

2026 WCA CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS
Final Action
September 20, 2026

2026 Conference Resolution 1

Bayfield County

Supporting Increased Payments to Towns with County Forest Lands

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support legislation to increase the county forest acreage payment under Wis. Stat. § 28.11(8)(a), including an annual adjustment for inflation.

2026 Conference Resolution 2

Jefferson County

Urging the Wisconsin Legislature and State Agencies to Strengthen the State of Wisconsin's Response to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support modernization of the state's regulatory framework related to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and similar diseases that can cause mass animal mortality, and to do so in collaboration with national and local partners. Modernization efforts include:

- A comprehensive review of regulations related to carcass disposal and development of clear criteria for when off-site disposal is appropriate and furthermore should provide flexibility to select the lowest-risk disposal method available based on site conditions and evidence.
- Investigation of incineration as a disposal option and work with the Legislature to fund pilot projects or infrastructure to support this method.
- State financial support for expanded groundwater monitoring and sampling near composting or disposal sites, including guidance on constituents and wells to be included in sampling.
- State funding to assist counties with water testing, environmental surveillance, law enforcement involvement, and public communication during outbreaks.
- Requiring Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations submit emergency response plans to the DNR that include pre-identified disposal/compost locations and a site risk assessment completed in advance, with the assessment on file with DNR and county emergency management so suitability can be confirmed quickly based on current conditions, with risk assessments including at a minimum information on soil assessment, depth to groundwater, regional groundwater flow direction, distance to surface water, distance to drinking water wells, distance from facility, and other considerations.

2026 Conference Resolution 3

Door County

Requesting the Wisconsin State Legislature Pass Legislation to Stop Corporations from Purchasing Single-Family Homes

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Indefinitely postpone.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

2026 Conference Resolution 4

Walworth County

Requesting the Wisconsin Counties Association to Lobby the State Legislature and Governor on Legislation for Greater Local Control for Wisconsin Counties Related to Large Scale Solar and Wind Projects

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Refer to the Board of Directors.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

2026 Conference Resolution 5

Barron County

Supporting the Regulation of Wakesurfing

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Indefinitely postpone.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

2026 Conference Resolution 6

Bayfield County

Supporting County Innovation in Alternative Funding Sources Through the Establishment of Public Private Partnership Statutes in Wisconsin

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support formal statewide Public Private Partnership statutes that support diversification of revenue sources beyond property taxes; and advocate for state policies, statutory adjustments, and programmatic support that enable counties to pursue public-private partnerships.

2026 Conference Resolution 7

Walworth County

Supporting Wisconsin Establishing a Membership with the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) to Cover the Cost of Membership for all State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial (SLTT) Organizations

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support the State of Wisconsin establishing/purchasing membership with the Multi-

State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) to cover the cost of membership for all state, local, tribal and territorial (SLTT) organizations.

2026 Conference Resolution 8

Barron County

Supporting Wisconsin Establishing a Membership with the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) to Cover the Cost of Membership for all State, Local, Tribal and Territorial (SLTT) Organizations

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support the State of Wisconsin establishing/purchasing membership with the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) to cover the cost of membership for all state, local, tribal and territorial (SLTT) organizations.

2026 Conference Resolution 9

Wood County

Supporting Sustainable State Funding for Local Public Health Departments

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Captions: Support continuing to build and retain public health infrastructure through increased and flexible funding. Such a funding model should:

- Provide increased General Purpose Revenue (GPR) support for local health departments
- Include automatic inflationary adjustments
- Allow for flexible use of funds to meet local needs
- Reduce reliance on short-term, restricted, and/or competitive grants

Support policies that reduce reliance on the local property tax levy to fund foundational public health services.

2026 Conference Resolution 10

Eau Claire County

Supporting State Funding for Local Public Health Departments

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Captions: Support continuing to build and retain public health infrastructure through increased and flexible funding. Such a funding model should:

- Provide increased General Purpose Revenue (GPR) support for local health departments
- Include automatic inflationary adjustments
- Allow for flexible use of funds to meet local needs

- Reduce reliance on short-term, restricted, and/or competitive grants

Support policies that reduce reliance on the local property tax levy to fund foundational public health services.

