



**OFFICE OF KIM TRUEBLOOD  
COUNTY CLERK  
MARATHON COUNTY**



*Marathon County Mission Statement: Marathon County Government serves people by leading, coordinating, and providing county, regional, and statewide initiatives. It directly or in cooperation with other public and private partners provides services and creates opportunities that make Marathon County and the surrounding area a preferred place to live, work, visit, and do business.*

**ADJOURNED ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – AGENDA WITH MINUTES**

THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING of the Marathon County Board of Supervisors, composed of thirty-eight (38) members, will convene at the Marathon County Courthouse, Assembly Room, 500 Forest Street, Wausau, on **Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.** to consider the following matters:

**A. OPENING OF SESSION:**

1. Meeting called to order by Chairperson Gibbs at 7:00 p.m., the agenda being duly signed and posted
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; Followed by a Moment of Silence/Reflection
3. Reading of Notice
4. Request for silencing of cellphones and other electronic devices
5. Roll Call – On roll call, 31 Supervisors were present as shown:

Aarrestad	17	Maszk	26 (W)
Baker	23 (W)	McEwen	18 (Excused)
Bootz	12	Morache	6
Buch	7	Niemeyer	38
Bushman	24	Oberbeck	9 (Excused)
Covelli	33	Opall	37
Dickinson	29	Ritter	13
Drabek	31	Robinson	4
Gibbs	32	Rosenberg	21
Gisselman	5 (7:10)	Seefeldt	14
Gonnering	28	Seubert	27 (Excused)
Hart	3 (7:30)	Sherfinski	16
Hartinger	22 (left 8:45)	Sondelski	25
Krause	10	Straub	15
Lamont	36 (left 8:45)	Ungerer	8
Langenhahn	35 (Excused)	Van Krey	1 (Excused)
Leahy	11 (W)	Venzke	30
Lemmer	2	Wilhelm	34
Marshall	20	Xiong	19

(W) indicates attendance by WebEx

6. Acknowledgment of visitors

**B. EDUCATION PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS:**

7. Standing Committee Chairpersons or Designees - None

**C. CONSENT AGENDA:**

8. Approval of minutes from the August 17 & 21, 2023 County Board Meetings
9. Referral of bills and communications to respective committees
10. Authorizing the Clerk to issue orders, bills, and claims from the last session through this session

11. Appointment:
  - a. Highway Safety Commission – Todd Treu and Angela Hansen
12. Ordinances:
  - a. Town of Brighton Rezone – Ryan Gordon Lynn #O-32-23
  - b. Town of Spencer Rezone – Larry & Patricia Lang #O-33-23
  - c. Amendments to Chapter 17 of the Marathon County General Code #O-34-23
  - d. Speed Zone Reduction on County Road K #O-35-23
13. Resolutions:
  - a. 2023 Marathon County Bridge / Culvert Aid Resolution #R-51-23

Discussion: None.

Action: Motion by Robinson, Second by Seefeldt to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried on a roll call vote unanimously.

Follow Through: None.

#### RESOLUTIONS:

#### D. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE:

14. Resolution in Opposition to Covid-19 Mandates #R-50-23

Action: Motion by Covelli, Second by Venzke to approve the resolution.

Action: Motion by Dickinson, Second by Morache to add “employees” in the last paragraph.

Discussion: Questions regarding how adding employees to the resolution might affect insurance and risk management concerns.

Action: Motion to amend to include “employees” carried 24-8 on a roll call vote as follows:

Yes: Aarrestad, Baker, Bootz, Buch, Bushman, Covelli, Dickinson, Drabek, Gonnering, Hartinger, Krause, Lamont, Marshall, Morache, Niemeyer, Opall, Ritter, Seefeldt, Sherfinski, Sondelski, Straub, Ungerer, Venzke, Wilhelm - 24

No: Gibbs, Gisselman, Leahy, Lemmer, Maszk, Robinson, Rosenberg, Xiong - 8

Action: Motion by Sherfinski, Second by Sondelski to strike “unless required by law” and change “should not” to “shall not” in the last Whereas and in the Be it Resolved. Motion carried 24-8 on a roll call vote as follows:

Yes: Aarrestad, Baker, Bootz, Buch, Bushman, Covelli, Dickinson, Drabek, Gonnering, Hartinger, Krause, Lamont, Marshall, Morache, Niemeyer, Opall, Ritter, Seefeldt, Sherfinski, Sondelski, Straub, Ungerer, Venzke, Wilhelm - 24

No: Gibbs, Gisselman, Leahy, Lemmer, Maszk, Robinson, Rosenberg, Xiong – 8

Action: Original motion to approve the resolution as amended carried 26-7 on a roll call vote as follows:

Yes: Aarrestad, Baker, Bootz, Buch, Bushman, Covelli, Dickinson, Drabek, Gibbs, Gonnering, Hartinger, Krause, Lamont, Marshall, Maszk, Morache, Niemeyer, Opall, Ritter, Seefeldt, Sherfinski, Sondelski, Straub, Ungerer, Venzke, Wilhelm - 26

No: Gisselman, Hart, Leahy, Lemmer, Robinson, Rosenberg, Xiong - 7

Follow Through: Resolution will be sent to the entities mentioned in the resolution.

