



**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**

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THE ADJOURNED 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, October 22, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following matters:

**The meeting will be broadcast on Public Access or at <https://tinyurl.com/MarathonCountyBoard>**

**A. OPENING OF SESSION:**

1. Meeting called to order by County Board Chair at 6:00 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 cell phones and other electronic devices
5. Roll Call – On roll call, 31 supervisors were present as shown:

|            |              |            |              |
|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Aarrestad  | 17           | Lemmer     | 2            |
| Bootz      | 12 (Excused) | Marshall   | 20           |
| Conway     | 16           | Maszk      | 26 (W)       |
| Covelli    | 33           | Morache    | 6            |
| DeBroux    | 11           | Opall      | 37           |
| Dickinson  | 29           | Poole      | 36           |
| Drabek     | 31           | Radtke     | 10           |
| Fifrick    | 15 (7:00)    | Reynolds   | 30 (Excused) |
| Foote      | 9            | Ritter     | 13           |
| Gibbs      | 32           | Robinson   | 4            |
| Gisselman  | 5 (6:20)     | Rosenberg  | 21           |
| Hagen      | 28           | Schoenborn | 18           |
| Hart       | 3 (6:45)     | Seefeldt   | 14           |
| Hartinger  | 22           | Seubert    | 27           |
| Hoppa      | 7            | Sondelski  | 25           |
| Jacobson   | 24           | Ungerer    | 8 (W)        |
| Jensen     | 38           | Voll       | 23           |
| Kroll      | 1            | Wilhelm    | 34           |
| Langenhahn | 35 (Excused) | Xiong      | 19 (Excused) |

6. Acknowledgment of visitors

**B. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:**

7. Standing Committee Chairs or Designees – Supervisor Robinson

**C. CONSENT AGENDA:**

8. Approval of minutes from the September 19, 2024 meeting
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. Appointments:
  - a) Local Emergency Planning Commission – Junior Chojnacki

12. Ordinances:

1. Town of Elderon Rezone – Tim Vreeland for Keith Ziemba #O-37-24
2. Town of Hull Rezone – Tim Vreeland for Mitch Gumz #O-38-24
3. Town of Hull Rezone – Kris Schumacher for Leonard & Karen Riehle #O-39-24
4. Amending Section 9.21 of the Marathon County General Code of Ordinances Relating to Disorderly Conduct to an Election Official #O-40-24
5. Increase of Medical Examiner Fee as Permitted by State Law #O-42-24

13. Resolutions:

- a) Executive Committee:
  1. Adoption of Public Participation Plan for Marathon County Comprehensive Plan 2026 Update #R-43-24
- b) Extension, Education, and Economic Development Committee:
  1. Resolution Calling for State Elected Officials to Work Collaboratively to Address the Childcare Shortage in Wisconsin #R-44-24
- c) Health and Human Services Committee:
  1. Resolution in Support of Operation Greenlight #R-45-24
- d) Public Safety Committee:
  1. Resolution in Support of Marathon County District Attorney’s Office Request in Connection with the State of Wisconsin 2025-2027 Biennial Budget #R-51-24

Discussion: Request was made to separate items #O-40-24 (Jensen) and #R-44-24 (Dickinson)

Action: Motion by Drabek, Second by Covelli to approve the consent agenda with the two items above removed. Motion carried on a roll call vote unanimously.

Follow Through: None.

#O-40-24 – Amending Section 9.21 of the Marathon County General Code of Ordinances Relating to Disorderly Conduct to an Election Official

Discussion: Questions were asked and answered.

Action: Motion by Robinson, Second by Morache to approve the ordinance. Motion carried 21-10 on a roll call vote as follows:

Yes: Aarrestad, Conway, Drabek, Foote, Gibbs, Hagen, Hartinger, Hoppa, Jacobson, Kroll, Lemmer, Maszk, Morache, Radtke, Ritter, Robinson, Rosenberg, Schoenborn, Seefeldt, Voll, Wilhelm – 21

No: Covelli, DeBroux, Dickinson, Jensen, Marshall, Opall, Poole, Seubert, Sondelski, Ungerer – 10

Follow Through: None.

#R-44-24 – Resolution Calling for State Elected Officials to Work Collaboratively to Address the Childcare Shortage in Wisconsin

Discussion: Questions were asked and answered.