2026 Conference Resolution 11

Walworth County

Supporting Legislation Regarding Volunteer Drivers' Insurance Coverage

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support legislation protecting volunteer drivers' insurance coverage.

2026 Conference Resolution 12

Polk County

Supporting Positive, Prevention-Focused Community Messaging

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support state and local cooperation on a proactive public messaging campaign focused on hope, resilience, and healthy choices.

2026 Conference Resolution 13

Walworth County

Urging the State Legislature to Support the Department of Health Services SNAP Funding Request as Part of AB 387/SB 390

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support additional state funding to counties to offset the county fiscal impact caused by the enacted federal SNAP changes, and urge the State to work with counties to ensure adequate resources for the administration of FoodShare and related programs.

2026 Conference Resolution 14

Polk County

Requesting Funding and Additional Support from the State of Wisconsin to Offset the Cost of Federal SNAP Program Changes

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support additional state funding to counties to offset the county fiscal impact caused by the enacted federal SNAP changes, and urge the State to work with counties to ensure adequate resources for the administration of FoodShare and related programs.

2026 Conference Resolution 15

Outagamie County

Urging the State of Wisconsin to Provide Funding to Offset the County Fiscal Impact Caused by the Enacted Federal SNAP Changes

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support additional state funding to counties to offset the county fiscal impact caused by the enacted federal SNAP changes, and urge the State to work with counties to ensure adequate resources for the administration of FoodShare and related programs.

2026 Conference Resolution 16

Waushara County

Urging the Wisconsin Legislature to Expand the Definition of "Forfeiture Expenses" Under Wis. Stat. § 961.55 to Include Drug-Related Treatment, Diversion, and Law Enforcement Program Costs

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt as amended by the Resolutions Committee.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support legislation that amends Wis. Stat. § 961.55 to expand the definition of "forfeiture expenses" to expressly include the following costs when directly incurred in connection with the prosecution or court-ordered disposition of drug-related offenses:

1. Costs of operating treatment court programs, including program administration and judicial oversight.
2. Salaries and associated costs for county treatment court employees assigned to drug-related cases.
3. Salaries and associated costs for workers assigned to drug-related cases and treatment court participants.
4. Continuing education and training expenses for employees involved in substance abuse diversion and treatment programs.
5. Purchase and maintenance of undercover surveillance equipment used in drug-related investigations.
6. Purchase and maintenance of electronic tracking equipment used in drug-related investigations.
7. Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training and Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) training for law enforcement officers.

2026 Conference Resolution 17

Jefferson County

Requesting that Wis. Stat. § 66.0602(3)(e)(6) be Amended to Apply the Levy-Limit Exception to Countywide EMS, Fire, and Integrated Fire/EMS Services

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support an amendment to Wis. Stat. § 66.0602(3)(e)(6) to extend the levy limit exemption to countywide fire services, countywide emergency medical services, and integrated countywide Fire/EMS systems.

2026 Conference Resolution 18

Burnett County

Opposing State Public Defender Rates

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support full and fair reimbursement to counties for discovery costs from the state public defender's office.

2026 Conference Resolution 19

Polk County

Affirming Support of Legislation to Establish Third Branch of Polk County Circuit Court

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt as amended by the Resolutions Committee.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support legislation creating additional judgeships.

2026 Conference Resolution 20

Outagamie County

Supporting Proposed Legislation that Would Ensure that Individuals and Businesses Throughout the State of Wisconsin Have Quick and Easy Access to Emergency Aid When Needed

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support legislation that ensures that individuals and businesses affected by a disaster have quick and easy access to emergency aid when needed through the creation of an individual assistance program.

2026 Conference Resolution 21

Bayfield County

Supporting a State-Local Fleet Efficiency and Public Safety Operations Cost Stabilization Program

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support the creation of a State-Local Public Safety Fleet Efficiency Program that provides financial assistance to counties for law enforcement and public safety fleet energy and fuel costs based on measurable efficiency benchmarks. Such a program should be designed to:

1. Stabilize county public safety budgets against volatile fuel and energy prices;

2. Recognize geographic and operational differences among counties, particularly rural service delivery challenges;
3. Incentivize the adoption of fuel-efficient, hybrid, and electric vehicles where operationally feasible;
4. Provide tiered reimbursement or cost-sharing based on fleet efficiency performance metrics (such as miles per gallon, class-adjusted efficiency, or cost per operational mile); and
5. Avoid unintended penalties for necessary specialized law enforcement vehicles where efficiency gains are limited by operational requirements.

