



October 31, 2023

MARINETTE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County Administrator – John Lefebvre
Corporation Counsel – Rebecca Lindner

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Roger Allen | 11. Robert Holley – Vice Chair | 21. Tom Gromala |
| 2. Al Sauld | 12. Ginger Deschane | 22. Trygve Rhude |
| 3. Bill Stankevich | 13. Mark Anderson | 23. Tim Pelzek |
| 4. Ken Hanson | 14. Tom Buelteman | 24. Gail Wanek |
| 5. Christopher Norton | 15. Glenn L. Broderick | 25. Michael Ebsch |
| 6. Hank Novak | 16. Connie Seefeldt | 26. Shirley Kaufman |
| 7. Bonnie Popp | 17. Tom Mandli | 27. Wally Hitt |
| 8. Bob Hoyer | 18. Chris Gromala | 28. Tom Mailand |
| 9. John Guarisco - Chair | 19. Rick Thill | 29. Rick Polzin |
| 10. Stan Gruszynski | 20. Allen England | 30. Denise Oleszak |

Meeting called to order by Chair Guarisco at 9:00 a.m. at the Marinette County Courthouse.

Roll call taken by County Clerk Kathy Brandt.
Quorum is present.

Supervisors Gruszynski, Hanson, Mailand, Novak and Pelzek excused.

Pledge of allegiance with a moment of silence held.

- Motion (Sauld/Kaufman) to approve the agenda. Motion carried. No negative vote.

2024 Budget

- Motion (Hitt/England) to open Public Hearing at 9:00 a.m. Motion carried. No negative vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Janet Glime, Library Literacy Council - Budget
- Motion (Stankevich/Polzin) to close Public Hearing. Motion carried. No negative vote.
- Motion (Polzin/Sauld) to adopt 2024 budget as presented. Motion carried. Yes: 20 No: 5, Voting no – Supervisors Anderson, Holley, Kaufman, Norton, and Oleszak
- Motion (Polzin/Popp) to establish the 2023 tax levy rate. Motion carried. Yes: 20 No: 5, Voting no - Supervisors Anderson, Holley, Kaufman, Norton and Oleszak

2024 BUDGET/2023 TAX LEVY

Equalized Valuation – County	\$5,671,125,600
Equalized Valuation – Towns	\$4,250,072,600
Equalized Valuation – Villages	\$204,550,200
Equalized Valuation – Cities	\$1,216,502,800

Net County Operating Tax Levy	\$17,015,321
Operating Tax Rate	\$3.000 per \$1,000

Net County Debt Service Tax Levy	4,389,500
Operating Tax	\$0.774 per \$1,000

Special Purpose Levies	
State Special Charges/Penal	\$313
Special Charges/Penal Tax Rate	\$0.0001 per \$1,000

County Aid Bridges/Culverts	\$151,071
County Aid Bridges/Culverts Tax Rate	\$0.036

Property Taxes Charged Back \$74.41(5)	-
Property Taxes Charged Back \$74.41(5) Tax Rate	-

- Motion (Mandli/England) to approve the minutes of September 26, 2023. Motion carried. No negative vote.

REPORTS

- County Administrator announced retirement of County Clerk, Kathy Brandt on January 5, 2024 and process for filling position.

APPOINTMENTS

- Motion (Rhude/Seefeldt) to approve County Administrator's recommendation for the following appointments. Motion carried. No negative vote.

- Library Board – Delores Konrad, term expiring 12/31/2024
- LEPC – Ryan Day (member) represent BPM, Inc., Emily Lange (alternate) represent BPM, Inc., Lt. William Swanson (alternate) represent Marinette County Sheriff Dept., no term limits

ORDINANCE No. 459-23

**AMENDING THE GENERAL CODE OF
ORDINANCES OF MARINETTE COUNTY-
COUNTY GOVERNMENT CHAPTER 2 – COUNTY
GOVERNMENT**

The County Board of Supervisors of the County of Marinette does ordain as follows:

Section One: Section 2.06 (1)(f) of the Marinette County Code of Ordinance is created as follows:

...

2.06 DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND CERTAIN APPOINTEES

- (1) County Board Chairperson.** The County Board Chairperson shall:
- (a) preside at meetings of the County Board and shall countersign all approved resolutions and ordinances of the County Board;
 - (b) expedite those matters resolved upon by the County Board;
 - (c) in cooperation with the Corporation Counsel and County Administrator, take action to ensure that all federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations pertaining to County government are enforced;
 - (d) subject to County Board confirmation, shall appoint replacement members in the event a vacancy occurs on any standing or special committee, agency or commission of the County Board who are not subject to appointment by the County Administrator. Any vacancies requiring citizen appointments shall be identified at a County Board meeting and no appointment shall be made prior to the next County Board meeting, thus allowing County Board members the opportunity to provide names of qualified candidates or nominees for consideration. An appointment to a vacancy on any of the County Board Standing Committees except the Executive Committee shall not be made until

the new County Board member is confirmed. (Ord #450 03/29/22)

- (e) serve as ex officio member to all standing, special, or ad hoc committees of the County Board to which the Chairperson is not duly appointed. (Ord #402 3/27/18)
- (f) shall not sign any document as Chief Elected Officer without County Board approval.

