

MINUTES
Oneida County Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, February 21, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.
County Board Meeting Room - 2nd Floor Oneida County Courthouse

CALL TO ORDER:

There was a brief moment of silence for our troops, law enforcement officers and emergency responders followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Bob Almekinder, Robert Briggs, Diana Harris, Ted Cushing, Steven Schreier, Bob Thome Jr., Jim Winkler, Mike Timmons, Debbie Condado, Thomas Ryden, Scott Holewinski, Anthony Rio, Mike Roach, Linnaea Newman, Chris Schultz, Collette Sorgel, Tom Kelly, Billy Fried, Russ Fisher, Connor Showalter and Greg Oettinger.

Members Present: 21

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CHAIR, CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- Please use a microphone when speaking.

ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 17, 2023 MEETING:

Motion/Second: Cushing/Winkler to accept the minutes of the January 17, 2023 meeting. All "Aye", Motion carried.

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS:

- 2022 UW-Extension Annual Report – Amber Rehberg Area Director of UW Extension gave some personal background. Rehberg stated that UW Extension is continually evolving in not just agriculture but in food, nutrition, housing research, youth mental health and broadband. Rehberg went over a handout that was distributed. Rehberg explained that in 2021 in an effort to not duplicate services, a partnership was created to connect ADRC and the UW Extension.

Ryden entered at 9:40 a.m.

- Broadband Update – Jeff Verdoorn the Executive Director of the Oneida County Economic Development Corporation stated that the next step was to provide a detailed map of original project. Verdoorn stated this is completed and that the priority list and map are on the Oneida County website. Verdoorn went over the map and priority list. Verdoorn explained that right-away fee costs will exceed \$100,000 per year to the County's General Fund. He reviewed all of the benefits of broadband. Verdoorn noted that there is not a cash outlay for the County; the County is guaranteeing bonds that will be repaid by the revenue generated by this project. Verdoorn stated that the infrastructure is the collateral. Consultant John Sweeney stated that he looked at the Bug Tussel proposal map and compared it with facilities and assets of the county. Sweeney explained that we need to look at the opportunity to run fiber to assets such as 911 towers, fire, police and first responders. Sweeney explained that the decision will need to be made once the total dollars are determined. Sweeney noted that the first step was to identify what the major facilities were. Sweeney suggested to look at the City of Rhinelander's current street construction schedule and to work in conjunction with the city when the streets are already dug up for additional savings. Discussion on cost per mile of potential expansions, many of the areas there are low lands and rock and the costs may be closer to \$75,000 per mile. Verdoorn stated that a year ago \$61,000 per mile was the average cost through Bug Tussel in Northern Wisconsin. Verdoorn explained that their determination now is an average cost of \$70,000 per mile, some fiber runs may be lower and some may be higher. Showalter questioned the initial total cost of option A through D of the proposed expansion. Per Verdoorn, the costs were \$27 Million. Verdoorn stated that there are additional grants that may be available in the future. Sweeney stated his recommendation would be to look at expansions based on what the future grants are coming forward and make the decision as you go. Art Hilgendorf did a tutorial on how to utilize the Broadband mapping. Sweeney stated that the intent is to put all of the information on the internet and make it accessible to the public. Verdoorn stated that the costs for hookup will also be published. Verdoorn stated that the supervisors really need to look at the map and April or May should be the next Resolution to be able to bond in April.

PUBLIC COMMENT (time limit of three minutes):