Action: Motion by Robinson, Second by Conway to approve the resolution. Motion carried 16-15 with 1 abstention on a roll call vote as follows:

Yes: Aarrestad, Conway, Drabek, Gibbs, Gisselman, Hagen, Kroll, Lemmer, Morache, Radtke, Robinson, Rosenberg, Seefeldt, Ungerer, Voll, Wilhelm - 16

No: Covelli, DeBroux, Dickinson, Foote, Hartinger, Hoppa, Jacobson, Jensen, Marshall, Maszk, Opall, Ritter, Schoenborn, Seubert, Sondelski - 15

Abstain: Poole

Follow Through: None.

D. APPOINTMENT:

14. Joint City of Wausau / Marathon County Homelessness Task Force

Discussion: Questions asked and answered.

Action: Motion by Morache, Second by Aarrestad. Motion carried 31-1 on a roll call vote with Sondelski voting No.

Follow Through: Task Force meetings will be set and noticed appropriately.

## ORDINANCES

- E. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE:  
15. Town of Ringle Zoning Ordinance Amendment #O-36-24  
Discussion: Questions asked and answered.  
Action: Motion by Kross, Second by Maszk. Motion carried 24-8 on a roll call vote as follows:  
Yes: Aarrestad, Conway, Covelli, DeBroux, Dickinson, Drabek, Foote, Gibbs, Hartinger, Jacobson, Kroll, Lemmer, Marshall, Maszk, Opall, Poole, Radtke, Ritter, Robinson, Rosenberg, Seefeldt, Seubert, Voll, Wilhelm – 24  
No: Gisselman, Hagen, Hoppa, Jensen, Morache, Schoenborn, Sondelski, Ungerer – 8  
Follow Through: None.
- F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:  
16. Adopting Marathon County Comprehensive Plan 2024 Amendment #O-42-24  
Discussion: None.  
Action: Motion by Morache, Second by Robinson. Motion carried on a roll call vote unanimously.  
Follow Through: None.

## RESOLUTIONS

- G. HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE, and PROPERTY COMMITTEE:  
17. Acceptance of Donation for Regional Forensic Science Center #R-46-24  
Discussion: None.  
Action: Motion by Robinson, Second by Drabek to accept the donation. Motion carried on a roll call vote unanimously.  
Follow Through: None.
18. Resolution Approving Sale of 405 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Wausau, WI #R-47-24  
Discussion: Questions were asked and answered.  
Action: Motion by Maszk, Second by Foote to approve the sale. Motion carried 17-15 on a roll call vote as follows:  
Yes: Aarrestad, Conway, Foote, Gibbs, Gisselman, Hagen, Kroll, Lemmer, Marshall, Morache, Poole, Radtke, Ritter, Robinson, Rosenberg, Seefeldt, Voll - 17  
No: Covelli, DeBroux, Dickinson, Drabek, Hartinger, Hoppa, Jacobson, Jensen, Maszk, Opall, Schoenborn, Seubert, Sondelski, Ungerer, Wilhelm - 15  
Follow Through: None.
- H. HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE, AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE and EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:  
19. Resolution Approving the Broadband Expansion Loan Agreement #R-48-24  
Discussion: Questions were asked and answered.  
Action: Motion by Robinson, Second by Ritter to approve the loan agreement. Motion carried 28-5 on a roll call vote as follows:  
Yes: Aarrestad, Conway, Covelli, DeBroux, Dickinson, Drabek, Foote, Gibbs, Gisselman, Hagen, Hart, Hartinger, Jensen, Kroll, Lemmer, Marshall, Maszk, Morache, Opall, Poole, Radtke, Ritter, Robinson, Rosenberg, Seefeldt, Seubert, Voll, Wilhelm - 28  
No: Hoppa, Jacobson, Schoenborn, Sondelski, Ungerer - 5  
Follow Through: None.
- I. HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE, AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE and PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:  
20. Resolution to Amend the 2024 Annual Budget to Accept Awarded Funds Under the 2024 Bureau of Justice Assistance Smart Prosecution Grant #R-49-24  
Discussion: None.  
Action: Motion by Morache, Second by Maszk to accept the grant. Motion carried 33-1 on a roll call vote with Dickinson voting No.  
Follow Through: None.

21. Creation of 1.0 FTE Deputy Sheriff in the Marathon County Sheriff's Office to Provide Contracted Services for the Village of Rib Mountain #R-50-24

Discussion: None.

Action: Motion by Poole, Second by Maszk to approve the position. Motion carried 34-0 on a roll call vote unanimously.

Follow Through: None.

J. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

22. Announcements and/or requests - None

23. Move to adjourn – Motion by Covelli, Second by Morache to adjourn. Motion carried on a voice vote unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Appointment – Local Emergency Planning Commission – Junior Chojnacki

I, Lance Leonhard, Marathon County Administrator, do hereby upon approval of the Board of Supervisors, appoint the following to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a two-year term to expire at the 2026 Organizational Meeting: Florian (Junior) Chojnacki, Old Hwy 18, Custer, WI

Appointment – Homelessness Task Force

I, Kurt Gibbs, Chairperson of the Marathon County Board of Supervisors, do hereby upon approval of the Board, appoint the following individuals as the Marathon County Board Representatives to the Homelessness Task Force for the initial term of 100 days and any potential renewal periods:

- Supervisor Ron Covelli (co-chair)
- Supervisor Bill Conway
- Business community leader representative – **Kent Olson** (Olson Tire and Auto Service)
- Local non-profit organizations serving the homeless population – **Diane Sennholz** (North Central Community Action Program)
- Faith-based organizations involved in homelessness initiatives – **Craig Vincent** (Bridge Street Mission)
- Mental health and substance abuse treatment providers – **Vicki Tylka** (North Central Health Care)
- Government agencies responsible for behavioral health services, law enforcement, and housing – **Matt Barnes** (City of Wausau Police Department)
- Homeless population advocate – **Beth Ann Richlen or her designee** (Wisconsin Judicare)

Mileage/expense reimbursement is allowed for meeting attendance, paid upon request.

ORDINANCES

#O-36-24 – Town of Ringle Zoning Ordinance Amendment

WHEREAS, Marathon County owns a parcel of land located adjacent to its Solid Waste Facility and more specifically identified as Parcel Identification Number 072-2809-233-0994 (“Parcel”) which has hosted various activities and uses related to the byproduct(s) of solid waste from the adjoining land owned by Marathon County and utilized as a Solid Waste Facility; and

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors on August 28, 1979, by Resolution No. 120 rezoned the Solid Waste Facility and the Parcel “for use as a county-wide landfill site and for no other purposes,” and WHEREAS, Marathon County desires to rezone the Parcel to more properly reflect the intended use of the Parcel by the County; and

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors has been petitioned to amend the General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code to zone lands from “for use as a county-wide landfill site and no other purposes” to H-I Heavy Industrial, described as Lot 1 of Certified Survey Map number 10013, Recorded in Volume 41 on Page 36, as document number 1122630, filed in the Marathon County Register of Deeds Office; Located in the Southwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 23, Township 28 North, Range 9 East, Town of Ringle, Parcel Identification Number 072-2809-233-0994.

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 July 2, 2024, and October 1, 2024, 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, hereby recommends the petition be GRANTED AS APPLIED FOR NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, 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.

October 22, 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

#O-37-24 – Town of Elderon Rezone – Tim Vreeland for Nancy Fenske

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors has been petitioned to amend the General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code by Tim Vreeland on behalf of Nancy Fenske to amend the General Code of Ordinance for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code to rezone lands from G-A General Agriculture to R-E Rural Estate located in part of the Southeast ¼ of the Southeast ¼ of Section 22, Township 27 North, Range 10 East, Town of Elderon. Area to be rezoned to R-E Rural Estate is described as Lot 1 of the preliminary CSM. Parent Parcel #022-2710-224-0994.

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 October 1, 2024 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 Elderon hereby recommends the petition be GRANTED AS APPLIED FOR

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, 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.

October 22, 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

#O-38-24 – Town of Hull Rezone – Tim Vreeland for Mitch Gumz

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors has been petitioned to amend the General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code by Tim Vreeland on behalf of Mitch Gumz to amend the General Code of Ordinance of for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code to rezone lands from F-P Farmland Preservation to L-D-R Low Density Residential located in part of the Southeast ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 10, Township 28 North, Range 2 East, Town of Hull. The area being rezoned from F-P Farmland Preservation to L-D-R Low Density Residential is described as Lot 1 of the preliminary CSM. Parent Parcel #044-2802-103-0995.

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 October 1, 2024 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 Hull hereby recommends the petition be GRANTED AS APPLIED FOR

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, 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.

October 22, 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

#O-39-24 – Town of Hull Rezone – Kris Schumacher for Leonard & Karen Riehle

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors has been petitioned to amend the General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code by petition of Kristopher Schumacher on behalf of Leonard and Karen Riehle to amend the General Code of Ordinance for Marathon County Chapter 17 Zoning Code to rezone lands from F-P Farmland Preservation to R-R Rural Residential, located in part of the Northwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 25, Township 28 North, Range 2 East, Town of Hull. Area to be rezoned from F-P Farmland Preservation to R-R Rural Residential is described as Lot 1 of the preliminary CSM. Parent Parcel #044-2802-253-0998.

