

# LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 – 6:00PM

## MEETING MINUTES

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1. **Call to Order** – Chair Friske called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call** - Clerk Marlowe called the roll with the following members in attendance: Bialecki, Doerr, McCrank (V), Pergolski, Ashbeck, Dunphy, Thiel, Friske, Boyd, Detert, DePasse, Bishop, Lyskawa, Lemke, Miller, Nelson, Tomaszewski, Dorava, Cummings (V), Simon, and Hartwig **(21)**. Excused: Zelinski **(1)**
4. **Announcements**
  - a. **Wisconsin Counties Association Annual Conference September 20–22, 2026**  
Chair Friske described the WCA conference for our new members and listed the benefits of attending. Board members are encouraged to attend and can register by contacting the county clerk.
5. **Appointments**
  - a. **Re-appointment of Curtis Powell to Board of Adjustment (Term expires 6/30/2029)**  
M/S Bialecki/Bishop to approve the re-appointment. The motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.
  - b. **Appointment of Elizabeth McCrank to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (Indefinite Term)**  
M/S Simon/Dunphy to approve the appointment. With McCrank abstaining from the vote, the motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.
  - c. **Appointment of Bill Bialecki to the Advance Wisconsin Employment Board (Term: May 19,2026-April 18, 2028)**  
M/S Dunphy/Bishop to approve the appointment. With Bialecki abstaining from the vote, the motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.
6. **Awards - None**
7. **Recognitions**
  - a. **25 Year Service:** Amber Gorell, Sherriff's Office. Chair Friske commended Amber for her years of service.
  - b. **Retirement:** Colleen Chartier – 30 Years. Friske commended Colleen for her many years of service and welcomed her to retirement.
8. **Approval of the Minutes**
  - a. **April 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes**  
M/S DePasse/Dorava to approve the April 21, 2026 Minutes as written. 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: Finance Director, Heather Marheine**
    - 1) **How to Read the Budget Reports — Tutorial for Incoming Board Members**  
For the benefit of our new members and at the request of Chair Friske, Marheine drafted and explained a tutorial on reading the year to date (YTD) budgets. Marheine then fielded questions from the floor.

## 2) Lincoln County Year to Date Budget — April 2026

Marheine summarized the YTD budget reporting no major concerns at this time. She then fielded questions from the floor. Supervisor McCrank asked, specifying that only if it is the will of the full board, that Director Marheine include the YTD Revenue reports in her monthly report.

### b. Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation: 2026 Summit Recap and Recent Activity. Sara Guild, LCEDC Director

Sara Guild, Executive Director of the Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation (LCEDC), presented a report focusing on the organization's current activity and collaborative efforts within the county. Key points from her report included: An EDC organizational overview, her new office location, strategic planning, key initiatives, business support, broadband, 2026 Economic Summit, and lastly the EDC's county collaboration.

11. **Public Comment** – None.

## 12. Resolutions

### a. Res 2026-05-20 Accepting a Donation from the American Legion Riders of Wisconsin, Post 11

**WHEREAS**, the Lincoln County Veterans Service Office plays a critical role in advocating for individual veterans and serves as the primary point of contact within the community for essential veteran services; and,  
**WHEREAS**, the Lincoln County Veterans Service Office facilitates community engagement and recognition programs to honor the service and sacrifice of local veterans; and,  
**WHEREAS**, the American Legion Riders of Wisconsin, Post 11, has generously offered a donation of **\$400.00** to support the annual partnered **Veterans Day dinners**; and,  
**WHEREAS**, these funds will be distributed as two separate monetary contributions to assist in covering the costs of food and supplies necessary to host these commemorative events for our veterans.  
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors officially accepts the **\$400.00 donation** from the American Legion Riders of Wisconsin, Post 11; and,  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board extends its sincere appreciation to the American Legion Riders for their partnership and directs that these funds be utilized to provide the food and supplies required to host the Veterans Day dinners

M/S Boyd/DePasse to approve Resolution 2026-05-20. The motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.

