

LANGLADE COUNTY



RESOLUTION #10-2023

INTRODUCED BY: AG & EXTENSION and LAND CONSERVATION SOLID WASTE

INTENT: PROVIDE \$18.7 MILLION IN STABLE, CORE FUNDING SUPPORT FOR COUNTY CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT STAFFING

WHEREAS, Wis. Stats. 92.06 and 92.07 create and define the powers of Land Conservation Committees (LCCs) and Wis. Stat. 92.09 empowers Land and Water Conservation Departments (LWCDs) to administer county soil and water conservation programs and may exercise the powers granted to the land conservation committee; and

WHEREAS, county LWCDs are the local delivery mechanism for a wide range of Wisconsin's natural soil and water and other resource management programs including non-point pollution control, farmland preservation, reclamation of non-metallic mines, invasive species control, woodland management, lakes protection, and more; and

WHEREAS, LWCD professionals work as trusted, technical advisors to support producer-led watershed groups, assist waterfront property owners, help farmers develop and implement nutrient management plans, respond to natural disasters like floods, and spend years building the trust to be able to successfully do so; and,

WHEREAS, the conservation practices that LWCD professionals help landowners apply to farm fields, forests, and shorelines have numerous water quality benefits, including: preventing soil erosion and promoting soil health, increasing infiltration into groundwater aquifers, protecting drinking water supply, reducing surface runoff and flood severity, and more; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin 2023 Joint Allocation Plan establishes the current need for county LWCD staffing at \$18.7 million, per the core funding goal established in Wis. Stat. 92.14(6)(b); and

WHEREAS, the return on investment in county LWCDs is high, leveraging federal and private grant dollars into more conservation on the land and more dollars into local economies, and multiplying several times over the state's existing investment; and

WHEREAS, support of county LWCD funding is a bipartisan issue, supported by farm, conservation, environmental and local government groups alike, and was a top priority voiced by Wisconsinites at statewide Water Quality Task Force hearings in 2019; and

WHEREAS, providing state funding for core county LWCD staffing needs will result in more conservation on the landscape and better protection of water quality.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Llanglade County Board of Supervisors hereby supports and urges the Wisconsin Legislature and the Joint Committee on Finance to provide \$18.7 million in stable, base funding for county conservation staffing, in fulfillment of the state's core funding goal and in recognition that county LWCD professionals are the among the best and most cost-effective solutions we have to improving water quality, achieving clean and safe drinking water, and supporting a viable agricultural industry at the same time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded by the County Clerk to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the members of the Joint Committee on Finance, and the State Senators and State Representatives representing Llanglade County.

AG & EXTENSION and LAND CONSERVATION SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE:

Ronald Krueger Sr

Ronald Krueger, Sr, Chairman

Rick Bina

Rick Bina

Doug Curlet

Doug Curlet

absent

James Schulz

Sally Mulhollon

Sally Mulhollon

FISCAL NOTE: No Fiscal Note.

ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF LANGLADE
COUNTY THIS 21th DAY OF April, 2023.

Judy Nagel, Langlade Co. Clerk
Judy Nagel, Langlade County Clerk

PR