...

Section Two: This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage and publication.

Approved by a majority of a quorum of the Marinette County Board of Supervisors on October 31, 2023.

- Motion (Anderson/Hoyer) to approve Ordinance No. 459-23 – “*Amending the General Code of Ordinances of Marinette County Government Chapter 2 – County Government*”. Motion carried. No negative vote.

RESOLUTION No. 579-23

**REQUEST FOR THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
TO REVISE ITS POLICY OF 4 FOREIGN
OWNERSHIP OF FARMLAND**

WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), as of December 31, 2020, foreign agricultural entities in Wisconsin own over 500,000 acres of land in the state, with that number having risen by over 25,000 acres from 2019 to 2020 alone; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin law currently allows for ownership of up to 640 acres total of agricultural or forestry land per foreign company or foreign individual; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic illustrated the need to localize supply chains, especially for food and medicine, and to keep them out of the hands of adversarial governments and those entities associated therewith; and,

WHEREAS, it would be prudent to limit the exposure of such critical supply chains to governments and associated entities who routinely abuse human rights, violate international trade law and labor standards, and seek to upend fair markets through state owned enterprises, monopolization or means that otherwise threaten food security and the Wisconsin family farming tradition; and,

WHEREAS, it would be to the benefit of the citizens of Marinette County, the State of Wisconsin and the United States to have local farmland be held by United States citizens, permanent residents of the United States, and companies incorporated in the United States that aren't controlled by foreign entities; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marinette County Board of Supervisors does respectfully request that the State of Wisconsin, in the next legislative biennium, review and revise its policy on foreign ownership of farmland; and,

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, all members of the State Legislature, all County Land Conservation Departments in Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Land + Water Conservation Association and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Approved this 31st day of October 2023 by a majority vote of a quorum of the Marinette County Board of Supervisor.

- Motion (Ebsch/Deschane) to approve Resolution No. 579-23. *"Request for the State of Wisconsin to Revise its Policy of Foreign Ownership of Farmland"*. Motion carried. No negative vote.

DEVELOPMENT

- Motion (Holley/Ebsch) to approve the 2024 – 2028 Cooperative Service Agreement between Marinette County, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, subject to Corporation Counsel's approval. Motion carried. No negative vote.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Motion (Sauld/Stankevich) to approve a 125-foot ingress/egress and utility easement through parcel #030-1793.000 the owner of Parcel #030-01799.000 Colleen A. Sweek, Bonnie M. Kutchera, ETAL to access their property for a fee of \$200 which includes preparing and recording of the deed. Motion carried. No negative vote.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

- Motion (Hoyer/Oleszak) to approve 2023 Community Resource Specialist Staffing Agency contract increase in the amount of \$25,074.45 for new total contract amount of \$144,812.10,

subject to Corporation Counsel's approval. Motion carried. No negative vote.

- Motion (Hoyer/England) to approve DHS grant for additional funding in the amount of \$167,270.00 for LPHD Public Health Infrastructure Grant, subject to Corporation Counsel's approval. Motion carried. No negative vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Motion (Polzin/Popp) to approve the creation of a CPS Access Case Manager/Social Worker position, without increasing the number of employees, to provide the option for HHSD staff to hire either a CPS Access Case Manager or Social Worker to fill future vacant CPS Access Worker positions. Motion carried. No negative vote.
- Motion (Polzin/Seefeldt) to approve Amendment #138 to the P & P Manual Sections 1.04 Definition of Terms and 1.105 Compensation Plan. Motion carried. No negative vote.
- Motion (Polzin/Seefeldt) to approve Amendment #139 to the P & P Manual Section 1.29 Benefits. Motion carried. No negative vote.
- Motion (Polzin/C. Gromala) to approve transfer of \$83,000 from Contingency for Sheriff squad purchases and changeovers over budget. Motion carried. No negative vote.
- Motion (Hitt/Wanek) to adjourn at 10:16 a.m. Motion carried. No negative vote.

Next meeting scheduled for November 14, 2023.

Kathy Brandt, County Clerk

Any exhibits/attachments mentioned above are available for public viewing and per the Marinette County copy policy upon request to the County Clerk.

Date approved/corrected: