RESOLUTION #R - 7 - 23

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Marathon County real estate transfer fee collections over the past five years totaled \$4,693,255.80 of which the County retained \$900,499.44 and \$3,792,756.36 was remitted to the State; and

WHEREAS, using a 50/50 split, the County's share of fees collected on local real estate transfers during that same five-year period would have provided an additional \$2,346,627.90 in support of local government; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, the State of Wisconsin has built up a budget surplus of approximately 6.5 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to the ever-increasing costs of providing county government services to an inflationary economy and providing services for increasing unfunded State mandated programs along with financial restrictions caused by State imposed levy limits; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Marathon County Board of Supervisors, that in an effort to assist all Wisconsin counties, the State of Wisconsin revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing Marathon County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all other Wisconsin counties.

Done this 21st day of February, 2023

HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE, AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Fiscal Impact: This would provide approximately an additional \$469,325.58 in annual revenue.

STATE OF WISCONSIN)

(SS. COUNTY OF MARATHON)

I, Kim Trueblood, County Clerk in and for Marathon County, Wisconsin, hereby certify that the attached Resolution #R-7-23 was adopted by the Marathon County Board of Supervisors at the Adjourned Annual Meeting which was held on February 21, 2023.

SEAL

Kim Trueblood

Marathon County Clerk







Voting Meeting