- Sign attendance form at the podium. Chair Holewinski stated there is a limit of 3 minutes and comments should be directed to the supervisors. Jean Roach of Pelican Lake spoke against Resolution # 25 – 2023, Roach stated this will be taxable land. Dan Butkus property owner in the Town of Crescent, stated that this is an important conservation project. Butkus questioned Chair Holewinski's authority and actions. Joe Steinhage of Newbold stated that he is in agreement with the easement and the funding for Resolution # 25 - 2023. Karl Fate of Crescent spoke in support the Pelican River Conservation Easement. Sally Mullhollon of White Lake ATV club spoke in favor of the Conservation Easement, she stated that this would help in connectivity for ATV and

snowmobile trails. Tom Ladue of Stella spoke stating this property is an investment in the future and opposed the Resolution. Eric Rempala of Cassian spoke and stated that the communication between the towns and the County needs to get better, there should be more meetings regarding this topic. Leonard Guth III, chair of Enterprise stated that there is a lack of information. Alan Janssen spoke in favor of the purchase of the land. Kathleen Cooper of Pelican spoke in favor of the Pelican project. Ron Eckstein of Pelican spoke in favor of the Pelican River Easement. Stephanie Sowatzka spoke in favor of the Pelican River project. Lenore Lopez of Lake Tomahawk is opposed to Resolution # 25 – 2023 as this is a recreational destination. Lopez stated that this will increase recreational opportunities. Robert Kraetsch of Schoepke requested Resolution # 25 – 2023 be tabled. Paul Hagen of Pelican and property owner adjacent to this property spoke in favor of this easement proposal. Jim Frymark of Schoepke stated that the preservation of the land would have area wide benefit and requested the Board vote against the Resolution # 25 – 2023. Gary Prod of Pelican Lake recommend that this resolution be rejected. Kathy Mitchell of Lake Tomahawk spoke. Nancy Stencil of Rib Mountain spoke regarding rejecting this Resolution. Ted Anchor of Three Lakes requested the board to vote against Resolution # 25 – 2023. Tom Wiensch of Pelican spoke. Janine Kojackula of Pelican Lake requested the board vote no or to postpone the Resolution. Emailed public comments that were received prior to 8 a.m. on February 21, 2023 were distributed to County Board members prior to the meeting (excluding any members attending via zoom on the day of the meeting). A copy of all correspondence from Dirk Vevea, Mark Beilfuss, Mike MacKenzie, Alex Graeff, Lon & Bonnie Mosbrucker, John Crumrine, Marty & Rita Webb was distributed and is kept on file at the County Clerk's Office.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution # 15 – 2023: Offered by the Supervisors of the Land Records Committee to convey excess county lands part of PL-310-1 and Part of PL-309-1 to Timothy V. Johnson and Barbara J. Johnson and part of PL-310-1 and Part of PL-309-1 to the Town of Pine Lake.

Resolution to convey excess county lands to Johnson and Town of Pine Lake. Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Land Records Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, Oneida County retained a 100 foot strip of land on each side of the center line of existing roads crossing the NW ¼ - NW ¼ and NE ¼ - NW ¼ of Section 10, Township 37 North, Range 9 East, as recorded in the Register of Deeds, Volume 64 of Deeds on Page 360, Document # 111960, recorded on December 6th, 1941 and Volume 64 of deeds on Page 588, Document # 115591, recorded on May 13th, 1943; and,

WHEREAS, a request has been made to Oneida County from the adjoining landowner listed in Exhibit A below requesting that a portion of said strip of land described above adjacent to **Cross Country Rd** be conveyed to the them as they are the present adjoining owners of the land, and they have paid the \$250.00 administrative fee to process this request; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Pine Lake has been notified of such request, and if the Town has no objection to conveying the excess lands to the adjoining landowner; and if the Town has no objection to accepting a conveyance for **Cross Country Rd** right-of-way, the Land Records Committee recommends that the parcels described in Exhibit A be conveyed to the adjoining landowner and the Town.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors hereby approves conveying the parcel described in Exhibit A below to the adjoining landowner and the Town as listed in Exhibit A, and the Board authorizes the County Clerk, upon receipt of the \$30 deed recording fees, to issue a quit claim deed conveying any interest the County has in the description described in Exhibit A.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Land Records Committee this 14th day of February, 2023.

Offered and passage moved by: Mike Timmons, Robert Briggs, Greg Oettinger, Chris Schultz, Connor Showalter.

Resolution # 16 – 2023: Offered by the Supervisors of the Land Records Committee to convey tax foreclosed property PIN # NE-1001-2 to Skyline Real Estate Services, LLC.

