

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Tuesday, October 21, 2025 - 6:00 PM

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair Boyd called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Clerk Marlowe called the roll with the following members in attendance: Bialecki, McCrank, Zelinski, Ashbeck, Dunphy, Thiel, Vorpapel, Boyd, Detert, DePasse, Lyskawa, Miller, Lemke, Meunier, Wickham, Dorava, Cummings, Simon, and Hartwig **(19)**. Excused: Anderson-Malm and Bishop **(2)**. Absent: Woellner **(1)**.

4. Announcements

- a. North Central Health Care Executive Director, Gary Olson, has announced his retirement effective January 2, 2026. NCHC Deputy Director and former Lincoln County Administrative Coordinator, Jason Hake, has been named the Interim CEO and will work exclusively with Gary through December of this year.

5. Appointments - None

6. Awards - None

7. Recognitions

- a. 25 Years of Service — Thomas Barkley, Highway Department
- b. 25 Years of Service — Jeromy Hoffman, Highway Department

8. Approval of the Minutes

a. September 16, 2025, County Board Special Meeting

M/S Dunphy/Bialecki to approve the September 16, 2025 County Board Meeting Minutes. The motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.

9. Letters and Memorials - None

10. Reports of Standing & Special Committees

- a. Finance & Insurance Committee: North Central Health Care 2026 Budget Review — Gary Olsen (NCHC Outgoing Executive Director) and Jason Hake (NCHC New Acting Executive Director).
https://www.norcen.org/documents/budget/NCHC_2026_Budget.pdf

Executive Directors Olsen and Hake were in attendance to summarize the 2026 NCHC Budget. They then fielded questions from the floor.

- b. Finance & Insurance Committee: 2026 Preliminary Budget and CIP Discussion — Julie DePasse (Finance & Insurance Committee Chair) and Heather Marheine (Finance Director)

Marheine presented the 2026 Budget highlighting significant changes from the 2025 County Budget. Marheine and DePasse then fielded questions from the floor. Other than clerical, there were no changes presented.

Marheine will update and prepare the 2026 Budget Book for the scheduled public hearing and annual meeting (November 12, 2025).

- c. Finance & Insurance Committee: 2025 Year-to-Date Budget Report – Finance Director (Heather Marheine)

Director Marheine summarize the 2025 Year to Date Budget. Reporting no major concerns, she then fielded questions from the floor. The report will remain on record.

11. Public Comment

There was no public comment offered.

12. Resolutions

a. Res 2025-10-50 Resolution Accepting \$10,000 Environmental Health Tracking Grant

WHEREAS, Carbon monoxide (CO) is a toxic gas that can't be seen or smelled. CO is produced through the incomplete combustion of fuels such as wood, propane, natural gas, gasoline or other carbon-containing fuels.

WHEREAS, When compared to the running five year average, Lincoln County consistently has higher rates of CO poisoning-related emergency department visits than the State of Wisconsin as a whole.

WHEREAS, Health Department data (2019 – July 2025) shows that common source of CO poisoning-related emergency department visits in Lincoln County include heaters, furnaces, pressure washers and boats coupled with factors such as: improperly maintained or expired CO detectors; no CO detectors present; the use of fuel burning equipment in enclosed / improperly vented areas; and faulty or improperly installed equipment.

WHEREAS, Health Department and its partners look to reduce the number of CO related emergency department visits and save lives. This project will raise awareness by creating and distributing education materials including CO detectors, participating in outreach events, and collaborating, innovatively with community partners.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors approves the acceptance \$10,000 from the **Taking Action with Data: Environmental Public health Tracking Data to Improvement Environmental Health in a Community Grant** with the grant period being September 1, 2025 – July 31, 2026.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Laurie Thiel **Co-Sponsored by:** Angela Cummings and Christine Vorpapel

Committee: Board of Health **Date Passed:** 9/17/2025 **Committee Vote:** Passed –Voice Vote.

Fiscal Impact: \$10,000 received. No additional costs. **Drafted by:** Shelley Cohrs, Lincoln County Health Department

M/S Ashbeck/Vorpapel to approve Res 2025-10-50. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

b. Res 2025-10-51 Resolution Accepting \$13,750 from Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, County Veterans Service Officer Grant

WHEREAS, Counties that meet statutory standards and employ a full- or part-time County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) are eligible for a grant from the WDVA for the Improvement of services to former military personnel of the county through the county veterans service office of that county; and,

WHEREAS, Lincoln County meets statutory requirements and employs a Full time County Veterans Service Officer; and,

WHEREAS, Lincoln County's population of 20,000 to 45,499 qualifies for a grant in the amount of \$13,750; and,

WHEREAS, Lincoln County Veterans Service Office has a critical role in advocating for the individual veterans and are often the initial point of contact in the community for veteran's services; and,