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 October 1, 2024 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 Hull hereby recommends the petition be GRANTED AS APPLIED FOR

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, 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.

October 22, 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

#O-40-24 – Amending Section 9.21 of the Marathon County General Code of Ordinances Relating to Disorderly Conduct to an Election Official

WHEREAS, Chapter 9 of the General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County sets forth regulations related to maintaining public peace and good order within the County; and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. §§ 59.54(6) and (22) authorize Marathon County to enact and enforce ordinances to preserve the public peace and good order within the County, including ordinances prohibiting conduct that is the same as or similar to conduct prohibited in the criminal code of the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2024, the Public Safety Committee directed Marathon County staff to draft an ordinance substantially similar to Dane County Ordinance 34.01, which addresses disorderly conduct against an election official; and

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2024, the Public Safety Committee recommended that the Marathon County Board of Supervisors amend Section 9.21 of the Marathon County General Code of Ordinances as follows:

9.21 Disorderly Conduct

1) No person shall, in a public or private place, engage in violent, abusive, indecent, profane, boisterous, unreasonably loud or otherwise disorderly conduct under circumstances in which such conduct tends to cause or provoke a disturbance.

2) Any person who engages in conduct prohibited in subsection (1) above directed towards an election official, as defined by Wis. Stat. § 5.02(4e), is subject to a forfeiture of between \$500 to \$1000.

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

To amend Section 9.21 of the Marathon County General Code of Ordinances, as follows in the interests of maintaining public peace and good order in the County:

9.21 Disorderly Conduct

1) No person shall, in a public or private place, engage in violent, abusive, indecent, profane, boisterous, unreasonably loud or otherwise disorderly conduct under circumstances in which such conduct tends to cause or provoke a disturbance.

2) Any person who engages in conduct prohibited in subsection (1) above directed towards an election official, as defined by Wis. Stat. § 5.02(4e), is subject to a forfeiture of \$500 to \$1000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as required by law.

October 22, 2024

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

#O-41-24 – Adopting the 2024 Marathon County Comprehensive Plan Amendment

WHEREAS, sec. 66.1001(4), Wis. Stats., establishes the required procedure for a local government to adopt or amend a comprehensive plan, and Sec. 66.1001(2) identifies the required elements to be addressed; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan may be used as the basis for, among other things, updating the zoning ordinance, recommending infrastructure improvements, establishing policy for County action regarding elements in the plan; and as a guide for approving or disapproving actions affecting growth and development under the jurisdiction of Marathon County; and

WHEREAS, this Comprehensive Plan Update may from time to time be amended, extended, or added to in greater detail; and

WHEREAS, The Marathon County Comprehensive Plan 2024 Amendment was necessary to meet WI Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) requirements to fully adopt and incorporate the updated 2024-2033 Marathon County Farmland Preservation Plan and maintain Marathon County's participation in the Farmland Preservation Program tax credits; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2024, the Environmental Resources Committee held a Class 1 public hearing on the Marathon County Comprehensive Plan 2024 Amendment, with notice in compliance with the requirements of sec. 66.1001(4)(d) Wis. Stats.; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2024, the Environmental Resources Committee adopted a resolution recommending County Board adoption of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update; and

WHEREAS, on October 22, 2024, the County Board voted to approve/amend the 2016 Comprehensive Plan, as set forth in the Attachment, repealing and recreating Chapter 26 of the General Code of Ordinances with the Marathon County Comprehensive Plan 2024 Amendment.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED AND RESOLVED, by the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon that Chapter 26 of the General Code of Ordinances entitled Marathon County Comprehensive Plan Update is hereby repealed and recreated pursuant to the Attachment; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND RESOLVED that said ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as required by law.

October 22, 2024

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#O-42-24 – Increase of Medical Examiner Fee as Permitted by State Law

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statute Section 979.10 requires medical examiners to issue a cremation authorization when families choose cremation as the final disposition for their loved one; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Administrative Code Section DHS 135.07 requires the issuance of a disinterment permit by a medical examiner prior to any disinterment taking place within a county; and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 59.36 permits a county board to set the fees for services rendered by the county's medical examiner in an amount that is reasonably related to the actual and necessary cost of providing the service; and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 59.38(1) requires a county medical examiner to collect, for all services performed, all fees that the medical examiner is entitled by law to receive; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors approved a cremation authorization and disinterment permit fee increase from \$175 to \$250; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Wisconsin Legislature passed 2015 Wisconsin Act 336, which limited the ability of county medical examiner officers to increase fees beyond the December-to-December consumer price index annual increase; and

WHEREAS, since 2015, the cremation authorization and disinterment permit fees have not been significantly increased, except for the statutorily capped December-to-December consumer price index annual increase last implemented in March 2023, but which increases have not kept pace with the substantial rise in the costs of services provided by the Medical Examiner's Office.

