

**LANGLADE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY MEETING OF THE LANGLADE COUNTY BOARD – MAY 20, 2024**

Chairman Pierce called the May 20, 2024, Monthly Meeting of the County Board to order at 5:34 p.m. On call of the roll, 17 Supervisors were present, and 4 were absent. Absent: Supervisors Below, Bauknecht, McDougal and Medo. Motion by Supervisor J. Wagner, second by Supervisor Balcerzak to excuse Supervisors Below, Bauknecht, McDougal, and Medo. All ayes, motion carried. The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance and observed a moment of silence. This meeting is being recorded.

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 Bardo to approve the agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

Approve or Amend the Minutes of the April 9, 2024, and April 16, 2024 meeting as printed: Motion by Supervisor J. Wagner, second by Supervisor Buck to approve the April 9, 2024 and April 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes. All ayes, motion carried.

Recognition of County Employees: Milestones: Robert Uttecht, Deputy 5 years. Retirements/Resignations: no retirements or resignations. New Hires: Dillon Judd, Sheriff's Office Deputy; Austin Hopfensperger, Forestry, Parks and Rec Forester; Fawn Zahn, Forestry, Parks and Rec LTE.

Recognition of Robert Benishek, presentation of plaque: Chairman Pierce recognized Robert Benishek with a plaque for his 58 years of service to the residents of Langlade County. Photo by the Antigo Journal, standing ovation. Benishek reminded the Board that you, Supervisors, represent the wants and needs of the people of Langlade County.

Correspondence: Correspondence was sent to the Board in the Board packet.

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

Old Business: Rules of the Board (2024-2026 term), adopted and finalized by the Board: Chairman Pierce stated that the Board Rules will be addressed at the next meeting. Corporation Counsel Stowe discussed the potential consolidation of some Board Committees needing Board action. Stowe also discussed County Board Rule 18.1, noting that the Board, the last term, did not lock in County Board Rule 18.1, therefore, this Rule is not adopted.

New Business:

Attendance at the WCA September 2024 Conference in La Crosse: Chairman Pierce discussed the value of attending the WCA Conferences, noting that this year it is in La Crosse. For those Board members who are new Supervisors or have not attended a WCA Conference, the Conference fee is waived. Clerk Nagel asked that the Supervisors let her office know by May 31 if they are planning to attend the September 2024 WCA Conference.

2023 Forestry, Parks and Recreation Report: Forestry, Parks and Recreation Administrator Murray: Murray provided a handout of the 2023 Annual Accomplishment Report Summary for the Forestry, Parks and Rec Department. Murray highlighted 2023 Administrative Staff Accomplishments; 2023 Forest, Wildlife and Resource Management Staff Accomplishments; Wildlife Management; 2023 Cooperation with DNR Wildlife Programs; 2023 Resource Management Accomplishments; 2023 Forest Protection Accomplishments; 2023 Parks and Recreation Accomplishments including Regular Maintenance and Project Accomplishments; 2023 Motorized Recreational Trails Accomplishments; 2023 Non-Motorized Recreational Trail Accomplishments; 2023 Campground, Campsite and Cabin Accomplishments; 2023 Fairgrounds & Facility Accomplishments. Murray also shared the Revenue and Expense Net for the Forestry, Parks, and Rec Department. The Board thanked Murray and his staff for all of the 2023 Accomplishments.

Corporation Counsel Stowe to provide Educational Presentation on the Open Meetings Law: Stowe provided education and responses to the open meeting law complaint that was filed with the District Attorney. Stowe discussed the Rights of the Public regarding Open Meetings: where is meeting is being held, when it is to be held, what agenda items will be discussed, and observing discussion and debate at the meeting and the opportunity to review the minutes. Stowe discussed what actions by the Government would circumvent the Public Rights: actions outside of the meeting; no meeting noticed; occasional unintended quorum; numbers and purpose and the meeting was not called to order; once the

meeting adjourns, a quorum of the meeting continues to have discussions that are germane to the meeting; contacting board members individually, reaching an agreement to act uniformly at the meeting. Stowe discussed actions that do not impair the public: politicking; individually having no authority. Stowe also discussed the posting of a Badtke Notice at the location of an informal gathering. Stowe discussed the goals of the organization for open meeting laws: ways to conduct the business of county government without going into closed session, as closed session should be the exception, not the rule.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Supervisor Haatvedt to remove Elections or Appointments from the Consent Agenda. Motion by Supervisor Balcerzak, second by Supervisor Curler to approve the Consent Agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

Proclamation: 2024 Proclamation for the Northern Community Block Grant (NCBG)

Ordinances: ORD #2-2024Z Request for Zone Change Town of Vilas

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

SECTION 1: That the lands described as PT SE SW SEC 9 T32N R9E being a 3.57-acre building site in (Parcel # 032-0140), Town of Vilas.