WHEREAS, the WDVA grant provides a critical financial resource that augments Lincoln County's requirement to staff and support the County Veterans Service office, and offsets Lincoln County's cost for administration and supplies to maintain its office; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors accepts and expresses gratitude for the WDVA, CVSO Grant in the amount of \$13,750.00.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Ken Wickham (District 18 Supervisor)

Co-Sponsored by: Marguerite Lyskawa (District 14 Supervisor) **Committee:** Administrative & Legislative

Committee Vote: Carried by Voice **Date Passed:** June 4, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** None

Drafted by: Matthew Pultz, CVSO

M/S DePasse/Cummings to approve Res 2025-10-51. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

c. Res 2025-10-52 Resolution Accepting \$500 Private Donation

WHEREAS, Lincoln County Veterans Department received a private donation of \$500 from a local veteran; and,
WHEREAS, this veteran expressed profound satisfaction with the services provided by the Lincoln County Veterans Department; and,
WHEREAS, in alignment with the department's mission, the veteran was requested to redirect his generous gift as a donation to the Veterans Relief Fund, which directly benefits veterans within the area financially; and,
WHEREAS, the mission of the Veterans Service Office is to inform, advise, and assist veterans, their spouses, and dependents in securing entitlements and other benefits from the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs and the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs; and,
WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Veterans Services Office possesses a compassionate understanding of the problems confronting veterans, widows, widowers, and children, and the County Veterans Service Officer is knowledgeable in the extent, meaning, and application of federal and state laws pertaining to veterans and their dependents, as well as the rules and regulations adopted by the Department of Veterans Affairs; and,
WHEREAS, the County Veterans Service Office applies specialized knowledge to best suit the needs of every individual veteran or other beneficiary seeking assistance; and,
WHEREAS, that this donation will be utilized to provide financial assistance to veterans within Lincoln County, consistent with the mission and objectives of the Lincoln County Veterans Department; and,
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors gratefully accepts the private donation of \$500 from the anonymous local veteran for the Veterans Relief Fund.
Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Greg Hartwig (District 22 Supervisor)

Co-Sponsored by: Julie DePasse (District 12 Supervisor) **Committee:** Administrative & Legislative

Committee Vote: Carried by Voice **Date Passed:** October 1, 2025

Fiscal Impact: \$500 Deposit into Veterans Relief Budget **Drafted by:** Matthew Pultz, CVSO

M/S Zelinski/Dunphy to approve Res 2025-10-52. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

d. Res 2025-10-53 Resolution Accepting \$250 Donation Veterans Coffee & Conversation Club

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors acknowledges the generous offer of a donation; and,
WHEREAS, the local Veterans Coffee & Conversation Club, operating at The Eagles Restaurant in Merrill, WI, a place where veterans can gather and connect, has offered a donation of five (5) gift cards, each valued at Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), totaling Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00); and,
WHEREAS, these gift cards can be utilized for various veterans in need of a meal, support, or other approved purposes benefiting local veteran engagement with the county; and,
WHEREAS, it is within the best interests of Lincoln County to accept such donations consistent with the mission of the Lincoln County Veterans Department to provide essential services, support and resources to veterans; and,
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors does hereby officially accept the donation of five (5) gift cards, totaling Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), from the Veterans Coffee & Conversation Club
.Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Angela Cummings (District 20 Supervisor)
Co-Sponsored by: Marguerite Lyskawa (District 14 Supervisor) **Committee:** Administrative & Legislative
Committee Vote: Carried by Voice **Date Passed:** October 1, 2025
Fiscal Impact: \$250 Deposit into Veterans Relief Budget **Drafted by:** Matthew Pultz, CVSO

M/S DePasse/Dunphy to approve Res 2025-10-53. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

e. Res 2025-10-54 Resolution Accepting \$50 Private Donation

WHEREAS, Lincoln County Veterans Department received a private donation of \$50 from a local veteran; and,
WHEREAS, this veteran expressed profound satisfaction with the services provided by the Lincoln County Veterans Department; and,
WHEREAS, in alignment with the department's mission, the veteran was requested to redirect his generous gift as a donation to the Veterans Relief Fund, which directly benefits veterans within the area financially; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the Veterans Service Office is to inform, advise, and assist veterans, their spouses, and dependents in securing entitlements and other benefits from the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs and the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs; and,

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Veterans Services Office possesses a compassionate understanding of the problems confronting veterans, widows, widowers, and children, and the County Veterans Service Officer is knowledgeable in the extent, meaning, and application of federal and state laws pertaining to veterans and their dependents, as well as the rules and regulations adopted by the Department of Veterans Affairs; and,

WHEREAS, the County Veterans Service Office applies specialized knowledge to best suit the needs of every individual veteran or other beneficiary seeking assistance; and,

WHEREAS, that this donation will be utilized to provide financial assistance to veterans within Lincoln County, consistent with the mission and objectives of the Lincoln County Veterans Department; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors gratefully accepts the private donation of \$50 from the anonymous local veteran for the Veterans Relief Fund.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Julie DePasse (District 12 Supervisor)