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2024, the Public Safety Committee forwarded to the County Board of Supervisors a recommendation to increase fees collected by the Medical Examiner's Office as follows:

Cremation Authorization fee: increase from \$266.25 to \$275

Disinterment Permit fee: increase from \$266.25 to \$275

WHEREAS, this proposed increase is consistent with the December-to-December consumer price index annual increase. This proposed increase is estimated to produce an additional \$9,400 in departmental revenue and is based on the 4-year average of cremation authorizations by the Medical Examiner's Office.

WHEREAS, the proposed fee increase amounts are reasonably related to the actual and necessary cost of providing Medical Examiner services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon does hereby approve the following fee increases within the Medical Examiner's Office:

Cremation Authorization fee: increase from \$266.25 to \$275

Disinterment Permit fee: increase from \$266.25 to \$275

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND RESOLVED that Section 5.30(1) of the Marathon County General Code of Ordinances is amended as follows:

Sec. 5.30. - Medical examiner *fees*.

(1) Wis. Statute sections 59.38(1), 59.36 and 69.18(2)(d)2., establish the authority of the Marathon County Board to establish fees for services of the Medical Examiner's Office. Fees shall be established as follows:

(b) Cremation Authorization Fee: \$275

(c) Disinterment Permit: \$275

October 22, 2024

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

## RESOLUTIONS

### #R-43-24 – Adoption of Public Participation Plan for Marathon County Comprehensive Plan 2026 Update

WHEREAS, the County of Marathon has decided to prepare a County Comprehensive Plan 2026

Update under the authority of and procedures established by §59.69(2) and (3), Wisconsin Statutes; and

WHEREAS, §66.1001(4)(a) Wisconsin Statutes, requires that the governing body of the local governmental unit shall adopt written procedures designed to foster public participation at every stage of the county development plan preparation, and that such written procedures shall provide for wide distribution of proposed, alternative or amended elements of the development plan, an opportunity for written comments on the development plan to be submitted by the public, and a process for the governing body to respond to such comments; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon has designated the Marathon County Executive Committee as the oversight committee for the purposes of drafting a proposed updated Comprehensive Plan 2026 Update for Marathon County; and

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Executive Committee have received, reviewed, and recommended approval of the *Public Participation Plan for the Marathon County Comprehensive Plan 2026 Update*; and

WHEREAS, the County of Marathon believes that regular, meaningful public involvement in the County Comprehensive Plan development process is important to assure that the resulting plan meets the wishes and expectations of the public.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon hereby resolve and ordain as follows: to approve the written procedures included in the *Public Participation Plan for the Marathon County Comprehensive Plan 2026 Update* as its public participation procedures meeting the requirements of §66.1001(4)(a), Wisconsin Statutes.

October 22, 2024

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



#R-44-24 – Resolution Calling for State Elected Officials to Work Collaboratively to Address the Childcare Shortage in Wisconsin

WHEREAS, Wisconsin families rely on access to high-quality, affordable childcare to support their workforce participation and economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has seen a significant reduction in the number of childcare providers over the past decade, with Marathon County experiencing the closure of over 50% of its regulated childcare programs between 2012 and 2022, contributing to a crisis of childcare availability and affordability for working families; and

WHEREAS, the Child Care Counts program has provided essential support to Wisconsin's childcare sector, helping providers remain operational and easing the financial burden on working parents, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the long-term sustainability of programs like Child Care Counts, as well as innovative initiatives such as Project Growth's *Partner Up* program, which enables employers to share childcare costs with the state, is critical for maintaining affordable childcare options; and

WHEREAS, many families continue to struggle with the high cost of childcare, which can exceed 25% of a family's income, far beyond the federal government's recommendation of no more than 7% of income; and