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: May 20, 2024

APPROVED: Benjamin Pierce
County Board Chairman

ATTEST: Judy Nagel
Laclede County Clerk

ORD #3-2024Z Request for Zone Change Town of Elcho:

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

SECTION 1: That the lands described as PT GOVT LOT 5 SEC 11 T34N R11E being a 5.82-acre building site in (Parcel # (008-0878.015), PT GOVT LOT 5 Sec 11 T34N R11E being a 10.79-acre building site in Parcel # (008-0878.017), PT GOVT LOT 5 Sec 11 T34N R11E being an 8.76-acre building site (Parcel # 008-0878.018), Town of Elcho.

Now comprising a part of the Forest & Forest w/ Farmland Preservation District is hereby rezoned into the PR 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: May 20, 2024

APPROVED: Benjamin Pierce
County Board Chairman

ATTEST: Judy Nagel
Laclede County Clerk

Motion by Supervisor Curler, second by Supervisor Sorano to adopt. Discussion on the three parcels combined into one, creating a campground, which would include Air BnB Style Cabins, RV parking, and a Pavilion. The Town of Elcho approved this zoning request, the WLUPC had a dissenting vote, therefore this Ordinance is not under Consent. Project Builder Brennen Duke discussed the project, noting that this is the first step, to get the zoning change.

Roll Call vote: All ayes, except Supervisor Haatvedt nay. 16 ayes, 1 nay, and 4 absent. Ordinance #3-2024Z is adopted.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION #4-2024

INTRODUCED BY: ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

INTENT: ESTABLISH A JOINT LIBRARY TASKFORCE WITH REPRESENTATION FROM THE LACLEDE COUNTY BOARD AND THE CITY OF ANTIGO COMMON COUNCIL

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2024, the City of Antigo Common Council approved a motion to create a Library Task Force to make recommendations to the Library Board and to review the City/County Library Agreement, with membership of the Taskforce consisting of: the Mayor and three City Council members and the County Board Chairman and three County Board members; subject to the understanding that members that serve on both the City Council and the County Board would not be eligible for appointment to the Taskforce; and

WHEREAS, the Committee supports the action taken by the Common Council and introduces this resolution to join the Common Council in creating a Joint Library Taskforce with the goal to improve communication between the partners and to achieve consensus in decision-making regarding the subjects governed by the Joint Library Agreement and, in presenting recommendations from the partnership to the Antigo Public Library Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the action taken by the Common Council, the Joint Library Taskforce will consist of 8 members, and the meetings of the Taskforce will be subject to the Wisconsin Open Meetings with the County Clerk taking the lead on posting meeting agendas and preparing meeting minutes; the County members shall include the Board Chairman and 3 County Board members appointed by the Chairman subject to confirmation by the County Board (County Board members that do not also serve on the Common Council) and the County Administrator and Corporation Counsel as an ex-officio (non-voting) members; appointed County Board members shall be eligible to receive per diem and mileage reimbursement for attending meetings; and the Taskforce will elect its own presiding officer(s) and establish any term limits for each appointed member; and

WHEREAS, while the Taskforce is in effect, any activities of the Taskforce shall be reported to the County Board on a monthly basis.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Langlade County Board of Supervisors to establish a Joint Library Taskforce as set forth herein.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:

Ben Pierce, Chairman
John Medo
Bruce McDougal
Todd Mayr
Steve Maier
Andrew Bauknecht
Justin Sorano

FISCAL NOTE: Payment of per diems and mileage is based upon the number of meetings held.

Motion by Supervisor Mayr, second by Supervisor Sorano to adopt RS #4-2024. Discussion was held on this resolution that would mirror the City of Antigo Common Council's action to create a Joint Library Taskforce. Membership in the taskforce was discussed. The Board also discussed the recommendations that would be made to the Library, an automatus organization. Corporation Counsel Stowe stated that the City is our partner, having formal communication between the two bodies. The taskforce is a sub of both the County and the City, and all meetings will be in accordance with the open meeting law. Roll Call vote: all present aye. 17 ayes, 4 absent. RS #4-2024 is adopted.

Removed from the Consent Agenda: Elections or Appointments: Confirm appointments to RS #4-2024: Supervisor Medo, Supervisor Maier, and Supervisor McDougal: Motion by Supervisor Balcerzak, second by Supervisor Bardo to confirm the appointments to RS #4-2024. Supervisor Haatvedt requests that the discussion and vote follow the action from RS #4-2024. Discussion held. Chairman Pierce reminded the Board that this taskforce is for the Library specifically, and other taskforce ventures may come. Roll Call vote: All ayes, except Supervisor Haatvedt, nay. 16 ayes, 1 nay, 4 absent. Appointments to the Joint Library Taskforce: Supervisors Medo, Maier, and McDougal.

