RESOLUTION NO. 40-12-19
IN SUPPORT OF CLERK OF COURT AND REGISTER IN PROBATE OFFICES CHARGES FOR COURT COSTS, FEES AND SURCHARGES

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statutes and Chapters 814 cover court costs, fees and surcharges of which subsection 814.66 applies to the office of the Register in Probate. Probate and Juvenile Court handle other case types for which fees are not covered in Sec. 816.66 or other statues. The result is cases filed with the court without a filing fee; and

WHEREAS, some fees and costs collected by the probate office are different from fees collected by the Clerk of Court for the same items. This can cause confusion. Different fees and costs for an identical item seem inappropriate; and

WHEREAS, employees of the Clerk of Court and Register in Probate are all county employees, usually working in proximity to the court, if not in the same office using the same equipment. The employees use CCAP provided computers and printers as well as county provided copiers. There is no discernable difference in these two offices related to copying and issuing certificates; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature should revise the statutes for consistency. Require fees and costs charged by the Clerk of Court and Register in Probate to be the same for the same item or service. Require fees for probate and juvenile court as indicated below:

Probate Copy Fees to increase from $1.00 to $1.25 per page.

Probate Certification of Document fees increase from $3.00 to $5.00 per document; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee supports revising the statutes to collect fees and costs associated with probate cases and juvenile court proceedings as outlined herein.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Waushara County Board of Supervisors do hereby support the Wisconsin Register in Probation Association in its efforts to revise Wisconsin Statutes consistent with the resolution and further urges the Legislature to revise and amend the related statutes to further consistency between fee structures outlined in the statutes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Waushara County Clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and each Wisconsin County.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Waushara County. Minimal increase in fees collected.

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Ayes ___ Nays ___ Abstain ___ Absent ___ [X] Voice Vote

[✓] Approved and adopted this 17th day of December, 2019.

☐ Denied this 17th day of December, 2019.

Approved as to Form:

[Signature]

Ruth Zouski
Corporation Counsel

Attest:

[Signature]

Megan Kapp
Waushara County Clerk

Submitted by:

[Signature]

Donna R. Kalata, Chair
Executive Committee

Signed by:

[Signature]

Donna R. Kalata, Chair
Waushara County Board of Supervisors