Co-Sponsored by: Marguerite Lyskawa (District 14 Supervisor) **Committee:** Administrative & Legislative

Committee Vote: Carried by Voice **Date Passed:** October 1, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** \$50 Deposit into Veterans Relief Budget

Drafted by: Matthew Pultz, CVSO

M/S Thiel/Miller to approve Res 2025-10-54. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

f. Res 2025-10-55 Resolution in Support of Operation Green Light

WHEREAS, the residents of Lincoln County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country 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, Lincoln 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, Lincoln County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted; therefore be it; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, Lincoln County hereby declares from November 1st through Veterans Day, and extending to November ~~31~~ 30th, 2025 as a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of our men and women in uniform transitioning from active service; therefore, be it further that in observance of Operation Green Light, Lincoln 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 of business or residence from November 1st through the ~~31st~~ 30th 2025.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Julie DePasse (District 12 Supervisor)

Co-Sponsored by: Jesse Boyd (District 10 Supervisor) Lori Anderson-Malm (District 2 Supervisor) Ken Wickham (District 18 Supervisor) Angela Cummings (District 20 Supervisor) Marguerite Lyskawa (District 14 Supervisor) Greg Hartwig (District 22 Supervisor)

Committee: Administrative & Legislative **Committee Vote:** Carried by Voice **Date Passed:** October 1, 2025

Fiscal Impact: None **Drafted by:** Matthew Pultz, CVSO

M/S Cummings/Vorpapel to approve Res 2025-10-55 with minor clerical changes in final paragraph. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

g. Res 2025-10-56 Acceptance of Bierman Family Foundation Donation for Flock Camera System

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office has participated in a trial use of a Flock LPR camera system, a powerful law enforcement tool which can greatly assist our deputies in the identification, location and apprehension of persons committing crimes in our communities or criminal elements traveling through our area, as well as assisting in the location of missing persons that may make their way to our community; and

WHEREAS, during the brief trial use of the system, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office was able to locate and resolve 4 missing persons complaints, identify and locate 3 persons associated with theft complaints, assisted in the investigation of 2 homicide / attempted homicide cases, and identify and locate a person who engaged in a high speed pursuit with one of our deputies, allowing our deputy to terminate a pursuit early, therefore minimizing the risk to our deputy and the community; and

WHEREAS, Flock LPR camera systems have been deployed nationwide and are being utilized in many counties and municipalities throughout Wisconsin, including several in our area; and

WHEREAS, the addition of the Flock LPR system in Lincoln County will act as a force multiplier and create efficiencies in the investigations conducted by Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, which is especially important given our limited personnel and resources; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Lincoln County accept funding from the Bierman Family Foundation in the amount of \$183,900 for the implementation of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office portion of the Flock LPR system, which covers all implementation and subscription fees associated with the Flock LPR system for 10 years.

Dated: October 1, 2025 **Authored by:** Alan Bishop **Co-Sponsored by:** Dana Miller

Committee: Public Safety Committee **Committee Vote:** Carried by a voice vote

Date Passed: October 8, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** \$0 **Drafted by:** Chief Deputy Tyler Iverson

M/S Miller/Dorava to approve Res 2025-10-56. Motion to approve carried by a roll call vote as follows. Ayes: Bialecki, Zelinski, Ashbeck, Dunphy, Thiel, Vorpapel, Boyd, Lyskawa, Lemke, Miller, Meunier, Wickham, Dorava, Cummings, Simon, Hartwig (16). Nays: McCrank, Detert, DePasse (3).

h. Res 2025-10-57 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Lake Monitoring and Protection Network (LMPN) Grant

WHEREAS, Lincoln County has over 720 lakes, over 650 miles of rivers and streams, and contains one of the highest concentrations of natural lakes in the world; and

WHEREAS, the quality of these waters and wetlands are being threatened by aquatic invasive species; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County recognizes the importance of the quality of our waters to its citizens and local economies; and

WHEREAS, education is one of the keys to increasing public awareness as to the adverse impacts of aquatic invasive species on the quality of Lincoln County waters and our local economies; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County recognizes the need for a workable plan that will prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species into new waters, and control, reduce, or eliminate aquatic invasive species already present in some bodies of water; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Land Services Department (LSD) will continue to increase public awareness of the aquatic invasive species problem by implementing activities to prevent and control the spread of aquatic invasive species; and

WHEREAS, 100% of the cost of such prevention and control activities may be paid by a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR); and

WHEREAS, the LSD must apply to the WDNR for the purpose of a Lake Monitoring and Protection Network (LMPN) grant.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the LSD will meet the financial obligations necessary to fully and satisfactorily complete the project and hereby authorizes and empowers the Land Services Administrator to submit the following documents to the WDNR for financial assistance that may be available: sign and submit a grant application, enter into a grant agreement with the WDNR, submit quarterly and/or final reports to the WDNR to satisfy the grant agreement as appropriate, submit reimbursement request(s) to the WDNR no later than the date specified in the grant agreement, and sign and submit necessary supporting documentation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Land Services Administrator shall sign the grant application and any grant contracts as Lincoln County's designated agent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the LSD will comply with all local, state, and federal regulations and ordinances relating to this project and grant agreement.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Marty Lemke