Resolution to convey tax foreclosed property to Skyline Real Estate Services, LLC.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Land Records Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the tax foreclosed real estate parcel identified as NE-1001-2 in Exhibit A listed below have been offered for public sale pursuant to the procedures in Chapter 18 of the General Code of Oneida County, WI; and,

WHEREAS, the Land Records Committee has determined it would be in the best interest of Oneida County to convey the parcel by quit claim deed to the successful bidder listed in Exhibit A.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County hereby approve the sale of the parcels listed in Exhibit A below to the successful bidders listed with any condition or terms listed in Exhibit A; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon receipt of the bid amount and recording fee from the successful bidders listed in

Exhibit A, the County Clerk is authorized to sign and place the county seal upon a quit claim deed for the parcels listed in Exhibit A; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is authorized and instructed to assign to the successful bidder, at the time of issuance of the quit claim deed, all county certificates on the property sold.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Land Records Committee this 14th day of February 2023.

Offered and passage moved by: Mike Timmons, Robert Briggs, Greg Oettinger, Chris Schultz, Connor Showalter.

Resolution # 17 – 2023: Offered by the Supervisors of the Land Records Committee to convey excess county lands part of CA-839-2 to John R. Probst and part of CA-839-2 to the Town of Cassian.

Resolution to convey excess county lands to Probst and Town of Cassian.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Land Records Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, Oneida County retained a 100 foot strip of land on each side of the center line of existing roads crossing the GL 1 of Section 23, Township 37 North, Range 7 East, as recorded in the Register of Deeds, Volume 64 of Deeds on Page 150, Document # 106417, recorded on December 21st, 1939; and,

WHEREAS, a request has been made to Oneida County from the adjoining landowner listed in Exhibit A below requesting that a portion of said strip of land described above adjacent to **Sheep Ranch Rd.** be conveyed to the them as they are the present adjoining owners of the land, and they have paid the \$250.00 administrative fee to process this request; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Cassian has been notified of such request, and if the Town has no objection to conveying the excess lands to the adjoining landowner; and if the Town has no objection to accepting a conveyance for **Sheep Ranch Rd** right-of-way, the Land Records Committee recommends that the parcels described in Exhibit A be conveyed to the adjoining landowner and the Town.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors hereby approves conveying the parcel described in Exhibit A below to the adjoining landowner and the Town as listed in Exhibit A, and the Board authorizes the County Clerk, upon receipt of the \$30 deed recording fees, to issue a quit claim deed conveying any interest the County has in the description described in Exhibit A.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Land Records Committee this 14th day of February, 2023.

Offered and passage moved by: Mike Timmons, Robert Briggs, Greg Oettinger, Chris Schultz, Connor Showalter.

Resolution # 18 – 2023: Offered by the Supervisors of the Administration Committee to seek aid for the Rhinelander/Oneida County Airport.

Resolution to seek aid for the Rhinelander/Oneida County Airport.

Resolution offered by the Administration Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the Rhinelander/Oneida County Airport Commission is in the process of petitioning the Secretary of Transportation for Airport Improvement Aid; and

WHEREAS, the Rhinelander/Oneida County Airport Commission has approved the attached resolution as part of their petition; and

WHEREAS, the usual funding for the Rhinelander/Oneida County Airport has been one million dollars for the Federal Aviation Administration approved projects; and

WHEREAS, all three funding sources come from aviation user fees, airline ticket tax, aircraft registration, Passenger Facility Charges, etc.; and

WHEREAS, the Rhinelander/Oneida County Airport has received over 50 million dollars in grants since 1948; and

WHEREAS, as a co-sponsor of the Rhinelander/Oneida County Airport, Oneida County must approve petitioning the Secretary of Transportation for Airport Improvement Aid,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors does hereby support the Rhinelander/Oneida County Airport in its petition for Airport Improvement Aid from the Secretary of Transportation; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors adopts the findings and conclusions in the attached resolution of the Rhinelander/Oneida County Airport Commission and directs the County Board Chairman and County Clerk to sign the necessary paperwork in order to receive the aforementioned aid.