RESOLUTION #5-2024

INTRODUCED BY: ADMINISTRATIVE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEES

INTENT:EXPAND A LIMITED TERM EMPLOYMENT (LTE) POSITION (ASSISTANT PARKS AND CAMPGROUND MANAGER FORMERLY LOCATED AT JACK LAKE) TO A FULL-TIME OFFICE ASSISTANT POSITION (TO BE LOCATED AT THE FORESTRY, PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE)

WHEREAS, historically there was one full-time office manager for Forestry, Parks and Recreation and one full-time office manager for the Maintenance Department; and

WHEREAS, approximately 5 years ago, all work was transitioned over to one office manager (70% Forestry/30% Maintenance) for both departments and placement of a part-time assistant- 24 hours per week (30% Forestry/70% Maintenance) resulting in 1.6 FTE position to replace a 2.0 FTE position; and

WHEREAS, since the transition, the Forest Administrator and Maintenance Supervisor were replaced with new individuals with varying office capacities; and

WHEREAS, since the transition campgrounds were expanded, campground reservation systems were created, additional permits and fee collections were created, a website was developed for the department, social media became the mainstay of communications for the public, and reservation operations of the Fairgrounds became part of the Forestry, Parks, and Recreation Office; and

WHEREAS, within the Forestry, Parks and Recreation Department, the 70% Office Manager accounts for 264 revenue and expense accounts including input of those transactions into the County accounting system; and

WHEREAS, within the Forestry, Parks, and Recreation Department, the 70% Office Manager operates as the initial primary contact for the Department for personal visits, phone calls, and e-mails including approximately 2750 reservations and various public contacts including approximately 5200 phone calls, approximately 3120 office visits, and 8,320 e-mail responses; and

WHEREAS, within the Forestry, Parks, and Recreation Department, the 70% Office Manager is the only person with the ability to perform the accounting input and reports of the large multifaceted program, putting the program at risk if issues may arise with one individual employee; and

WHEREAS, expanding the LTE position to a full-time Office Assistant position will better accommodate the work demands and support services required by both the Forestry and Maintenance Departments; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of the position to full-time with benefits will enhance the County's efforts to recruit and retain qualified staff, promote stability within this position, and provide a better opportunity to cross-train the employee in this position with other existing positions in the Forestry Department; and

WHEREAS, the Committees recommend expanding the LTE position to a full-time position of Office Assistant to provide support to the Forestry and Maintenance Departments, with funding not to exceed \$30,000 in 2024 from the undesignated General Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Committees recommend expanding the LTE position to a full-time position of Office Assistant to provide support to the Forestry and Maintenance Departments, with funding not to exceed \$30,000 in 2024 from the undesignated General Fund; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Langlade County Board of Supervisors, to expand the position of LTE Assistant Parks and Campground Manager to a full-time Office Assistant in the Forestry and Maintenance Departments, effective May 20th, 2024.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by a two-thirds vote of the membership of the Board to transfer an amount, not to exceed \$30,000 from the undesignated General Fund, to cover the costs associated with the expansion of the LTE Office Assistant position in 2024.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:

- Ben Pierce, Chairman
- John Medo
- Bruce McDougal
- Todd Mayr
- Steve Maier
- Andrew Bauknecht
- Justin Sorano

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Bruce McDougal, Chairman
- Teresa Poltrock
- Roy Dieck
- Reinhardt Balcerzak
- Chris Below

FISCAL NOTE: *not to exceed \$30,000 in 2024 with transfer of funds from the undesignated General Fund, with funding for this position to be included in the 2025 County Budget.*

Motion by Supervisor Baumgartner, second by Supervisor J. Wagner to adopt RS #5-2024. Corporation Counsel Stowe discussed the funding for the position, coming from the undesignated General Fund, requires a two-thirds vote of the entire membership. Roll Call vote: All ayes, except Supervisor Haatvedt nay. 16 ayes, 1 nay, 4 absent. Resolution #5-2024 is adopted.

Committee Referrals: Referral of any matters to committees having proper jurisdiction with no discussion or action taken on the referral: Supervisor Curler discussed the WCA Workshop he recently attended along with the UW Extension Workshop he also attended. Supervisor Maier discussed the UW Extension Workshop, stating he would share a link to the breakout sessions. Supervisor Balcerzak discussed the NCWRPC 2023 Annual Report, noting the support and accomplishments of NCWRPC and Langlade County. The report is available in the County Clerk's Office. Supervisor Buck discussed the recent Public Property Meeting, noting a picnic table will be placed at the Courthouse Courtyard, with funding from Grants.

County Administrator's Report: The County Administrator was not at the meeting.

Any other business that may lawfully come before the Board: Next County Board meeting is June 24, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room.

Adjournment:

Motion by Supervisor J. Wagner, second by Supervisor Poltrock to adjourn the May 20, 2024 County Board Meeting at 7:25 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 May 20, 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.

Dated this 23rd day of May 2024. Judy Nagel
Langlade County Clerk