Co-Sponsored by: William Bialecki, Andrew Zelinski, Randy Detert, Greg Hartwig, Dean Lemke (Conservation Rep.)
Committee: Land Services **Committee Vote:** 6-0
Date Passed: September 11, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** + \$16,224.09
Drafted by: Thomas Boisvert, Conservation Program Manager

M/S Dunphy/Dorava to approve Res 2025-10-57. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

i. Res 2025-10-58 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) Grant

WHEREAS, Lincoln County has over 720 lakes, over 650 miles of rivers and streams, and contains one of the highest concentrations of natural lakes in the world; and

WHEREAS, the quality of these waters are being threatened by aquatic invasive species; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County recognizes the importance of the quality of our waters to its citizens and local economies; and

WHEREAS, education is one of the keys to increasing public awareness as to the adverse impacts of aquatic invasive species on the quality of our waters and our local economies; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County recognizes the need for a workable plan that will prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species already present in some bodies of water; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Land Services Department (LSD) will continue to increase public awareness of the aquatic invasive species problem by implementing planning and prevention activities to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species; and

WHEREAS, 75% of the cost of such planning and prevention activities may be paid by a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR); and **WHEREAS**, the LSD must apply to the WDNR for the purpose of a "Clean Boats, Clean Waters" grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the LSD will meet the financial obligations necessary to fully and satisfactorily complete the project and hereby authorizes and empowers the Land Services Administrator to submit the following documents to the WDNR for financial assistance that may be available: sign and submit a grant application, enter into a grant agreement with the WDNR, submit quarterly and/or final reports to the WDNR to satisfy the grant agreement as appropriate, submit reimbursement request(s) to the WDNR no later than the date specified in the grant agreement, and sign and submit necessary supporting documentation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Land Services Administrator shall sign the grant application and any grant contracts as Lincoln County's designated agent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the LSD will comply with all local, state, and federal regulations and ordinances relating to this project and grant agreement

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Marty Lemke **Co-Sponsored by:** William Bialecki, Andrew Zelinski, Randy Detert, Greg Hartwig, Dean Lemke (Conservation Rep.) **Committee:** Land Services

Committee Vote: 6-0 **Date Passed:** September 11, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** + \$12,000

Drafted by: Thomas Boisvert, Conservation Program Manager

M/S Hartwig/Dorava to approve Res 2025-10-58. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

j. Res 2025-10-59 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) Grant Donation

WHEREAS, Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) is an aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention program through which volunteer or paid staff conduct watercraft inspections and educate boaters on how to prevent the spread of AIS at boat landings; and

WHEREAS, CBCW grants through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) provide funding to eligible sponsors to help with the cost of administering a CBCW program that helps prevent the introduction of AIS in Wisconsin's surface waters or limits the spread of AIS that may already be present; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County currently provides some CBCW services through a Lake Monitoring and Protection Network (LMPN) grant with the WDNR, however, many lake organizations would like additional CBCW coverage in Lincoln County; and

WHEREAS, the Nokomis Lake District has committed to donating \$2,000 to Lincoln County to expand CBCW services; and

WHEREAS, the Friends of Lake Mohawksin have committed to donating \$1,000 to Lincoln County to expand CBCW services; and

WHEREAS, the Spirit Reservoir Association has committed to donating \$1,000 to Lincoln County to expand CBCW services; and

WHEREAS, the combined \$4,000 will serve as the required matching funds on a CBCW grant application with the WDNR; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County intends to submit a CBCW grant application to the WDNR to cover Lake Nokomis, Lake Mohawksin, and Spirit Reservoir access points.

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors accepts the \$4,000 for funding the CBCW program, as the donations request.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Marty Lemke **Co-Sponsored by:** William Bialecki, Andrew Zelinski, Randy Detert, Greg Hartwig, Dean Lemke (Conservation Rep.) **Committee:** Land Services

Committee Vote: 6-0 **Date Passed:** September 11, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** + \$4,000

Drafted by: Thomas Boisvert, Conservation Program Manager

M/S DePasse/Miller to approve Res 2025-10-59. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

k. Res 2025-10-60 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Surface Water Planning Grant

WHEREAS, Lincoln County has abundant surface water resources including: 729 lakes that total 15,585 acres, 246 streams totaling 668 miles in length, 395 stream miles designated as trout waters; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County contains 35 watersheds that have been identified by the WDNR as within the top 30% healthiest watersheds in the State; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County recognizes the importance of the quality of our waters to its citizens and local economies; and