WHEREAS, access to affordable and quality childcare is directly linked to workforce retention and economic productivity, as illustrated by personal accounts from Wisconsin families, such as those benefitting from Child Care Counts and *Good Start Grants* administered by agencies like Childcaring Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors has recognized the acute and critical need relative to child care to support our local economy, allocating \$200,000 of funding to support the education and continued employment of early childhood educators by action in September 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors recognizes that continued direct funding allocations from county governments are not a sustainable solution to this challenge, particularly in light of existing revenue limitation; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the State of Wisconsin prioritize childcare as a central component of its economic recovery and development plans, and that solutions be developed through a collaborative, bipartisan state government effort that offers opportunities for engagement by local municipalities and public and private sector partners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon does hereby call upon the Governor of the State of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin State Legislature to work collaboratively to implement long-term, sustainable solutions that address the childcare shortage throughout the state, ensuring that Wisconsin families have access to the quality, affordable childcare necessary for economic stability and growth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator is hereby instructed to submit this resolution to Marathon County legislators, the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and any other relevant bodies.

October 22, 2024

MARATHON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

#R-45-24 – Resolution in Support of Operation Greenlight

WHEREAS, the residents of Marathon County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our county and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Marathon County seeks to honor individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veterans Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability, and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, active military service members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes, and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Marathon County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, Marathon County hereby declares from October 22 through Veterans Day, November 11, 2024, as a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of our men and women in uniform transitioning from active service;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Marathon County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place or business or residence from November 4 through November 11, 2024.

October 22, 2024

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

#R-46-24 – Acceptance of Donation for Regional Forensic Science Center

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors has previously taken action to study the creation of a Forensic Science Center in Marathon County that would provide forensic autopsy services, most directly through the creation of the Morgue Task Force; 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, in the amount of \$7 million in matching funds; and

WHEREAS, federal funding for a Regional Forensic Science Center was awarded by Congress as part of the Congressionally Directed Spending program, in the amount of \$2 million; and

WHEREAS, staff were directed to seek outside funding through grants, securing approximately \$1,812,785 in additional funding for the project; and

WHEREAS, in December of 2023, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors authorized, via Resolution 76-23, that the construction of the Regional Forensic Science Center move forward should bids be received within the project budget, and the resolution further authorized the segregation of an amount not to exceed \$4,230,000 of the Social Improvement Fund Balance for purposes of demonstrating the local match required for the County to access the \$7,000,000 in funds through the State of Wisconsin Building Commission, with the understanding that staff and representatives of the Morgue taskforce will continue to seek outside funding for the RFSC project and that any amounts pledged for the project would reduce the county's use of Social Improvement Fund reserve to fund the project; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statute Section 59.52 (19) authorizes the Marathon County Board to accept donations, gifts or grants for any public governmental purpose within the powers of the county; and

WHEREAS, the B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation awarded a grant to the County of Marathon in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 for the construction of the Regional Forensic Science Center; and

WHEREAS, the first of three payments in the amount of \$334,000.00 was received on September 26, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 65.90(5)(a) permits amendment of the annual County budget by a 2/3 majority vote of the entire membership of the county board; and WHEREAS, on October 9, 2024, the Marathon County Human Resources, Finance, and Property Committee recommended acceptance of the total grant funds pledged by the B.A. & Ester Greenheck of \$1,000,000 grant as an amendment to the 2024 Marathon County annual budget, and authorizing staff to deposit each respective payment into the capital project fund.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the County of Marathon does hereby ordain and resolve to accept the grant funds in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 from the B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation and each of the respective payments to be placed into Capital Improvement Plan fund for the Regional Forensic Science Center project upon receipt.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2024 budget is amended to account for the acceptance of this grant.

October 22, 2024

HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE, AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

#R-47-24 – Resolution Approving Sale of 405 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Wausau, WI

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 59.52(6)(c) permits the Marathon County Board of Supervisors to sell or convey county property on such terms that the board approves; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Authority of the City of Wausau submitted an offer to purchase the property located at 405 S. 8th Avenue in the City of Wausau for \$60,000, indicating that it intended to construct housing on the property; and

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2024, the Human Resources, Finance and Property Committee considered the offer to purchase and recommended that the County approve the proposed sale conditioned upon an addition of a term providing that should housing not be developed on the site within thirty-six (36) months from the date of closing the county would be permitted to repurchase the property for the original purchase price minus any direct costs incurred by the county in conducting the initial transaction; and

WHEREAS, a Revised Offer to Purchase was received from counsel for the Community Development Authority of the City of Wausau on October 11, 2024, providing for the following additional provisions/contingencies: (1) Community Development Authority Board resolution; (2) the Buyer agrees to develop the property within 36 months of closing; and (3) the Seller retains the right to repurchase the property at the purchase price if not developed within 36 months of closing; and

WHEREAS, on October 22, 2024, the Human Resources, Finance and Property Committee considered the revised offer to purchase and recommended acceptance by the Board of Supervisors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Marathon County Board of Supervisors authorizes appropriate County staff to complete the sale of 405 S. 8th Avenue in the City of Wausau for the purchase price of \$60,000.00 contingent upon all of the terms and conditions in the attached Revised Offer to Purchase being incorporated into the sale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that appropriate county officials are authorized to execute documents necessary to finalize the sale and encumbrance of properties identified in this Resolution, and the County Board of Supervisors directs county staff to complete the transaction identified herein.