#### E. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE & HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE, AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

15. Resolution Authorizing the Expenditure of ARPA Funds for Phase II Design Services for Regional Forensic Science Center #R-52-23

Discussion: None.

Action: Motion by Xiong, Second by Venzke to approve the resolution. Motion carried on a 2/3 roll call vote unanimously.

Follow Through: None.

- F. ADMINISTRATOR’S 2024 BUDGET MESSAGE – Administrator Leonhard, Deputy Administrator Chris Holman, and Finance Director Kristi Palmer presented the 2024 Budget. Details can be found in the packet. Committees will begin to look at individual department budgets at their October meetings.

G. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

16. Announcements and / or Requests

- Necessary signatures were requested

17. Motion to Adjourn – Motion by Venzke, Second by Xiong to adjourn. Motion carried on a voice vote unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Appointment:

Highway Safety Commission – Todd Treu and Angela Hansen

I, Kurt Gibbs, Marathon County Board Chair, do hereby upon approval of the Board of Supervisors, appoint the following to the Marathon County Highway Safety Commission to fill vacant positions for a term to expire at the April 2024 Organizational Meeting:

Todd Treu – Citizen Member

Angela Hansen – Citizen Member

Per diem will be paid to eligible members of the Commission.

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023

Ordinances:

#O-32-23 – Town of Brighton Rezone – Ryan Gordon Lynn

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors has been petitioned to amend the General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code Chapter 17; by Ryan Gordon Lynn to amend the General Code of Ordinance for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code to rezone lands from C Commercial to R-R Rural Residential described as all of Lot 1 of Certified Survey Map #11922-51-10 and part of the Northeast ¼ of the Southeast ¼ of Section 22, Township 27 North, Range 2 East, Town of Brighton. The area to be rezoned is described as Lot 1 of Certified Survey Map identified as Document #1644173. Parcel PIN 010-2702-224-0991.

WHEREAS, the petition was referred to the Marathon County Environmental Resources Committee (the Committee) for public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Committee, on due notice, conducted a public hearing thereon, pursuant to Section 59.69, Wisconsin Statutes on September 5, 2023 to consider the petition to amend Chapter 17; and

WHEREAS, the Committee being duly informed of the facts pertinent to the changes proposed, having reviewed the staff report, and duly advised of the recommendations of the Town of Brighton, hereby recommends the petition be GRANTED AS APPLIED FOR

NOW, THEREFORE, the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon does ordain as follows: The General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code (and accompanying Zoning Map) is amended as stated above.

Dated this 5th day of September, 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

#O-33-23 – Town of Spencer Rezone – Larry & Patricia Lang

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors has been petitioned to amend the General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code Chapter 17; by Larry and Patricia Lang on behalf of Larry and Patricia Lang Revocable Living Trust to amend the General Code of Ordinance for Marathon County Chapter 17 to rezone lands from R-E Rural Estate to G-A General Agriculture as described as Lot 3 of Certified Survey Map (#6949) Document # 974333 recorded in Volume 26 on Page 142 and located in all of the Southwest ¼ of the Southeast ¼ of Section 21, Township 26 North, Range 2 East, Town of Spencer. The area to be rezoned to G-A General Agriculture is Parent Parcel #074.2602.214.0990.

WHEREAS, the petition was referred to the Marathon County Environmental Resources Committee (the Committee) for public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Committee, on due notice, conducted a public hearing thereon, pursuant to Section 59.69, Wisconsin Statutes on September 5, 2023 to consider the petition to amend Chapter 17; and

WHEREAS, the Committee being duly informed of the facts pertinent to the changes proposed, having reviewed the staff report, and duly advised of the recommendations of the Town of Spencer, hereby recommends the petition be GRANTED AS APPLIED FOR

NOW, THEREFORE, the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon does ordain as follows: The General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code (and accompanying Zoning Map) is amended as stated above.

