

RESOLUTION NUMBER 01-2023

REQUEST STATE TO REVISE THE CURRENT REAL ESTATE TRANSFER FEES REVENUE SHARING FORMULA

The County Board of Supervisors of Green Lake County, Green Lake, Wisconsin, duly assembled at its regular meeting on this 21st day of February 2023, does resolve as follows:

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the collection of real estate transfer fees by counties was mandated by the
- 2 State of Wisconsin in 1969, and included a requirement that counties remit 50% of all
- 3 transfer fees collected to the State; and

- 4 **WHEREAS**, in 1981 the State changed the transfer fee formula to require counties to
- 5 remit 80% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and

- 6 **WHEREAS**, the county, through the Register of Deeds Office, assumes the annual
- 7 operating costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in each county, including
- 8 the collection of real estate transfer fees; and

- 9 Majority vote is needed to pass.

Roll Call on Resolution No. 01-2023

Submitted by Administrative
Committee

Ayes 16, Nays 0, Absent 3, Abstain 0

/s/ David Abendroth

David Abendroth, Chair

Passed and Adopted/~~Rejected~~ this 21st
day of February, 2023.

/s/ Dennis Mulder

Dennis Mulder

/s/ David Abendroth

County Board Chairman

/s/ Ken Bates

Ken Bates

/s/ Elizabeth A. Otto

ATTEST: County Clerk
Approve as to Form:

Absent

Brian Floeter

/s/ Jeffrey Mann

Corporation Counsel

/s/ Gene Thom

Gene Thom

10 **WHEREAS**, Green Lake County real estate transfer fee collections over the past five
11 years totaled \$2,254,904, of which the county retained \$450,981 and \$1,803,923 was
12 remitted to the State; and

13 **WHEREAS**, using a 50/50 split, the County's share of fees collected on local real estate
14 transfers during that same five-year period would have provided an additional \$676,471
15 in support of local government; and

16 **WHEREAS**, in 2021 the State of Wisconsin had built up a budget surplus of
17 approximately \$2.5 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle
18 financially due to the ever-increasing costs of providing county government services in
19 an inflationary economy, coupled with the financial restrictions imposed by State
20 mandated levy limits; and

21 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED**, by the Green Lake County Board of Supervisors
22 that in an effort to assist all Wisconsin Counties requests, the State of Wisconsin to
23 revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin Counties to
24 retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with the remaining 50% to be
25 remitted to the State.

26 **NOW THEREFORE BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, a copy of this resolution be sent to
27 Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Green Lake
28 County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all other Wisconsin Counties

29

30 **FISCAL NOTE:** no immediate impact