WHEREAS, one of the most important habitat improvements on many streams in the Northern Lakes and Forests Region is restoring stream connectivity; and

WHEREAS, culverts that are set incorrectly lead to velocity barriers, water depth issues, or ponding issues that impede aquatic organism passage; and

WHEREAS, the WDNR through the Surface Water Grant Program can offer 67% of the funding needed to complete culvert assessments on public roadways; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Land Services Department will utilize existing staff time and volunteered services to procure the 33% matching funds requirement; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Land Services Department will submit a WDNR Surface Water Planning Grant application that will begin Phase 2 of assessing public culvert crossings on our landscape, and most importantly, share the results with our Towns, Cities, and Highway Department.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the LSD will meet the financial obligations necessary to fully and satisfactorily complete the project and hereby authorizes and empowers the Land Services Administrator to submit the following documents to the WDNR for financial assistance that may be available: sign and submit a grant application, enter into a grant agreement with the WDNR, submit quarterly and/or final reports to the WDNR to satisfy the grant agreement as appropriate, submit reimbursement request(s) to the WDNR no later than the date specified in the grant agreement, and sign and submit necessary supporting documentation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the LSD will comply with all local, state, and federal regulations and ordinances relating to this project and grant agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if funding is not secured from the WDNR, the project will not occur.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Marty Lemke **Co-Sponsored by:** William Bialecki, Andrew Zelinski, Randy Detert, Greg Hartwig, Dean Lemke (Conservation Rep.) **Committee:** Land Services

Committee Vote: 6-0 **Date Passed:** September 11, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** + \$10,000

Drafted by: Thomas Boisvert, Conservation Program Manager

M/S McCrank/Thiel to approve Res 2025-10-60. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

l. Res 2025-10-61 Acceptance of Donation from Wisconsin River Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited

WHEREAS, Lincoln County is pursuing a Surface Water Planning Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to complete stream crossing assessments throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, the Surface Water Planning Grant requires a 33% matching funds requirement; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County will utilize existing staff time and outside donations to fulfill the grant match requirement with no additional burden on the tax levy; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin River Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is committed to providing a \$2,000 donation to assist Lincoln County in completing stream crossing assessments throughout the County.

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors accepts the \$2,000 for funding stream crossing assessments throughout the County, as the donation requests.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Marty Lemke **Co-Sponsored by:** William Bialecki, Andrew Zelinski, Donald Dunphy, Randy Detert, Julie DePasse, Greg Hartwig, Dean Lemke (Conservation Rep.)

Committee: Land Services **Committee Vote:** 8-0 **Date Passed:** October 9, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** + \$2,000

Drafted by: Thomas Boisvert, Conservation Program Manager

M/S DePasse/Cummings to approve Res 2025-10-61. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

m. Res 2025-10-62 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Surface Water Restoration Grants

WHEREAS, Lincoln County has abundant surface water resources including: 729 lakes that total 15,585 acres, 246 streams totaling 668 miles in length, 395 miles designated as trout waters; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County recognizes the importance of the quality of our waters to its citizens and local economies; and

WHEREAS, identifying, prioritizing, and implementing stream crossing projects are key to preserving and restoring Lincoln County's water resources while maintaining a robust and resilient roadway infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Highway Department and Forestry, Land, and Parks Department are both tasked with maintaining extensive roadway systems with abundant stream crossings; and

WHEREAS, one of the most important habitat improvements on many streams in the Northern Lakes and Forests Region is restoring stream connectivity; and

WHEREAS, these Departments improve stream crossing structures as needed, and are cognizant of the high costs associated with replacing these structures; and

WHEREAS, up to 75 percent of the cost to improve stream crossings may be paid by a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), up to a \$25,000 maximum grant award; and

WHEREAS, the Land Services Department is intending to assist both the Highway and Forestry, Land, and Parks Departments in applying for this grant opportunity, administer any grant funds received, and provide design and technical assistance as needed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Land Services Administrator to submit applications to the WDNR for stream crossing restoration projects, to sign documents and take the necessary action to undertake, direct, and complete any approved surface water restoration grants, and submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within six months of a projects completion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 25 percent grant match requirement will be met through the remaining construction costs associated with these stream crossing improvements, and incurred by the appropriate County Department associated with the project.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Marty Lemke **Co-Sponsored by:** William Bialecki, Andrew Zelinski, Donald Dunphy, Randy Detert, Julie DePasse, Greg Hartwig, Dean Lemke (Conservation Rep.)