Approved by the Administration Committee this 13th day of February, 2023.

Offered and passage moved by: Billy Fried, Ted Cushing, Steven Schreier, Tom Kelly.

Resolution # 19 – 2023: Offered by the Public Safety Committee to adopt the All Hazards Mitigation Plan.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Public Safety Committee. Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, Oneida County recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property; and
WHEREAS, undertaking hazard mitigation actions before disasters occur will reduce the potential for harm to people and property and save tax dollars; and
WHEREAS, an adopted all hazards mitigation plan is required as a condition of future grant funding for mitigation projects; and
WHEREAS, Oneida County participated jointly in the planning process with the other units of government within the County to prepare an All Hazards Mitigations Plan;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors hereby adopt the attached Oneida County All Hazards Mitigation Plan as an official plan.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Emergency Services shall submit, on behalf of the participating municipalities, the adopted All Hazards Mitigation Plan to Wisconsin Emergency Management and Federal Emergency Management Agency Officials for final review and approval.

**Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Public Safety Committee this 9th day of February, 2023.
 Offered and passage moved by:** Steven Schreier, Mike Timmons, Russ Fisher, Diana Harris, Tom Kelly.

Resolution # 20 – 2023: Resolution offered by the Planning and Development Committee to adopt the fee schedule of the Oneida County Planning and Zoning Department.

Resolution to change the Planning and Zoning Department Fee Schedule.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Planning and Development Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Department has the responsibility to review all permit applications pursuant to Chapter 9 – Oneida County Zoning and Shoreland Protection Ordinance; and
WHEREAS, a fee is charged for each permit application; and
WHEREAS, a fee schedule was adopted by Resolution #40-2021 with an effective date of May 1, 2021; and
WHEREAS, the Planning and Development Committee received requests from the public to clarify the fees listed on the fee schedule that will be assessed for permit applications; and
WHEREAS, the Planning and Development Committee desires the Planning and Zoning Department to have a fee schedule designed to easily determine permit fees; and
WHEREAS, the Planning and Development Committee desires permit fees to be consolidated; and
WHEREAS, on December 14, 2022 the Planning and Development Committee voted unanimously to consolidate fees on the fee schedule to make the fee schedule easier to determine what the fees are to be paid for each permit application; and
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Oneida County Board of Supervisors adopts the attached fee schedule with an effective date commencing on March 1, 2023.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Planning and Development Committee this 11th day of January, 2023.

Offered and passage moved by: Scott Holewinski, Mike Timmons, Bob Almekinder.

APPLICATION REVIEW FEE SCHEDULE
 (All fees to be submitted with application)

Effective date: March 1, 2023
 Resolution # _____

Chapter 9 – Zoning and Shoreland Protection Ordinance
 Chapter 13 – Private Onsite Waste Water Treatment Systems Ordinance; Chapter
 15 – Subdivision Control Ordinance; Chapter 20 – Floodplain Ordinance; Chapter 22 – Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation

Staff review fees associated with the following:

1		Zoning Permit: based on square footage as follows with a minimum fee of \$75.00 or as noted below (NOTE: Always round cents to the nearest dollar)	
	A	Residential structures including but not limited to dwelling units and accessory structures/buildings such as garages, storage buildings, barns, pole buildings, decks, patios, residential additions, change of use (e.g. storage to living quarters), walkway, retaining walls, crawl space, each full story, unfinished or finished basement, ½ story or loft area	SQ FT x \$.20
	B	Commercial structure (including but not limited to apartment buildings, duplexes, cold storage buildings) each full story, unfinished or finished basement, ½ story or loft area	SQ FT X \$.22