### b. Res 2026-05-21 Approving the Cash Rounding of \$.01 to \$.04 and \$.06 to \$.09 in Cash Only Transactions

**WHEREAS**, The United States Treasury Department has discontinued the penny production resulting in unavailability of pennies for making exact change; and  
**WHEREAS**, The State of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) provided Cash Transaction Rounding Guidance suggesting that businesses round down to minimize consumer harm and ensure fairness and consistency and the State of Wisconsin Department of Revenue provided guidance as provided in Wis. Stats. §77.61(3m) and Wis. Adm. Code §Tax 11.32(5) that rounding should occur after the sales tax is calculated; and  
**WHEREAS**, effective immediately all Lincoln County Departments shall implement cash rounding procedure for ONLY cash transactions when a cash payment is made and the total amount due (including taxes and fees) results in a balance that cannot be paid exactly due to the absence of pennies, the amount shall be rounded down to the nearest \$.05; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Rounding Procedure is:

- If the total cash amount due ends in \$.01, \$.02, \$.03, \$.04, round down to \$.00
- If the total cash amount due ends in \$.06, \$.07, \$.08, \$.09, round down to \$.05.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, Lincoln County Board of Supervisors approve the cash rounding in CASH ONLY transactions effective immediately.  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Each Lincoln County Department shall post a clear and visible notice at all points of cash payment informing customers of this rounding policy.

M/S Boyd/Nelson to approve Resolution 2026-05-21. The motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.

**c. Res 2026-05-22 Accepting \$2,965 Wisconsin Department of Health Services-Division of Public Health ARPA Funding**

**WHEREAS**, the Lincoln County Health Department (LCHD) is required by state and federal law to complete regular Community Health Assessments and corresponding Community Health Improvement Plans to identify and address key health priorities within Lincoln County; and

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin Statutes Chapters 250 and 251, and Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter DHS 140.04, require local health departments to complete a Community Health Assessment and Plan every five years; and

**WHEREAS**, recent data highlights the magnitude of nutrition-related health challenges in Lincoln County. According to County Health Rankings, in 2021, 37% of adults in Lincoln County had body mass index (BMI) of 30 or higher, compared to 39% in 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2022, approximately 11% of county residents lacked reliable access to food, compared to 9% in 2019, and food assistance programs remain high, with 1,702 Lincoln County households receiving \$421,484 in monthly Food Share benefits as of September 2025, demonstrating the continued impact of food insecurity on our community healthy; and

**WHEREAS**, providing practical nutrition education is an important strategy to address these challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, the following donation has been requested to offset the costs to implement two strategies to educate low-income residents of Lincoln County on how to prepare and preserve affordable, nutritious foods, with the goal of improving healthy eating habits and reduce the risk of chronic disease.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors accept the \$2,965 from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health on behalf of the Lincoln County Health Department who is responsible to implement these projects.

M/S Ashbeck/Dorava to approve Resolution 2026-05-22. The motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.

**d. Res 2026-05-23 A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of an Application to the American Trails 2026 Trail Fund for the Trout Capital Trail Project**

**WHEREAS**, the Trout Capital Trail is a newly established recreational trail located in Lincoln County, Wisconsin, beginning near Prairie Dells Road and extending approximately 0.5 miles to connect to the newly constructed bridge across the Prairie River and the trail system on the opposite side of the river; and

**WHEREAS**, the current trail surface is soft and frequently muddy, limiting usability and requiring improvements to provide a stable and sustainable trail surface; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Trails 2026 Trail Fund provides financial assistance for trail maintenance and stewardship projects, with a focus on improving trail connectivity, addressing maintenance needs, and supporting local trail systems; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Lincoln County Forestry Department to submit a grant application to the American Trails 2026 Trail Fund for the Trout Capital Trail Project; and.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Lincoln County will not contribute matching funds for this project, but will instead provide in-kind support by completing the work using Forestry Department staff, equipment, and resources; and.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Lincoln County Forest Administrator is authorized to act on behalf of Lincoln County in all matters related to the application, acceptance, and administration of the grant.

M/S Boys/Ashbeck to approve Resolution 2026-05-23. The motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.

**e. Res 2026-05-24 Authorizing a Land Exchange Between Lincoln County and Loka and Sons Excavating LLC**

**WHEREAS**, Lincoln County manages the Lincoln County Forest under Wisconsin Statutes §28.11 and in accordance with the Lincoln County Forest 15-Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan 2021-2035; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 400 of the Plan supports acquiring or trading lands within the County Forest blocking boundary to reduce private inholdings and improve long-term management efficiency ; and

**WHEREAS**, the parcel owned by Loka and Sons Excavating LLC is entirely surrounded by County Forest, creating an inholding appropriate for voluntary acquisition or exchange; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed exchange would eliminate this inholding, simplify the County Forest boundary, and enhance long-term management efficiency; and

**WHEREAS**, Lincoln County has identified county-owned lands of comparable value that are less suitable for long-term County Forest purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, the public currently holds an access easement to Crane Foot Lake across the Lincoln County parcel to be conveyed, and Lincoln County intends to maintain this public access by reserving the existing easement or establishing an equivalent easement across the exchanged lands; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed exchange consists of the following: Lincoln County to convey PIN 02634072649995, with the legal description shown in Exhibit A. Loka and Sons Excavating LLC to convey PIN 02634071319999, with the legal description shown in Exhibit B; and

**WHEREAS**, an appraisal determined that the 38.8-acre Lincoln County parcel had a higher value than the parcel offered by Loka and Sons Excavating LLC, and Loka and Sons Excavating LLC has agreed to pay the difference to equalize the exchange, resulting in no negative fiscal impact to Lincoln County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee has reviewed the proposal and recommends approval, with the exchange being contingent upon title verification and execution of an easement to maintain public access to Crane Foot Lake.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors approves the proposed land exchange between Lincoln County and Loka and Sons Excavating LLC, contingent upon title verification, and further contingent upon execution of an easement over the parcel to be conveyed to Loka and Sons Excavating LLC in order to maintain public access to Crane Foot Lake;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon verification of good and clean title and execution of an easement to maintain public access to Crane Foot Lake, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors hereby directs the County Clerk, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §59.52(6)(c), to convey PIN 02634072649995 to Loka and Sons Excavating LLC, to coincide with the execution of a deed by Loka and Sons Excavating LLC to Lincoln County for PIN 02634071319999.

**M/S Nelson/Dorava** to approve Resolution 2026-05-24. The motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.

**f. Res 2026-05-25 Proclaiming May as Foster Care Month in Lincoln County, Wisconsin**

**WHEREAS**, May is National Foster Care Month and this year's theme is "Engaging Youth. Building Supports. Strengthening Opportunities"; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Evers has declared May as Foster Care Month throughout State of Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS**, "to foster" means to encourage, promote, or nurture the development or growth of something; and

**WHEREAS**, the healthy growth and development of our youth, who will be the future of our community, is critical to the future of Lincoln County; and

**WHEREAS**, foster parents, kinship caregivers, community partners, mentors, advocates and child welfare staff work together to provide safety, stability, and nurturing environments that youth need to succeed in life; and

**WHEREAS**, foster parents, kinship caregivers, community partners, mentors, advocates and child welfare staff collaborate to provide critical support to children whose families are in need and play a vital role in helping these families heal, build protective capacities and to support reunification of parents and children; and

**WHEREAS**, Lincoln County currently has 67 children in out of home placements; and

**WHEREAS**, youth that are not able to be safely managed in the home, at times, must be placed at homes or centers located several miles from Lincoln County due to limited capacity within current foster homes or the high-acuity needs of some of our youth, placing significant strain on our resources to serve these youth and making it more difficult to maintain youth connection to their community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lincoln County Department of Social Services is always seeking individuals interested in becoming licensed foster parents, or supporting foster parents, to make a difference in the life of a child; and