Committee: Land Services **Committee Vote:** 8-0 **Date Passed:** October 9, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** Positive – Project Dependent **Drafted by:** Thomas Boisvert, Conservation Program Manager

M/S DePasse/Zelinski to approve Res 2025-10-62. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

n. Res 2025-10-63 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Healthy Lakes & Rivers Grant

WHEREAS, Lincoln County has abundant surface water resources including: 729 lakes that total 15,585 acres, 246 streams totaling 668 miles in length, 395 miles designated as trout waters; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County recognizes the importance of the quality of our waters to its citizens and local economies; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County recognizes the need for a workable plan that will protect and enhance surface water quality; and

WHEREAS, the Land Services Department is tasked with implementing activities within the Lincoln County Land and Water Resource Management Plan (LWRMP); and

WHEREAS, priority Goal #2 of the Lincoln County LWRMP is to protect and improve both groundwater and surface water quality; and

WHEREAS, the LWRMP states that Lincoln County can work towards completing Goal #2 by: promoting best management practices to restore and maintain riparian habitat, promoting shoreland stewardship, reducing phosphorus from septic systems, reducing phosphorus pollution from lawns, and controlling soil erosion; and

WHEREAS, funds available from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' (WDNR) Healthy Lakes & Rivers grant program would allocate monies for Lincoln County to manage in the form of grant reimbursements for riparian landowner's costs of implementing runoff, erosion, and habitat practices; and

WHEREAS, the Land Services Department must apply for a grant through the WDNR's Healthy Lakes & Rivers grant program to receive funding.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Land Services Administrator to submit an application for a WDNR grant not to exceed \$1,000 in grant funds per individual Healthy Lakes & Rivers project, to sign documents and take the necessary action to undertake, direct, and complete the approved Healthy Lakes & Rivers grant, and submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within six months of project date completion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if funding is not secured from the WDNR, the project(s) will not occur.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Marty Lemke **Co-Sponsored by:** William Bialecki, Andrew Zelinski, Randy Detert, Greg Hartwig, Dean Lemke (Conservation Rep.) **Committee:** Land Services **Committee Vote:** 6-0

Date Passed: September 11, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** Positive – Project Dependent **Drafted by:** Thomas Boisvert, Conservation Program Manager

M/S Miller/Lemke to approve Res 2025-10-63. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

o. Res 2025-10-64 Approve the 2026 Lincoln County Forest Annual Work Plan

WHEREAS, Lincoln County has lands enrolled in the Wisconsin County Forest Land Program commonly referred to as the Lincoln County Forest; and

WHEREAS, Wis. State Statute 28.11(5) (b) and Wisconsin Administrative Code 47.70 (4) (f) requires an annual work plan to be approved by the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors to be eligible for the County Forest Administration Grant; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee reviewed and approved the 2026 County Forest Annual Work Plan to supplement the Fifteen-Year Lincoln County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan as a way to help prioritize projects and emphasis the current needs of the County Forest and Recreational System.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors does hereby ordain and resolve to approve and adopt the 2026 Lincoln County Forest Annual Work Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2026 Lincoln County Forest Annual Work Plan will be included as an amendment to the Fifteen-Year Lincoln County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the approved Annual Work Plan be forwarded to the Department of Natural Resources for their acceptance

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Kenneth Wickham (District 18 Supervisor)

Co-Sponsored by: Andrew Zelinski (District 5 Supervisor) **Committee:** Forestry, Land and Parks Committee

Committee Vote: All Ayes **Date Passed:** October 13, 2025

Fiscal Impact: Loss of approximately \$60,000.00 of State grant funds if not approved.

Drafted by: Dean Bowe, Forest administrator

M/S Ashbeck/Cummings to approve Res 2025-10-64. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

p. Res 2025-10-65 Lincoln County Support for the Forestry Revitalization Act

WHEREAS, Senator Mary Felzkowski and Representative Chanz Green are introducing bill language which would create the Forestry Revitalization Act, authorizing incentives for aviation biofuel manufacturing, which has a skyrocketing demand in Europe; and

WHEREAS, this legislation provides incentives for the construction of an approximate \$1.5 billion sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) plant in Hayward, Wisconsin by enumerating \$60 million as a WEDC Enterprise Zone Tax Credit and \$150 million of state bonding repaid through the Forestry Segregated Account; and

WHEREAS, the mill facility is intended to be fueled by forest products, which will likely increase demand for sustainably grown products from the County Forest system and many other suppliers, while creating an estimated 150 additional jobs in the region.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors hereby support the legislation supporting the development and construction of a sustainable aviation fuel plan at Hayward; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of Wisconsin, the members of the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly representing Lincoln County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and other stakeholders supportive of revitalizing Wisconsin's forestry industry.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** William Bialecki (District 1 Supervisor) **Co-Sponsored by:** Kenneth Wickham (District 18 Supervisor) and Andrew Zelinski (District 5 Supervisor)

Committee: Forestry, Land and Parks Committee

Committee Vote: All Ayes **Date Passed:** October 13, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** None

Drafted by: Dean Bowe, Forest Administrator

M/S Hartwig/Bialecki to approve Res 2025-10-65. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

q. Resolution Accepting ~~\$33,511.30~~ \$32,091.00 Routine Immunization through Community Engagement (RICE) Grant