	C	Boathouse - One story only	\$500.00
	D	Anything that cannot be figured on square footage such as adding a fireplace, change pitch of roof, fences, Zoning Permit & Tourist Rooming House revision, camper (each), etc.	\$75.00
	E	Early Start (commercial only)	\$100.00
	F	Raze Structure – A permit is required to remove/raze structure from a property, but there will be no charge for the permit.	No charge
2		Conditional Use Permit	\$600.00
3		Administrative Review Permit including Tourist Room House Permit	\$250.00
4		Home Occupation Compliance Checklist	\$75.00
5		Onsite/review/approval of impervious surface area >15%	\$150.00
6		Mitigation plans	\$150.00
7		Shoreyard Alteration Permit: Per Section 9.97(C)(1)(a-d)	\$250.00
8		Sign Application	\$100.00/sign
9		Condominium fees	\$100.00/unit
10		Subdivision of land - \$100.00 per lot and outlot for a minor, town, county or state level subdivision; access and utility review subdivision	\$100.00/lot
11		Sexually Oriented Business Permit	\$250.00
		Bi-annual renewal fee	\$75.00
12		Metallic Mineral Mining: A. Special Conditional Use Permit.....	\$50,000.00
		B. Exploration Permit	\$1,500 Annually
		Nonmetallic Mining: 1-5 acres - \$600.00; 6-15 acres - \$750.00; greater than 15 acres – \$900.00 - \$900.00 (Conditional Use Permit Fees also apply)	
13		Siting and construction of new telecommunication tower	\$1,500.00
		Class 1 collocation	\$1,500.00
		Class 2 collocation	\$500.00
14		After-the-fact application - triple the original application fee total	
15		Appeals to the Board of Adjustment	\$750.00
		Rescheduling of an appeal	\$500.00 for each rescheduled event
		Contested case appeals – minimum fee of \$500.00 plus actual costs incurred as determined by the Oneida County Board of Adjustment.	
16		No fee is required for any structure or use by any municipality, public school, state or federal governmental agency. These agencies must, however, submit application for a permit.	
17		A \$600.00 fee shall be charged to any individual or corporation, firm, etc., for filing a petition for amending the ordinance. No fee shall be charged for any petition filed by a town, Oneida County Planning & Development Committee or Oneida County Zoning Director.	
18		Renewals – permits expire two years from date of issuance and may be not be renewed (Res.#25-2003)	
19		Tourist Rooming House Renewal	\$150.00
20		Copy work or FAX	\$.25/page
		Open records request	\$.20/copy or CD/DVD
21		Staff onsite inspection – as request by public (no credit given toward permit)	\$250.00
		For each return inspection (no credit given towards permit)	\$250.00

ONEIDA COUNTY PRIVATE SEWAGE SYSTEM AND PLAN REVIEW FEE SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE IF FEES ARE INCREASED BY DEPT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OR THE DNR

1	Conventional sewage system	\$400.00
2	Septic tank replacement	\$300.00
3	Alternate design: mound, at-grade	\$525.00
4	At-risk facility	\$525.00
5	In-ground pressure	\$525.00
6	Holding tank	\$525.00
7	Drip irrigation	\$525.00
8	Pretreatment units, sand filters, aerobic treatment units, etc.	\$525.00
9	Soil remediation	\$100.00
10	Privy	\$200.00
11	Transfer fee (between owners only)	\$50.00

12	Renewal fee (can only be renewed once)	\$50.00
13	Reconnect or repair	\$125.00
14	Reconnect that requires a soil boring	\$125.00
15	Revisions (change in plans or change of plumber)	\$75.00
16	Filter installation	\$175.00
17	Administrative fee for receipt of the Wisconsin Fund Grant Program	\$125.00
18	Sewage System inspection fee for building additions or remodeling	\$75.00
19	Return septic inspection fee (excluding regular alternative system inspections)	\$100.00
20	Existing POWTS evaluation submittal for "55" record	\$125.00
21	POWTS Sanitary Maintenance Program – tax roll fee	\$5.00
22	Large scale sewage systems (over 2,000 gallons based on daily wastewater flow) charged at \$.13 cents X gallonage (rounded off to the nearest dollar)-in addition to the original permit cost.	
23	Copy work or FAX:	\$.25/page
24	Same day sanitary permit plan approval	\$125.00

Plan review non-pressurized in-ground system, public or commercial

- A. 1000 gallons per day or less \$175.00
- B. 1001 – 5000 gallons per day. \$225.00

Resolution # 21 – 2023: Offered by the Supervisors of the Labor Relations Employee Services (LRES) and Land Records Committees to move 50% Deputy I from the Register of Deeds Office to make a full time Aide in the Land Information Office.