**WHEREAS**, the efforts and contributions from foster parents, kinship caregivers, community partners, mentors, advocates and child welfare staff are immeasurable and irreplaceable and deserve our recognition, gratitude, thanks, and respect on a daily basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the children of Lincoln County rely on the active involvement of the entire community, as everyone plays an important role in creating safe, healthy environments where children can grow and thrive; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims May 2026 as Foster Care Month in Lincoln County, Wisconsin; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board expresses its gratitude and thanks to the foster parents, kinship caregivers, community partners, mentors, advocates, and child welfare staff and anyone else involved in the support of Lincoln County youth and families, who all work together to protect children and foster the healthy growth and development of youth and provide support to families throughout Lincoln County.

**M/S Bialecki/Bishop** to approve Resolution 2026-05-25. The motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.

**g. Res 2026-05-26 Approval of the Union Contract for the Sheriff's Office Deputies for 2026-2028**

**WHEREAS**, the Administrative & Legislative Committee has reviewed the 2026-2028 Tentative Agreement between Lincoln County and the Sheriff's Office Deputies Union being represented by Wisconsin Professional Police Association (WPPA) and recommends that the County Board approve the settlement of the contract on the terms reflected in the attachments to this resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors approves the 2026-2028 Tentative Agreement between Lincoln County and the Sheriff's Office Deputies Union (WPPA) and authorizes the necessary County officials to sign contracts consistent with the tentative agreements.

**Fiscal Impact:** 2026: \$80,041.52, 2027: \$28,909.45, 2028: \$51,603.40

**M/S Boyd/Hartwig** to approve Resolution 2026-05-26. The motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.

**h. Res 2026-05-27 Approval of the Union Contract for the Sheriff's Office Supervisors for 2026-2028**

**WHEREAS**, the Administrative & Legislative Committee has reviewed the 2026-2028 Tentative Agreement between Lincoln County and the Sheriff's Office Supervisors Union being represented by Wisconsin Professional Police Association (WPPA) and recommends that the County Board approve the settlement of the contract on the terms reflected in the attachments to this resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors approves the 2026-2028 Tentative Agreement between Lincoln County and the Sheriff's Office Supervisors Union (WPPA) and authorizes the necessary County officials to sign contracts consistent with the tentative agreements.

**Fiscal Impact:** 2026: \$26,348.79, 2027: \$10,716.93 , 2028: \$17,259.13

**M/S Bialecki/Dorava** to approve Resolution 2026-05-27. The motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.

**i. Res 2026-05-28 Resolution Approving Funding a Social Worker for the Tomahawk School District Using Opioid Settlement Funds**

**WHEREAS**, the Lincoln County Opioid Settlement Task Force was created to make a plan for the use of the Opioid Settlement dollars that will support the Lincoln County residents to combat the current opioid epidemic; and

**WHEREAS**, prevention efforts continue to be a top priority for the Lincoln County Opioid Settlement Task Force; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lincoln County Opioid Settlement Task Force has received a proposal from the Tomahawk School District for funding to assist in the cost of a school social worker for 4 consecutive school years beginning with the 2026/2027 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tomahawk School District will pay \$46,750 per year for four years and the Lincoln County Opioid Settlement Task Force will pay \$38,500 per year for four years; and

**WHEREAS**, when a school social worker is in place, the school transitions from a reactive environment to a proactive one where the professional doesn't just treat symptoms, they support the family unit, reducing the long-term strain on county emergency services, law enforcement and child protective services; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposal meets Exhibit E: List of Opioid Remediation Uses, Schedule B Part II, Section G, Item 12 "support greater access to mental health services and supports for young people, including services and supports provided by school nurses, behavioral health workers or other school staff, to address mental health needs in young people that (when not properly addressed) increase the risk of opioid or another drug of misuse"; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposal also meets Exhibit E: List of Opioid Remediation Uses, Schedule B Part I, Section C Item 12 “create or support school-based contacts that parents can engage with to seek immediate treatment services for their child; and support prevention, intervention, treatment and recover programs focused on young people; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors approves the use of \$154,000 (\$38,000/year for four consecutive years) in Opioid Settlement