WHEREAS, Communicable disease and control is a Foundational Public Health Service for a local public health department required by Wisconsin Statute Chapter 252; and

WHEREAS, vaccinations are a key tool in preventing and mitigating the spread of diseases within a community; and

WHEREAS, in Wisconsin and Lincoln County, there are many barriers to accessing vaccines, including insurance status, medical access, health literacy, and income; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin Department of Health recognizes that community-based organizations are best positioned to address barriers to receiving vaccines; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Health Department's grant application focuses on the following strategies: partnering with community agencies and worksites to promote and offer adult vaccinations while addressing barriers, and conducting a public health outreach campaign to provide awareness and education on vaccines, including recommendations for travel vaccines

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors approves the acceptance of ~~\$33,511.30~~ \$32,091.00 from the Wisconsin Department of Health's *Routine Immunization through Community Engagement (RICE) Grant*, for the grant period of **August 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026**.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Laurie Thiel (District 8 Supervisor) **Co-Sponsored by:** Christine Vorpagel (District 9 Supervisor) **Committee:** Board of Health **Committee Vote:** Carried by a Voice Vote

Date Passed: October 16, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** + \$32,091 No Additional Costs

Drafted by: Shelley Cohrs

M/S Miller/Dunphy to approve Res 2025-10-66. **M/S** Cummings/McCrank to amend Res 2025-10-66 to reflect the true amount of \$32,091.00. The motion to amend carried by a voice vote. Motion to approve as amended carried by a voice vote.

r. Res 2025-10-67 Resolution Requesting the State of Wisconsin to Provide Funding to Counties for Income Maintenance Administration Due to Federal Funding Cuts

WHEREAS, the federal budget reconciliation package enacted in July of 2025, makes changes to the SNAP (FoodShare) program that would reduce federal costs and significantly impact county-administered services; and

WHEREAS, these changes extend SNAP work requirements to individuals up to age 64, lower the child age threshold for parent exemptions, and eliminate waivers for areas with high unemployment, thereby increasing referrals to the FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET) program and workload for county human service departments; and

WHEREAS, the legislation requires states to contribute a minimum of 5% toward the cost of SNAP benefits if their error rate is 6% or higher, facing penalty funding of between 5% and 15% of total SNAP costs; and;

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's current SNAP payment error rate is 4.47%, but without additional investment in eligibility and administrative systems, heightened workloads could push the state above the 6% threshold, triggering significant penalties; and

WHEREAS, if Wisconsin's error rate reaches 6% on or after October 1, 2027, the state's 5% cost share would be approximately \$69 million annually, with potential penalty payments increasing the state's financial burden—costs that could ultimately cascade down to counties; and

WHEREAS, the SNAP administrative match rate for Income Maintenance (IM) activities has been reduced from the previous 50% federal / 50% state-local to 25% federal / 75% state-local, substantially reducing federal revenue available to counties to administer SNAP; and

WHEREAS, the reduction in administrative funds could lead to a reduction in IM staff, which could result in an increased payment error rate; and

WHEREAS, county IM administrative costs are approximately \$123 million annually, with SNAP-related workload accounting for about \$49 million of those costs; and

WHEREAS the new administrative match rate results in an estimated \$17 million annual loss in SNAP administrative funding to counties; and

WHEREAS, these federal cuts result from shifting the benefit and administrative costs to states and counties (reducing resources available for local administration), tightening work requirements (increasing county workload), and penalizing minor payment errors (resulting in more cost to the states); and

WHEREAS, in Lincoln County there are approximately 3,050 FoodShare recipients receiving an average of \$423,000.00 per month in FoodShare benefits; and

WHEREAS, the loss in federal funding for FoodShare administration is estimated to cost, at a minimum, \$56,000.00 per year in Lincoln County levy; and

WHEREAS, counties operate under state-imposed property tax levy limits, restricting their ability to offset such funding losses without additional state or federal relief;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors urges the State of Wisconsin to provide funding to offset the county fiscal impact caused by the enacted federal SNAP changes, and to work with counties to ensure adequate resources for the administration of FoodShare and related programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, Wisconsin State Legislators with a constituency within Lincoln County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and the Wisconsin County Human Service Association

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Don Dunphy (District 7 Supervisor) **Co-Sponsored by:** Dana Miller (District 16 Supervisor) **Committee:** Social Services Committee **Committee Vote:** 5-0

Date Passed: October 13, 2025 **Fiscal Impact:** It is anticipated that an estimated minimum amount of \$56,000.00 in Lincoln County levy dollars will be needed if the State of Wisconsin does not provide additional funding for FoodShare Administration expenses.Costs

Drafted by: Jessi Rumsey, Social Services Director

M/S Miller/Thiel to approve Res 2025-10-67. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

13. Ordinances

a. Ord 2025-10-784 Da & Da LLC (David Prokop) – Rezone

An Ordinance Amending the General Code of the County of Lincoln – Chapter 17, 17.2.03, Zoning Ordinance as a Result of a Rezoning Petition by Da & Da Llc (David Prokop) for Property in the Town Of Bradley.