Resolution to move 50% Deputy I from the Register of Deeds (ROD) office to make a full time Aide in the Land Information Office (LIO).

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Labor Relations Employee Services (LRES) and Land Records Committees.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the Register of Deeds and Land Information Office have shared a full-time position of LIO Aide/ROD Deputy I; and

WHEREAS, the Register of Deeds and Land Information Director met with the Human Resource Director to review and discuss the staffing needs and efficiencies of their respective departments; and

WHEREAS, based on a reduction in documents/workload in the Register of Deeds Office and an increase in workload in the Land Information Office, the Register of Deeds, Land Information Director and HR Director recommended to both the Land Records and LRES Committees that the 50% Deputy I position in Register of Deeds be moved to the Land Information Office to create a full time LIO Aide position; and

WHEREAS, the Land Records and LRES Committees agreed with the recommendation and in turn recommend the change to the County Board.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors authorizes and directs that the following changes are effective the day following County Board approval:

- The 50% Deputy I Register of Deeds position be eliminated; and
- The 50% LIO Aide position be increased to full time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that there is no fiscal impact to this change only a transfer of funds from the Register of Deeds Office to the Land Information Office budget.

Approved by the Land Records Committee for presentation to the County Board by the Land Records Committee this 14th day of February, 2023.

Approved by the LRES Committee for presentation to the County Board by the LRES Committee this 15th day of February, 2023.

Offered and passage moved by: Chris Schultz, Greg Oettinger, Robert Briggs, Mike Timmons, Ted Cushing, Diana Harris, Scott Holewinski.

Resolution # 22 – 2023: Offered by the Supervisors of the Labor Relations Employee Services (LRES) Committee to award an amended compensation packet to newly hired employee.

Resolution to award an amended compensation packet to newly hired employee.

Resolution offered by the Supervisors of the Labor Relations Employee Services (LRES) Committee.

WHEREAS, after great difficulty in locating a candidate that could successfully complete pre-employment testing, the Sheriff has hired an E911 Telecommunicator; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff did recommend to the LRES Committee that the newly hired employee should be awarded more Paid Time Off (PTO) hours at the time of hire; and

WHEREAS, the LRES Committee approved placing the newly hired employee at year one (1) of the PTO benefit or two hundred-sixteen (216) hours of PTO, at the time of hire in lieu of the standard twenty-four (24) hours of PTO upon hire; additional twenty-four (24) hours of PTO at six months of employment and nine (9) paid closure days or a total of one hundred twenty (120) hours; and

WHEREAS, the LRES Committee can only approve an additional eighty (80) hours of PTO at the time of hire, does recommend to the Oneida County Board of Supervisors the two hundred-sixteen (216) hours of PTO be granted in lieu of all other PTO benefits during the first year of employment; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that effective on the date of hire, the E911 Telecommunicator shall receive two hundred-sixteen (216) hours of PTO in their PTO bank in lieu of the standard PTO for a newly hired employee and be placed at year one (1) of the PTO scale; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that by adoption of this resolution it shall be deemed that all associated costs will be covered in the current Sheriff Office budget for fiscal year 2023 as set forth in the fiscal impact statement which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Approved by the LRES Committee this 15th day February, 2023.

Offered and passage moved by: Ted Cushing, Diana Harris, Scott Holewinski.

Resolution # 23 – 2023: Offered by the Supervisors of the Labor Relations Employee Services (LRES) to correct the placement of the Foreperson position on the restructure of wages at the Highway Department.

Resolution to correct the placement of the Foreperson position on the restructure of wages at the Highway Department.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Labor Relations Employee Services (LRES) Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2023, the Oneida County Board of Supervisors approved resolution #12-2023 to restructure wages at the Highway Department; and

WHEREAS, the prior resolution placed the Foreperson position incorrectly in the new restructure of wages; and

WHEREAS, in order to place the Foreperson position in a consistent manner as the positions they supervise this adjustment needs to be made.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors authorizes and directs that the following changes are implemented for the Foreperson position at the Highway Department effective March 4 2023, as follows:

- Foreperson position shall be moved to Grade Level K with incumbent employees placed in a step that is a minimum of fifty cents per hour increase in pay, and have an additional one dollar per hour added to each step in Grade Level K; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that savings created will remain in the current Highway Department budget.

Approved by the LRES Committee for presentation to the County Board by the LRES Committee this 15th day of February, 2023.

Offered and passage moved by: Ted Cushing, Diana Harris, Scott Holewinski.

Resolution # 24 – 2023: Offered by the Supervisors of the Administration Committee to amend Resolution # 73 – 2022 to request additional Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF) allocated to Oneida County through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the purpose of Social Services Office Remodel Project.

Resolution to amend Resolution #73-2022 to request additional Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF) allocated to Oneida County through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the purpose of Social Services Office Remodel Project.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Administration Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) amends Title VI of the Social Security Act by adding Sections 602 and 603 establishing the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF); and

WHEREAS, Resolution #73-2022 allocated \$118,440.80 in CLFRF funds to the Department of Social Services Office Remodel project for the purpose of increased confidentiality and safety by promoting a Trauma Informed Care feeling when entering the agency; and

WHEREAS, Resolution #73-2022 approved the CLFRF funding to relocate the family visitation room, the creation of an additional interview / visitation room, multipurpose room and two additional office space; and

WHEREAS, the Social Services Department and Building & Grounds Department have identified potential for additional improvements to further the intent of enhancing a Trauma Informed Care feeling such as painting the walls and replacing the carpet throughout the hallways of the Department of Social Services, in addition to providing furnishings for the visitation and multipurpose room; and

WHEREAS, the additional improvements will not exceed \$40,000, bringing the total CLFRF allocation to \$158,400.80; and

WHEREAS, only those projects or programs which are “shovel-ready” or set to commence, if funded, upon approval of this Resolution are entertained at this stage to ensure UST requirements of funding obligation no later than December 31, 2024 and fully expended by December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the additional funding for the Social Services Office Remodel may be funded from contingency balances included in the County’s Relief Funding Plan incorporated into the 2023 budget; and, based on UST guidance should be funded under the Public Health / Economic Development category; category, and

WHEREAS, the Administration Committee is in agreement and recommends this project / program be funded using CLFRF funds; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that this project / program be funded using CLFRF funds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that by Adoption of this resolution the project / program will be reevaluated annually as part of the budget process to determine need and available funding for future years.

Offered and passage moved by: Billy Fried, Ted Cushing, Russ Fisher, Steven Schreier, Tom Kelly.

- Appointments to Committees, Commissions and other Organizations:
 - Appoint Robbie Deede to the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

Motion/Second: Cushing/Briggs to approve the consent agenda as presented, removing resolution # 23 – 2023 and postponing to March 21, 2023.

Roll Call Vote: 21 Aye

Motion: Adopted

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Resolution # 25 – 2023: Offered by Supervisor Robert Briggs to object to the State Removing Future Taxable Land by Purchasing Conservation and Access Easements.

Seconded by Oettinger.