October 22, 2024

HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

#R-48-24 – Resolution Approving the Broadband Expansion Loan Agreement

WHEREAS, Marathon County (the “County”) seeks to expand broadband access to its residents and businesses, particularly focusing on underserved and rural areas; and

WHEREAS, Bug Tussel Wireless LLC, (“Bug Tussel”), founded in 2003, specializes in broadband and cellular solutions for rural communities and is wholly owned by Hilbert Communications LLC. The company has successfully collaborated with several Wisconsin counties, including Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, and Waushara, in broadband infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, County participated in the issuance of conduit bonds in 2021 to fund broadband expansion in partnership with Bug Tussel. This project, “the 2021 Project,” involved the installation of 18 broadband towers, the deployment of 198.33 miles of middle-mile fiber, and fiber-to-the-premise (FTTP) services, connecting 1,920 consumer premises within the county. This project has experienced cost overruns and requires additional funding for completion; and

WHEREAS, a second project, known as the “Leathercamp Project,” has been awarded a \$3 million grant from the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC), aimed at deploying 90.7 miles of fiber optic last-mile infrastructure. This project will provide 1 Gbps fiber-to-the-premise service to 636 residential and 16 business locations in underserved or unserved areas of Marathon County, particularly the Town of Knowlton, Village of Kronenwetter, and Town of Guenther; and

WHEREAS, Marathon County seeks to provide additional funding to complete these projects, totaling \$8 million and consisting of a \$5 million loan from its general reserve fund for the completion of the 2021 broadband project and a \$3 million loan for the Leathercamp Project to satisfy the non-PSC share of the grant. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon does hereby direct the staff to finalize negotiations on the Broadband Loan Extension Agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions as outlined in agreement term sheet summary as presented at the Board's October 17, 2024, meeting and further authorizes the staff to execute the Broadband Expansion Loan Agreement and other necessary documents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the funding for this loan advancement shall be in the amount of \$8,000,000.00 and shall be transferred from the Marathon County General Reserve Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon does hereby approve a budget amendment and budget transfer of \$8,000,000.00 from the General Reserve Fund as additional funding to complete the broadband expansion projects as follows:

1. \$5,000,000.00 loan for the completion of the 2021 Project.
2. \$3,000,000.00 loan for the completion of the Leathercamp Project.

Fiscal Impact: This resolution funds loan disbursements for the completion of the aforementioned broadband expansion projects, reducing the General Reserve Fund by \$8,000,000.00.

Legal Note: As a resolution approving a budget amendment, this resolution requires a 2/3 majority vote.

October 22, 2024

HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE, & PROPERTY COMMITTEE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#R-49-24 – Resolution to Amend the 2024 Annual Budget to Accept Awarded Funds Under the 2024 Bureau of Justice Assistance Smart Prosecution Grant

WHEREAS, Section 65.90(5)(a) dictates that appropriations in the Marathon County budget may not be modified unless authorized by a vote of two-thirds of the entire membership of the County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, on September 26, 2024, the Marathon County District Attorney's Office, by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), was awarded \$300,630, over three years, under the BJA 2024 Smart Prosecution – Innovative Prosecution Solutions grant to create a new Diversion Pre-Filing Program; and

WHEREAS, the grant funding is distributed over three years with variability due to start-up costs and allowance for salary increases. The distribution is as follows:

Year 1: \$ 99,911 (Start-up costs, 1 LTE Position)

Year 2: \$99,295

Year 3: \$101,424

WHEREAS, the goals of the Diversion Pre-Filing Program is to (1) reduce the time between the date of police referral and the sentencing date for swifter justice and connection to services, (2) reduce the number of times a charge is amended from filing to sentencing, and (3) ensure that all veterans in the criminal justice system are screened and processed through a multi-disciplinary team consisting of veteran stakeholders to create a person-centered resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Diversion Pre-Filing Program aligns with the Marathon County Objectives 7.2 under the 2023-2024 Marathon County Amended and Extended Strategic Plan through the Mental Health Substance Use Disorder (MHSUD) Specialty track; and