2026 Conference Resolution 22

Bayfield County

Supporting Inter-County Collaboration and Shared Service Delivery Through County Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils (CJCCs)

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Urge the Wisconsin State Legislature and relevant state agencies to establish and/or expand dedicated funding mechanisms that support inter-county collaborations among county Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils (CJCCs); that such funding should incentivize the development of shared and virtual programming models that allow multiple counties to jointly deliver evidence-based services, including but not limited to diversion programs, treatment alternatives, behavioral health interventions, and pretrial services; and that these collaborative models be designed to preserve local decision-making authority while increasing efficiency, equity, and access to services across all counties regardless of size or geography.

2026 Conference Resolution 23

Chippewa County

Requesting Authorization from the Wisconsin State Legislature for Wisconsin Counties to Adopt an Additional .5% Sales Tax for Road and Bridge Infrastructure

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: Motion by Chippewa County, second by Burnett County, to adopt. Motion by Marinette County, second by Washington County, to delete the last “WHEREAS” clause (WHEREAS, Chippewa County views the most appropriate final approval of an additional 0.50% sales tax before implementation would be through a referendum vote taken by Chippewa County residents.). Motion carried. Resolution adopted as amended.

Caption: Support legislation granting Wisconsin counties the authority to adopt an additional 0.5 percent county sales and use tax, in addition to the existing 0.5 percent currently authorized by statute, with the following parameters:

- The additional 0.5 percent sales tax may be adopted by county ordinance with approval of the county board.
- All revenue generated from the additional 0.5 percent sales tax must be used exclusively for road and bridge maintenance, repair, and improvement within the county.

- Up to one-half of all revenue generated must be distributed to municipalities within the county.

2026 Conference Resolution 24

Bayfield County

Supporting the Removal of Wisconsin State Sales and Use Taxes on Materials Used in Public Road Construction and Maintenance Projects

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support legislation that removes Wisconsin state sales and use taxes on materials used in public road construction and maintenance projects.

2026 Conference Resolution 25

Eau Claire County

Supporting State Action on Sustainable Transportation Funding

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Urge the Governor of Wisconsin and the State Legislature to enact a comprehensive, sustainable transportation funding solution that:

- Provides adequate and reliable revenue growth for the efficient long-term planning and execution of state and local transportation programs;
- Includes responsible and prudent use of General Purpose Revenue and bonding;
- Adjusts any new and existing transportation user fees and other revenue mechanisms to sustain purchasing power in order to maintain and improve Wisconsin's transportation infrastructure; and
- Ensures transportation continues to deliver for Wisconsin by adequately funding reconstruction, preservation, and safety investments on the state and local systems.

2026 Conference Resolution 26

Walworth County

Urging the Governor of Wisconsin and the State Legislature to Enact a Comprehensive, Sustainable Transportation Funding Solution

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Urge the Governor of Wisconsin and the State Legislature to enact a comprehensive, sustainable transportation funding solution that:

- Provides adequate and reliable revenue growth for the efficient long-term planning and execution of state and local transportation programs;
- Includes responsible and prudent use of General Purpose Revenue and bonding;

- Adjusts any new and existing transportation user fees and other revenue mechanisms to sustain purchasing power in order to maintain and improve Wisconsin's transportation infrastructure; and
- Ensures transportation continues to deliver for Wisconsin by adequately funding reconstruction, preservation, and safety investments on the state and local systems.

2026 Conference Resolution 27

Polk County

Transportation Funding Solutions

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Urge the Governor of Wisconsin and the State Legislature to enact a comprehensive, sustainable transportation funding solution that:

- Provides adequate and reliable revenue growth for the efficient long-term planning and execution of state and local transportation programs;
- Includes responsible and prudent use of General Purpose Revenue and bonding;
- Adjusts any new and existing transportation user fees and other revenue mechanisms to sustain purchasing power in order to maintain and improve Wisconsin's transportation infrastructure; and
- Ensures transportation continues to deliver for Wisconsin by adequately funding reconstruction, preservation, and safety investments on the state and local systems.

