WHEREAS, the Wisconsin child welfare system is county-operated and state-supervised, except Milwaukee County, where the system is administered by the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF), Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (DMCPS); and

WHEREAS, funding provided to counties through DCF for the provision of child abuse and neglect services including prevention, investigation, treatment, and out-of-home placement costs is insufficient; and

WHEREAS, the methamphetamine epidemic is a primary driver of increased Children Services staff caseloads and increased utilization of alternate care placements for children in St. Croix County; and

WHEREAS, proactive planning in 2018 through a County Board of Supervisors budget amendment added two Children Services staff in St. Croix County, which was funded primarily by local county tax levy estimated at $134,000 annually, compared with increases in the DCF Children and Families Allocation estimated at $51,000 annually; and

WHEREAS, counties required match to receive the DCF Children and Families Allocation is approximately 10%, which would equal $57,514 for St. Croix Counties while the actual match is approximately 3,701% or $2,150,000 in the 2019 budget; and

WHEREAS, budgeted expenses for all purchased services in the Children Services Division, which are primarily designated for alternate care placements, is approximately $1.1 million for 2018 and $1.46 million in 2019; and

WHEREAS, without proportional increases in the DCF Children and Family Allocation, cost increases for services will be covered primarily by local county tax levy; and

WHEREAS, the Children and Family Allocation distribution to counties is based upon 1982 total county census; and

WHEREAS, according to the July 1, 2017, United States Census Bureau, St. Croix County is the 17th most populous county at 88,703 and the 2019 Preliminary Children and Family Allocation is $575,147; and

WHEREAS, the average 2019 Preliminary Children and Family Allocations for 10 counties with populations ranked 18th to 27th based upon the July 1, 2017, United States Census Bureau is $965,107; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin’s CPS system leaves significant gaps in state-level oversight for all counties except Milwaukee County, including the absence of caseload standards, no process
for regular legislative evaluation and prioritization of CPS needs and the absence of a legislative
commitee that provides regular policy guidance concerning CPS system issues such as adequate
funding, performance, cost sharing and long-term stability; and

**WHEREAS,** along with DMCPS, all eleven of Wisconsin’s peer states with county-
administered CPS systems have either adopted caseload standards for CPS caseworkers,
completed thorough workload studies as a basis of determining funding needs, or otherwise have
made significant recommendations related to keeping CPS workloads manageable.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the St. Croix County Board of
Supervisors does hereby request that the State of Wisconsin increase the Children and Family
Services Allocation to counties in the 2019-21 state biennial budget by $30 million annually in
order to cover a greater share of out-of-home care costs and increase staffing levels based on the
caseload standards developed by the Wisconsin County Human Services Association (WCHSA)
so Wisconsin’s CPS system can meet its obligations.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors urges the
State of Wisconsin to close critical oversight gaps by creating legislative mechanisms to review
the CPS resource needs of all counties as part of the biennial budget process and ensure an
appropriate committee provide ongoing policy guidance to respond to emerging CPS trends and
ongoing system needs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors requests
that the distribution of the Children and Family Services Allocation be updated with input from
counties.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors directs
the County Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to the office of the Wisconsin Governor,
the office of Wisconsin Children and Families Secretary, the office of the Wisconsin Department
of Administration Secretary, St. Croix County Legislators, Wisconsin Counties Association, and
Wisconsin County Human Services Association.
### Legal – Fiscal – Administrative Approvals:

**Legal Note:**

**Fiscal Impact:** Currently no financial impact.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scott L. Cox, Corporation Counsel</th>
<th>11/8/2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ken Wick, Interim-Finance Director</td>
<td>11/6/2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Patrick Thompson, County Administrator | 11/8/2018 |

#### 11/14/18

- **Adopted**

- **Health & Human Services Board APPROVED**

**RESULT:** APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Tammy Moothedan, Supervisor  
**SECONDER:** Bob Long, Supervisor  
**AYES:** Coulter, Long, Moothedan, Fosterling, Ostness, Anderson, McGinnis  
**EXCUSED:** Deb Rasmussen

#### Vote Confirmation.

| Dave Ostness HHS, Chairman | 11/19/2018 |

### St. Croix County Board of Supervisors Action:

**Roll Call - Vote Requirement – Majority of Supervisors Present**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESULT:</th>
<th>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOVER:</td>
<td>Dave Ostness, Vice Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECONDER:</td>
<td>Tammy Moothedan, Supervisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AYES:</td>
<td>Schachtner, Nordstrand, Miller, Coulter, Sjoberg, Moothedan, Feidler, Ostness, Larson, Hansen, Brinkman, Peterson, Anderson, Achterhof, Leibfried, Peavey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ABSENT:</strong></td>
<td>District 6, Dan Fosterling, District 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This Resolution was Adopted by the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors on December 4, 2018

Cindy Campbell, County Clerk