WHEREAS, The County Board of Supervisors of Lincoln County, Wisconsin, does hereby ordain:

Chapter 17.2.03, Lincoln County Code, is amended to rezone tax parcel PIN#: 004-3406-141-9945 from Planned Business (PB) to Crossroads Mixed Use (CMU). The property is located in Section 14, T34N-R6E, in the Town of Bradley.

Any areas designated as Wetlands on the Wisconsin Wetland Inventory Map will not be rezoned to upland.

This ordinance shall take effect following its passage and posting.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Marty Lemke **Co-Sponsored by:** William Bialecki
Committee: Land Services Committee **Committee Vote:** 5-0 **Date Passed:** 9/11/25

Fiscal Impact: None **Drafted by:** Mike Huth (Land Service Administrator- Zoning Program Manager)

M/S DePasse/Bialecki to approve Ordinance 2025-10-748. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

b. Ord 2025-10-785 Ch 18 Subdivision and Platting

An Ordinance Amending the General Code of The County of Lincoln Chapter 18, Lincoln County Subdivision and Platting Ordinance.

WHEREAS, The County Board of Supervisors of Lincoln County, Wisconsin, does hereby ordain:

Chapter 18, Lincoln County Subdivision and Platting Ordinance, specifically; **18.3.02** (Certified Survey Map (CSM) Submittal Requirements) is amended as indicated in the attachment.

18.3.02 - CERTIFIED SURVEY MAP (CSM) SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

The final CSM shall be prepared by a registered land surveyor and shall comply with all provisions, design standards, and required improvements of §236.34, Wis. Stats., and of this chapter. The subdivider shall furnish the required application, review fee, and the following information on or with the CSM:

(1) ~~Where new private on-site waste treatment systems will be installed within the CSM area, the subdivider shall submit the results of at least one soil boring and morphological soil evaluation for every proposed lot that will contain such a new system. The appropriate County approval authority may require that more borings and evaluations be conducted to identify suitable soil areas if the initial borings and evaluation fail to do so.~~ Reserved.

(2) A scaled drawing of the exterior boundaries of the proposed subdivision referenced to a corner established by the U.S. Public Land Survey System (PLSS), the bearing and distance from such a corner to the subdivision, and a section subdivision showing all PLSS corners used to establish all exterior boundary lines.

(3) All remainder parcels of less than 10 acres in lot area shall be included as a surveyed lot within the CSM.

(4) The certificate of approval shall be placed on the CSM.

(5) If the CSM contains private roads serving more than 2 lots, the following note shall be added to the CSM: "Notice of Possible Limitation of Public Services: This CSM contains private road(s), and as a result, certain public services may be limited. The extent of these limitations may be spelled out in restrictive covenants or in a document called a Development Agreement recorded with the Register of Deeds for Lincoln County."

(6) An erosion control plan and/or stormwater management plan, if required under Section 17.5.08 of the Zoning Ordinance.

This ordinance shall take effect following its passage and posting.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Marty Lemke **Co-Sponsored by:** William Bialecki, Greg Hartwig, Randy Detert, Andrew Zelinski **Committee:** Land Services Committee **Committee Vote:** 5-0 **Date**

Passed: 9/11/25

Fiscal Impact: None **Drafted by:** Mike Huth (Land Service Administrator- Zoning Program Manager)

M/S DePasse/Dorava to approve Ord 2025-10-785. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

c. Ord 2025-10-786 Ch 12, 17, 18, 21, 22 General Cleanup

An Ordinance Amending Portions of the General Code of the County of Lincoln – Chapters 12, 17, 18, 21, 22.

WHEREAS, The County Board of Supervisors of Lincoln County, Wisconsin, does hereby ordain:

Portions of Lincoln County Ordinance are proposed to be amended (**general cleanup, no regulation changes**) specifically: **Chapter 12.04** – Non-Metallic Mining, **Chapter 17** - Zoning, **Chapter 18** - Subdivision and Platting, **Chapter 21** – Shoreland Zoning, **Chapter 22** – Private Sewage Systems as indicated in the attachment.

This ordinance shall take effect following its passage and posting.

Dated: October 21, 2025 **Authored by:** Marty Lemke **Co-Sponsored by:** William Bialecki, Greg Hartwig, Randy Detert, Andrew Zelinski **Committee:** Land Services Committee **Committee Vote:** 5-0 **Date Passed:** 9/11/25

Fiscal Impact: None **Drafted by:** Mike Huth (Land Service Administrator- Zoning Program Manager)

M/S Cummings/DePasse to approve Ord 2025-10-786. Motion to approve carried by a voice vote.

15. Approval for Mileage and Per Diem for Board Meeting

16. Next County Board Meeting Date:

- ## 17. Adjourn

Christopher J Marlowe, County Clerk