**M/S** Simon/Dunphy to approve Resolution 2026-05-28. **M/S** Lemke/Dorava to amend the resolution by reducing the funding to two years and to re-evaluate the funding at the conclusion of those two years. The motion to amend failed by a voice vote. Simon then motioned to lay over the resolution for one month but the motion failed to receive a second. The original motion to approve was then voted on and carried by a voice vote.

**j. Res 2026-05-29 Resolution Allocating Settlement Funds for Grant Writer Costs**

**WHEREAS**, the Lincoln County Opioid Settlement Task Force was created to make a plan for the use of the Opioid Settlement dollars that will support the Lincoln County residents to combat the current opioid epidemic; and **WHEREAS**, highly competitive grants exists to fund strategies such as prevention and treatment court; and **WHEREAS**, the Lincoln County Opioid Settlement Task Force lacks the subject matter expertise and grant writing abilities for these grants; and **WHEREAS**, the investment in a grant writer increases likelihood of receiving these competitive grants, including, but not limited to the Drug Free Communities Grant and grants to support sustainability of the jail medication-assisted treatment program, and a family treatment court; and **WHEREAS**, the proposal meets Exhibit E: List of Opioid Remediation Uses, Schedule B Part II, Section J, “support efforts to provide leadership, planning, coordination, facilitations, training and technical assistance to abate the opioid epidemic through activities, programs, or strategies”;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors approves the use of \$10,000 in Opioid Settlement funds to hire grant writers to assist with highly competitive grant applications.

**M/S** Bialecki/Dunphy to approve Resolution 2026-05-29. The motion to approve was carried by a voice vote.

**13. Ordinances**

**a. Ord 2026-05-805 An Ordinance Amending Portions of the General Code of the County of Lincoln – Chapter 18 Subdivision and Platting**

The County Board of Supervisors of the County of Lincoln, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

Portions of Lincoln County Ordinance are proposed to be amended (general cleanup, no regulation changes) specifically: Chapter 18 - Subdivision and Platting as indicated in the attachment.

18.2.02 PRELIMINARY PLAT  
(1)(g) (continued)

Services Committee shall list reasons for said action. The time period within which Planning and Zoning the Land Services Committee action is required shall not commence until the County has received a complete submittal consisting of all maps, plans, drawings, and related data necessary for review of the latest version of the preliminary plat. Failure of the Planning and Zoning Land Services Committee to act within 90 days of such submittal shall be interpreted as approval of the preliminary plat, except where the 90-day period has been extended by written agreement with the subdivider. (Am. #2006-11-490)

18.2.03 FINAL PLAT  
(1)(a)

Application: Following the Planning and Zoning Land Services Committee approval of the preliminary plat, the subdivider may file a written application for approval of a final plat with the Zoning Administrator, along with 3 copies of the proposed final plat. The submittal shall include all data required by this section, the required review fee as provided through the fee schedule approved annually by the Planning and Zoning Land Services Committee. In the event that the application is incomplete compared to the requirements of this section, the Zoning Administrator shall so notify the subdivider within 10 days of the submittal of the application.

18.2.03 FINAL PLAT  
(1)(d)

Town Recommendation: The town within which a proposed subdivision is located may offer a recommendation to the Planning and Zoning Land Services Committee on whether to approve the final plat as presented, approve it with conditions, or reject it. Such town recommendation shall be a result of a formal action of the town board. The Committee will not take action on the request until it receives a recommendation from the affected town board, or the town board indicates that it will not provide a recommendation, or the required County review period will otherwise expire. In the event the County review period will otherwise expire, the Committee may condition its approval on a town recommendation and/or approval.

18.2.03 FINAL PLAT  
(1)(f)