2026 Conference Resolution 28

Outagamie County

Urging the Governor of Wisconsin and the State Legislature to Enact a Comprehensive, Sustainable Transportation Funding Solution

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Urge the Governor of Wisconsin and the State Legislature to enact a comprehensive, sustainable transportation funding solution that:

- Provides adequate and reliable revenue growth for the efficient long-term planning and execution of state and local transportation programs;
- Includes responsible and prudent use of General Purpose Revenue and bonding;
- Adjusts any new and existing transportation user fees and other revenue mechanisms to sustain purchasing power in order to maintain and improve Wisconsin's transportation infrastructure; and
- Ensures transportation continues to deliver for Wisconsin by adequately funding reconstruction, preservation, and safety investments on the state and local systems.

2026 Conference Resolution 29

Door County

Requesting a Sustainable Transportation Funding Solution

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Urge the Governor of Wisconsin and the State Legislature to enact a comprehensive, sustainable transportation funding solution that:

- Provides adequate and reliable revenue growth for the efficient long-term planning and execution of state and local transportation programs;
- Includes responsible and prudent use of General Purpose Revenue and bonding;
- Adjusts any new and existing transportation user fees and other revenue mechanisms to sustain purchasing power in order to maintain and improve Wisconsin's transportation infrastructure; and
- Ensures transportation continues to deliver for Wisconsin by adequately funding reconstruction, preservation, and safety investments on the state and local systems.

2026 Conference Resolution 30

Barron County

Supporting Sustainable Transportation Funding

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Urge the Governor of Wisconsin and the State Legislature to enact a comprehensive, sustainable transportation funding solution that:

- Provides adequate and reliable revenue growth for the efficient long-term planning and execution of state and local transportation programs;
- Includes responsible and prudent use of General Purpose Revenue and bonding;
- Adjusts any new and existing transportation user fees and other revenue mechanisms to sustain purchasing power in order to maintain and improve Wisconsin's transportation infrastructure; and
- Ensures transportation continues to deliver for Wisconsin by adequately funding reconstruction, preservation, and safety investments on the state and local systems.

2026 Conference Resolution 31

Jefferson County

Urging the Incorporation of Local Feedback and Technical Expert Committee Recommendations in ATP 51

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Urge the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, the Wisconsin Legislature, and the Governor to ensure that information and expertise gathered from counties and local governments across Wisconsin, and the recommendations from the Technical Expert Committee, are substantively considered and reflected in any updates to ATP 51, while the state retains regulatory authority to provide uniformity and consistency.

2026 Conference Resolution 32

Jefferson County

Supporting the Continuation of Wisconsin’s Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support funding renewal for the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

2026 Conference Resolution 33

Walworth County

Supporting the Renewal of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support funding renewal for the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

2026 Conference Resolution 34

Monroe County

Supporting the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support funding renewal for the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

2026 Conference Resolution 35

Bayfield County

Supporting Funding of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt.

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: By unanimous consent the Resolutions Committee recommendation was adopted on Resolutions 1-22 and 24-35.

Caption: Support funding renewal for the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

2026 Late Conference Resolution

Bayfield County

EMS Sustainability & Statewide Funding

2026 CONFERENCE ACTION: Motion by Bayfield County, second by Richland County, to consider the Late Resolution. Motion carried (no negative votes). Motion by Bayfield County, second by Kenosha County, to adopt. Motion carried.

Caption: Support legislation that:

- Establishes an EMS Sustainability Fund providing long-term, predictable annual funding to counties and municipalities.
- Designates EMS as an “Essential Service” eligible for state funding and assistance.
- Supports EMS workforce development in underserved regions.
- Modernizes EMS statutes and administrative rules to enable flexible staffing and

regional/shared-service models while maintaining patient-safety standards and clinical quality.

- Funds countywide EMS coordination and regional planning functions, evidence-based system design, and data tools to monitor response times, clinical capability, and patient outcomes.
- Directs the State to partner with technical colleges and universities to: address EMS program quality, expand seats, and build rural career pathways aligned to local demand.