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2024 the Public Safety Committee reviewed the request and recommended approval of accepting the awarded funds under the BJA 2024 Smart Prosecution Grant; and

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2024, the Human Resources and Finance Committee reviewed the request and recommended approval of accepting the awarded funds under the BJA 2024 Smart Prosecution Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon does hereby resolve and ordain to amend the 2024 Budget to accept awarded funds under the: BJA 2024 Smart Prosecution Grant

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the funds accepted under this award, in the amount of \$99,911, shall be allocated to the Marathon County District Attorney's Office Smart Prosecution Grant Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon does hereby approve a budget amendment and budget allocation of \$99,911 to the Marathon County District Attorney’s Office.

| Action                      | Account Number    | Account Description    | Amount      |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Expenditure Increase        | SC_51111          | Personnel/Fringe       | \$88,330.00 |
| Fund 291 CC_51300 GR-007653 | SC_51120          | Employee Overtime      | \$6,527.28  |
|                             | SC_53321 SC_53190 | Travel/Training Office |             |
|                             | RC_43210          | Supplies               | \$2,369.00  |
| Increase Revenue            |                   | Grant Revenue          | \$2,684.72  |
|                             |                   |                        | \$99,911    |

October 22, 2024

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

#R-50-24 – Creation of a 1.0 FTE Deputy Sheriff in the Marathon County Sheriff’s Office to Provide Contracted Services for the Village of Rib Mountain

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Sheriff’s Office exists to provide a safe, secure and crime-free community through trust-building, enforcement and public safety management; and

WHEREAS, the creation of this Deputy Sheriff position in partnership with the Village of Rib Mountain is directly linked to this mission; and

WHEREAS, this position will be funded by the Village of Rib Mountain including wages for one full-time deputy along with the purchase of a vehicle and other required equipment; and

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2024, the Public Safety Committee voted to recommend creating 1.0 FTE Deputy position to County Board; and

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2024, the Human Resources, Finance and Property Committee also voted to recommend creating 1.0 FTE Deputy position to County Board.

WHEREAS, in order to fund these positions and services that they will provide §65.90(5)(a), Wis. Stats., dictates that appropriations in the Marathon County budget may not be modified unless authorized by a vote of two-thirds of the entire membership of the County Board of Supervisors, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marathon:

- A. To create 1.0 FTE Deputy Sheriff position effective the beginning October 1, 2024 following the approval of this resolution.

October 22, 2024

HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE and PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

#R-51-24 – Resolution in Support of Marathon County District Attorney’s Office Request in Connection with the State of Wisconsin 2025-2027 Biennial Budget

WHEREAS, the criminal justice system is a core constitutional responsibility of the State of Wisconsin with key services provided by local district attorney’s offices; and

WHEREAS, 978.13 (2) of the Wisconsin Statutes identifies the State is the responsible unit of government for funding prosecutor positions; and

WHEREAS, the impact of inadequate number of prosecutor positions results in overwhelming caseloads, which can result in difficulty in retaining and recruiting staff, ultimately negatively impacting crime victims and those charged with criminal offenses; and

WHEREAS, adequate resources for this constitutional service are necessary to protect constitutional rights and to protect public safety; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has funded a prosecutor position in the Marathon County District Attorney’s Office, utilizing American Rescue Plan Act funding received by the State, since January of 2023; and

WHEREAS, Marathon County has demonstrated the ability to effectively deploy that prosecutor to positively impact the criminal justice system and the caseload needs within the Marathon County District Attorney’s Office continue to warrant state funding of the additional prosecutor; and

WHEREAS, without these resources, the criminal justice system will be negatively impacted; and  
WHEREAS, Marathon County's vision is to be the healthiest, safest, and most prosperous county in the State of Wisconsin, and a fully staffed, fully functional District Attorney's Office is central to that mission. Should the state allocate the funding requested by District Attorney Wetzsteon, Marathon County stands ready to ensure the necessary office space and support staff for those prosecutors to be successful in the performance of their official duties.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marathon County Board of Supervisors hereby requests that the Governor and the State Legislature support the request of the Marathon County District Attorney's Office in connection with the development of the 2025-27 Biennial Budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors directs the County Clerk to submit the resolution to the Governor and Marathon County Legislative Delegation.

October 22, 2024

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

Minutes prepared by Kim Trueblood, County Clerk