Dated this 5th day of September, 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

#O-34-23 – Amendments to Chapter 17 of the Marathon County Zoning Code

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors has been petitioned to amend the General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County Chapter 17; by the Town of Knowlton, Marathon County, Wisconsin, for text amendment changes to the General Code of Ordinance for Marathon County Chapters 17-Zoning Code. The text amendments may be viewed online at <https://www.marathoncounty.gov/services/zoning> or at the Marathon County Conservation, Planning, and Zoning Office, 210 River Drive, Wausau WI 54403. Copies may be obtained by contacting the CPZ Department at 210 River Drive, Wausau WI 54403, or by calling (715) 261-6000.

WHEREAS, the petition was referred to the Marathon County Environmental Resources Committee for public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Committee, on due notice, conducted a public hearing on the proposed amendment, and filed their recommendation with the Board, and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment has been given due consideration by the Board in open session,

NOW, THEREFORE, the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon does ordain as follows: The General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code (and accompanying Zoning Map) is amended as stated above.

Dated this 5th day of September, 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

#O-35-23 – Speed Zone Reduction on Highway K

WHEREAS, modifications are warranted for the speed limits on County Road “K” in the Village of Maine and

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Highway Commissioner and the Marathon County Infrastructure Committee have resolved this issue and concur with the recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon does hereby ordain as follows:

1. To Amend Section 7.03(6) of the Marathon County General Code to add the following speed zone; County Trunk Highway K, Village of Maine, Marathon County;

Forty-five miles per hour for all vehicles beginning at the intersection of CTH K and Cassidy Drive/North 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue for a distance of 3.19 miles or a point ending at point 1,300 north of Hillcrest Drive.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; A traffic and engineering investigation having been made on the described highway, the maximum permissible speed at which vehicles *may* be operated on said highways, which speed is herewith established as reasonable and safe pursuant to Section 349.11, Wisconsin Statutes, shall be as set forth herein subject to passage of this ordinance, publication as required by law and upon the erection of standard signs giving notice thereof:

Note: A copy of this ordinance shall be forwarded to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and the Marathon County Sheriff's Department

Dated the 26th day of September 2023.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Resolutions:

#R-50-23 – Resolution in Opposition to Covid-19 Mandates

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors supports the healthcare rights and freedoms of its residents; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, public health emergency orders issued statewide and nationwide included masking mandates applicable to businesses, schools, and public buildings; and

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors is aware of studies that have shown that face masking may not have had a demonstrable effect on the transmission of airborne viruses such as COVID-19. Additionally, face coverings may impact the intake of carbon dioxide which may increase blood

pressure, reduce cognitive ability, cause respiratory distress, and cause reproductive concerns; and WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statute Section 252.041 permits individuals, for reasons of religion or conscience, to refuse vaccination during a public health emergency; and WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors finds that forced masking, vaccine, and isolation mandates may have caused harm to adults and children by contributing to isolation and increasing mental health crises and social anxieties. These mandates may also have affected verbal, motor, and overall development of children born during the pandemic; and WHEREAS, as of August, 2023, masking mandates have been renewed in areas of the country where COVID-19 transmission increases have been identified; and WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors finds it is essential that the Board express its position that Marathon County residents and employees shall not have their civil liberties jeopardized by mandates pertaining to face coverings or masking, vaccine requirements, or forced isolation, and should be free to make their own choices regarding whether to, and where to, utilize face coverings, vaccinate, or isolate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Marathon County Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its position that Marathon County residents and employees shall not have their civil liberties jeopardized by mandates pertaining to face coverings or masking, vaccine requirements, or forced isolation, and should be free to make their own choices regarding whether to, and where to, utilize face coverings, vaccinate, or isolate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be directed to the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services and appropriate members of the Wisconsin Legislature.

Respectfully submitted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

#R-51-23 – 2023 Bridge and Culvert Aid

WHEREAS, various municipalities hereinafter named have filed petitions for County Aid for construction of bridges under Section 82.08 of the Statutes, said petitions are hereby granted and the County's anticipated share is appropriated as follows:

Town-Village-City	Bridge or Culvert	
Berlin	Intersection of Naugart Drive and Mitchell	
Cassel	Scotch Creek Road	0.6 mile west of CTH S
Cleveland/Stratford	Balsam Road	1.15 miles east of STH 97
Eau Pleine	Equity Street, Noisy Creek Bridge	P37-0301
Green Valley	Rangeline Road over Little Eau Pleine River	P37-0360
Halsey	Nehrbass Road	0.25 mile north of Creek Road
Holton	Wuertzburg Road	0.75 mile west of CTH F
Johnson	Corlad Road Randall Creek	0.6 mile north of Wuertzburg Road
Johnson	Corlad Road Tributary to Potato Creek	0.3 mile south of County Road A
Knowlton	Locker Road (P37-351)	2.3 miles west of CTH X
Kronenwetter	Creek Road	150' north of Bank Road
Marathon	Four Mile Road	0.45 mile east of CTH B
Marathon	Keith Road	0.10 Mile east of CTH O
McMillan	Saint Joseph Ave	300' north of Penny Lane
McMillan	One Mile Road	800' west of Drake Avenue
Rib Falls	Jersey Falls Trail, Pine Creek	P37-0194
Rib Mountain	Goldenrod Road	0.3 mile west of CTH KK
Rietbrock	Meridian Road	0.4 mile north of CTH U
Stettin	Highland and Stettin Drives, Artus Creek	P37-0203 and P37-0204
Wausau	Forest Lawn Road	1.8 miles north of STH 52

Wausau, City of	Bridge Street Overlay	Concrete overlay from 2019
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS		\$917,326.85
TOTAL COUNTY BRIDGE OR CULVERT AID		\$458,663.43

\* City of Wausau Bridge Street project will be reimbursed in program years 2020-2023. The annual payment for this project will be the remaining balance after all other projects are deducted from the Total Appropriation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board does hereby levy a tax on all of the property in the County which is taxable for such purposes as to meet such total appropriations; and  
 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the provisions for this levy shall be made in the County Budget, but that this levy shall not be duplicated.

Dated the 7th day of September, 2023

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

#R-52-23 – Resolution Authorizing the Expenditure of ARPA Funds for Phase II Design Services for Regional Forensic Science Center

WHEREAS, Marathon County is the recipient of funds through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Marathon County is authorized to expend ARPA funds pursuant to rules promulgated by the United States Department of the Treasury and Section 602(c)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors previously authorized the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funds in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 to serve as a portion of the funding plan for a Regional Forensic Science Center; and

WHEREAS, state funding for a Regional Forensic Science Center was awarded by the Wisconsin Legislature as a part of the state’s budget process, and additional funds may be received in 2023 through federal sources; and

WHEREAS, Marathon County staff have had ongoing discussions with Northcentral Technical College (NTC) regarding a location for a Regional Forensic Science Center on or near property currently owned by NTC and near that college’s existing campus in the City of Wausau. NTC is willing to engage Marathon County in a transaction relative to land for the Regional Forensic Science Center and is interested in developing an operational partnership with County staff to provide for significant professional educational experiences at the future Forensic Science Center site; and

WHEREAS, Funds for Phase I Design Services were previously approved by the Marathon County Board of Supervisors in May 2023, which included Schematic Design and Programming Services. Phase II Design Services includes Design Development, Construction Documents, and all materials needed for the Procurement/Bidding Process; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the \$2,000,000.00 in encumbered ARPA funds could be utilized to continue the County’s engagement with Venture Architects for the final stages of design of the Regional Forensic Science Center. Allocation of a portion of these encumbered funds would permit work to continue on the design of the Regional Forensic Science Center and delays in completion of the design phase of the project would likely lead to higher project costs; and

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors at its May 2023 meeting extended its encumbrance of ARPA funds in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 to serve as a portion of the funding plan for Regional Forensic Science Center through December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors amended the 2023 Capital Improvement Program budget to create as an additional project in 2023 the Marathon County Regional Forensic Science Center with funding for the project to include the \$2,000,000.00 in encumbered ARPA funds to be supplemented by state or federal grant dollars upon receipt.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Marathon County Board of Supervisors approves the use of up to \$370,200 of the \$2,000,000.00 in encumbered ARPA funds to procure Phase II Design Services for the Regional Forensic Science Center building and infrastructure. The Board finds that this expenditure is consistent with the use of ARPA funds for capital improvements to public facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency and as revenue replacement, both allowable uses of ARPA funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Board authorizes the amendment of the 2023 budget to reflect the encumbrance and expenditure of the funds identified herein.

FISCAL NOTE:

This resolution authorizes the expenditure of up to \$370,200 of the \$2,000,000.00 in encumbered ARPA funds to procure Phase II Design Services for the Regional Forensic Science Center building and infrastructure. If the required alternative funds for the project are not allocated to and raised by Marathon County by December 31, 2023, the remaining ARPA funds shall be returned to the County's ARPA fund balance for reallocation.

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §§ 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats. As an amendment to the adopted 2023 County Budget, this Resolution requires a 2/3 vote of the entire membership of the County Board pursuant to § 65.90(5)(a), Wis. Stats.

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE & HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE, & PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Minutes Prepared by Kim Trueblood, County Clerk