



Resolution

No. 2021-28

Increase Funding for County Conservation Staff

WHEREAS, all life is dependent on clean water; *and*,

WHEREAS, all Wisconsin residents and visitors require and deserve access to clean water; *and*,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's economy is dependent on water; *and*,

WHEREAS, clean water is required to maintain and grow Wisconsin's economy; *and*,

WHEREAS, County Conservation Departments are charged with implementing statewide performance standards, including ATCP 50 and NR 151, runoff reduction efforts like Total Maximum Daily Loads, farmland preservation programs, producer-led watershed and citizen watershed groups, stormwater permits and much more; *and*,

WHEREAS, County Conservation Departments are being asked to implement an ever-increasing set of programs without increased funding and with less staff; *and*,

WHEREAS, County Conservation Departments have 40% fewer state-funded staff than there were 20 years ago; *and*,

WHEREAS, at almost every public hearing held by the 2019 Speakers Task Force on Water Quality found overwhelming support to fully fund County Conservation staff; *and*,

WHEREAS, the Speakers Task Force on Water Quality recommended that the State fully fund its cost-share commitment for County Conservation staff; *and*,

WHEREAS, the County Conservation staff are trusted professionals that provide boots-on-the-ground technical assistances to farmers and landowners, helping them achieve their management objectives while protecting land water resources at the same time; *and*,

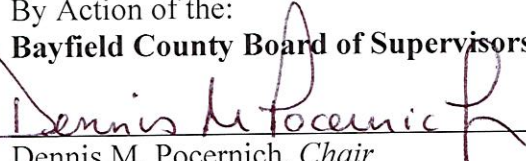
WHEREAS, the Governor's 2021-23 budget proposal provides for increased funding for County Conservation staff to meet Wisconsin Statutes 92.14 to support an average of three staff per county at cost share rates of 100/70/50%.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors assembled this 30th day of March 2021, supports an increase in state funding for County Conservation staff to meet Wisconsin Statutes 92.14; *and*,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be sent to Governor Evers, Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection Secretary Romanski, Senator Bewley, Representative Meyers, and the Wisconsin Counties Association to request their support for increased funding for County Conservation staff to meet Wisconsin Statutes 92.14.

By Action of the:

Bayfield County Board of Supervisors



Dennis M. Pocernich, *Chair*

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF BAYFIELD)

I, Lynn M. Divine, *Bayfield County Clerk*, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2021-28, Volume 29, adopted by the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors at their meeting held on the 30th day of March 2021.


Lynn M. Divine, *Bayfield County Clerk*