: 1-19-2021

ATTEST: Judy Nagel, County Clerk

Motion by Supervisor Cahak, second by Supervisor Curran to approve the Consent Agenda. On the call of the roll, 21 ayes, motion carried. The Consent Agenda is adopted.

Committee Reports: A summary of information contained in recent committee minutes on file in the County Clerk's Office. Chairman Pierce requests that each Committee Chair be prepared to give the Board a monthly update from their Committee. Supervisor Balcerzak updated the Board on the ADRC Food Contract, giving the Supervisors a copy of the contract. Supervisor Benishek updated the Board on the Sanitarian, and COVID Health Care Worker burnout. Health Director Barger stated that the COVID numbers are trending down. Supervisor Nye discussed the work being done by the Social Services Committee regarding education and prevention due to the out of home placement costs. Supervisor Curran discussed the COVID Morgue Cooler, located across the street from the Safety Building. Supervisor Curran also discussed selling non-productive County owned forest lands.

The Board took a five-minute break.

RESOLUTION #1-2021

**INTRODUCED BY: PERSONNEL; AG & EXTENSION and DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEES
INTENT: REALLOCATION OF FUNDING WITHIN THE 2021 EXTENSION BUDGET TO EXPAND THE SERVICES
PROVIDED BY THE HEALTH & WELL-BEING EDUCATOR**

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services has provided a list of options for the County Board to consider to address the costs associated with out-of-home placement of children; and

WHEREAS, programs and services focused on "prevention" have greater potential return on investment than programs designed to address abuse and neglect of children after this behavior has already occurred within the family; and

WHEREAS, one of the "prevention" options recommended is to provide more direct education to families in need of services and/or to provide more direct assistance to families in need by connecting these families with the appropriate resources available within our community before issues affecting families get to the point in which these families would be "screened in" for mandated services which can then lead to placement of children outside the home; and

WHEREAS, the Health & Well-Being program via the Extension system has been identified as a resource to provide such educational assistance to families in need in our community and on that basis the Committees are recommending that this position be funded by the County from a part-time position to a full-time position; and

WHEREAS, the Health & Well-Being Educator is a State employee funded via a Fee for Services Agreement between Langlade County and the UW Extension System and the additional funding for the services provided by this program coming from unexpended funds in the wage account for the vacant Program Assistant (County position) in 2021; and

WHEREAS, based upon the expanded funding for the services provided by the Health & Well-Being Educator, it is understood that the additional services will include a "workplan" developed between Extension and the Department of Social Services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Langlade County Board of Supervisors, to transfer funding from the vacant Program Assistant (County position) in the Extension Office to fund the expansion of the Health & Well-Being Educator to a full-time position to provide education /prevention services as identified in a workplan in consultation with the Department of Social Services.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Don Scupien, Chairman
Doug Curler
Arlene Bonacci
Carol Feller Gottard
Sandy Fischer

SOCIAL SERVICES CO.:

Ron Nye, Chairman
Vern Cahak
Bob Curran
Ben Pierce
Warren Wagner

AG & EXTENSION CO.:

Sandy Fischer, Chairman
Ron Nye
Thomas Bauknecht
Reinhardt Balcerzak
Carol Feller Gottard
Thomas Schmidt

FISCAL NOTE:

Funding for this position would come from the UWEX budget and the savings from not refilling the UWEX Program Assistant position. This results in a savings of \$24,743 by not refilling the Program Assistant position and transfers \$32,000 from the county wages and benefits object codes to the State Wage Agreement object code.

Motion by Supervisor Balcerzak, second by Supervisor Nye to adopt. On the call of the roll, 21 ayes. Resolution #1-2021 is adopted.

RESOLUTION #3-2021

INTRODUCED BY: FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE

INTENT: REQUEST GRANT FUNDING FOR LANGLADE COUNTY FOREST LAND ACQUISITION IN THE TOWN OF PARRISH

WHEREAS, the Forestry Committee would like to purchase the below described lands consisting of approximately 121 acres in the E1/2 NE1/4 and the NESE of Section 2; T34N-R9E, Township of Parrish, Langlade County, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has the authority to acquire said property for the purpose of establishing County Forest land pursuant to §28.10 Wis. Stats; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition policy and boundaries are outlined and defined in Chapter 400 of the Langlede County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan, as approved for years 2006-2020 by the Langlede County Board of Supervisors on September 12, 2006; and

WHEREAS, acquisition of this property will perpetually provide forest products to our local economy, revenues to the County, outdoor recreation opportunities to the public, and improve property administration on the County Forest; and

WHEREAS, the County is eligible to apply for grant funding through the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant program pursuant to §23.0953 Wis. Stats.; and

WHEREAS, said funding may provide funding for up to 50% of the acquisition price; and

WHEREAS, there is no fiscal impact at this time to apply for the grant, and

WHEREAS, if a grant is awarded, County Board approval will be needed to accept the grant for the acquisition of the property, and

WHEREAS, the fiscal impact will be determined based on the agreed purchase price and grant award amount, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LANGLADE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, that the County requests the grant funding available from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources under the "Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Land Acquisition" grant program; and

HEREBY AUTHORIZES Erik Rantala to act on behalf of Langlede County to: submit an application to the State of Wisconsin for land acquisition grant funding; sign documents; and take necessary action to undertake, direct, and complete an approved land acquisition project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Langlede County will comply with State rules for the program and meet the financial obligations under the grant.

FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Bob Curran, Chairman

Joseph Novak, III

John Medo

John Breske

Reinhardt Balcerzak

Fiscal Note: No fiscal impact at this time to apply for the grant. If the grant is approved, County Board approval will be needed to accept the grant. At that time, the fiscal impact will be dependent on the amount of the grant and purchase price of property.

Motion by Supervisor Medo, second by Supervisor Krochalk to adopt. Discussion held. The Board agreed to continue this discussion in closed session. Resolution #3-2021 is adopted after coming out of closed session.

Committee Referrals: No committee referrals at this time.

At approximately 6:00 p.m., consider moving into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(c)(f) & (e) Wisconsin Statutes, considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations, deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, to discuss proposal to create a Department of Administration, merging both Finance Department and Human Resources under the County Manager; to discuss the remodeling plan and staffing plan and the investment of public funds to support a Second Branch of the Circuit Court; consider County Forest acquisition and application for Knowles-Nelson Stewardship funding. Motion by Supervisor Fischer, second by Supervisor Benishek to move into closed session at 7:10 p.m. Roll Call vote: all ayes, except: Supervisor Novak, absent. Those remaining in closed session: Rantala, Stowe, Nagel and Rank.

At approximately 7:00 p.m., return to open session with possible action taken on any matters discussed in closed session. Note: The County Board may subsequently consider reconvening in closed session to continue discussions as needed in closed session, as described above; and then return to open session.

At approximately 7:00 p.m., return to open session with possible action taken on any matters discussed in closed session. Motion by Supervisor Wiegert, second by Supervisor Curran to return to open session at 7:23 p.m. 20 ayes, 1 absent, motion carried. Motion by Supervisor Balcerzak, second by Supervisor Fischer to adopt Resolution #3-2021, 20 ayes, 1 absent, motion carried.

Motion by Supervisor Wiegert, second by Supervisor Nye to return to closed session at 7:25 p.m. Roll Call vote: all ayes, except: Supervisor Novak, absent. Those remaining in closed session: Stowe, Rank and Nagel. Judge Rhode was requested to join the County Board meeting at 8:00 p.m., then requested to be excused at 8:20 p.m.

Motion by Supervisor Curran, second by Supervisor Cahak to return to open session at 8:32 p.m. 20 ayes, 1 absent, motion carried.

Motion by Supervisor Nye, second by Curran to excuse Supervisor Hurlbert at 8:25 p.m. All ayes, motion carried.

Action taken from closed session: Motion by Supervisor Medo, second by Supervisor Curran to vote on proceed with the remodeling plan and staffing plan and the investment of public funds to support a Second Branch of the Circuit Court. On the all of the roll: Supervisors Fischer, Bauknecht, Feller Gottard, Breske, Nye, Scupien, Wagner, Pierce, Krochalk and Curler voted aye. Supervisors Benishek, Cahak, Balcerzak, Shinnors, Curran, Buck, Medo, Wiegert voted nay. Supervisor Bonacci abstained. Supervisors Hurlbert and Novak absent. Chairman Pierce requests a re-vote, as he realized when the vote was exposed that he had mistakenly pushed the wrong button. Motion by Supervisor Bonacci to re-vote on the support of a Second Branch. On the call of the roll: 14 ayes, 5 nays and 2 absent. The Board will re-vote on the support of the Second Branch. Motion by Supervisor Cahak, second by Supervisor Medo to proceed with the remodeling plan and staffing plan and the investment of public funds to support a Second Branch of the Circuit Court. On

the call of the roll on the results of the re-vote: Supervisors Fischer, Bauknecht, Feller Gottard, Breske, Nye, Scupien, Wagner, Krochalk and Curler voted aye. Supervisors Benishek, Cahak, Balcerzak, Shinnors, Curran, Buck, Pierce, Medo, Wiegert voted nay. Supervisor Bonacci abstained. Supervisors Hurlbert and Novak absent. 9 ayes, 9 nays, 1 abstained, 2 absent. **Motion failed on a majority vote.** Discussion held. The Board agreed to take this matter up again in February.

Motion by Supervisor Nye, second by Supervisor Curran to adjourn the January 19, 2021 meeting at 8:47 p.m. All ayes, motion carried.

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 January 19, 2021. 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 25th day of January, 2021.