Resolution to Object to the State Removing Future Taxable Land by Purchasing Conservation and Access Easements.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, Oneida County has 791,413 acres of area which consist of 78,091 acres of public lakes and rivers, 11,183 acres of federal land, 129,322 acres of State, DNR and Commissioner of Public Lands, 81,733 acres of County Forest, 1,703 acres of other County Lands, 10,694 acres of towns, churches and school exempt lands, 124,502 acres of Managed Forest Land (MFL) open lands and 78,643 acres of MFL closed lands for a total of 515,911 acres; and,

WHEREAS, excerpting those lands Oneida County has less than 35% of its area to levy all state, county, all towns, schools and Nicolet College tax levies; and,

WHEREAS, Oneida County’s economic growth and growth of the tax base is totally dependent on MFL property, which has been left in reserve for years with hardly any taxes paid on it; and,

WHEREAS, the State is purchasing conservation and access easements by using the Knowles Nelson Stewardship funds, which is borrowed money and increases the burden on current and future generations to pay off; and,

WHEREAS, the current outstanding principal debt of the Stewardship fund as of December 2022 is \$452,995,930 and if carried to maturity would cost the taxpayers \$578,841,025; and,

WHEREAS, the State’s current debt payment for land and conservation easements is approximately \$381,927 each week in interest and \$848,379 in principal for a weekly total of \$1,230,306; and,

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2022 the DNR purchased conservation and access easements on 12,410 acres in Oneida County, but the Joint Finance Committee stopped that purchase; and,

WHEREAS Governor Tony Evers, then used \$4.5 million dollars of American Rescue Plan Act monies to fund the cancelled purchase, which removed 12,410 acres in Oneida County from land available for future growth and tax base; and,

WHEREAS, the DNR is proposing purchasing conservation and access easements on an additional 54,928 acres of MFL land within Oneida County, which will impact not only the future tax base of the eight towns in Oneida County, but also the overall future tax base of Oneida County; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors objects to the above proposed purchase of conservation and access easements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the State of Wisconsin and the DNR ought to cease the unsustainable and runaway debt of the Knowles Nelson Stewardship Fund; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State create a statute prohibiting purchases and easements of land when 35% of the land within a town or county is public land not including MFL; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at a time when affordable housing is one of our most important issues, now is not the time to drive up the cost of home ownership by reducing future available land into conservation and access easements; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the State does purchase more land or public access, that the tax burden of public land ownership be equitably distributed among all Wisconsin Counties; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Governor, all northern counties, and all state and federal representatives of the northern counties.

Offered and passage moved by: Briggs, Oettinger.

Recess called at 11:00.

Return from recess 11:09 a.m.

Fried did not return from recess.

Discussion: Clint Miller the Regional Director of the Conservation Fund introduced himself. Miller stated that they are the current owners of the Pelican River Forest Conservation Fund a Non-profit organization. Miller stated their purpose is both resource based economic development and land conservation. Miller gave some background on the Pelican River property. Miller stated that Consolidated Timber and other investors that have bought and sold this property and profit was the motivator. Miller explained that the Conservation Fund purchased the land to block that pattern and guarantee permanent public access. Miller stated that this Conservation Easement guarantees permanent public access and opens roads that have been closed to the public for nearly a decade. Miller noted that the roads will be maintained in part by a million dollar gift the Conservation Fund will make to build an endowment that allows those roads to be maintained. Miller reported that the easement requires a sustainable forest management plan, limits subdivision of land and the land will remain in private ownership which requires the land owner to pay the taxes. Miller stated they listened to the Town of Monico when they asked us to reduce the easement footprint for future growth and agreed to remove more than 1200 acres for development. Jim Lemke the real estate section chief for the DNR spoke on behalf of the conservation easement. Lemke stated that the easement has received unanimous approval from both the Wisconsin Conservation Congress and the Natural Resources Board. Lemke stated there is a long history of partnership with Oneida County using Knowles Nelson as a means to acquire conservation type properties. Lemke explained that this is an important acquisition. Lemke disputed some of the wording in the Resolution. Lemke stated that the conservation easement is the second phase of a two phase project. Lemke stated that phase one was a 12,500 acre project just north of Pelican Lake that used 100% stewardship money. Lemke reported that the Resolution states this project was objected to by Joint Finance Committee and voted down, this is not correct. Per Lemke, concerning the 56,000 acre easement in this Resolution, the DNR was seeking a Federal Grant to seek Federal money to acquire this property. Lemke noted that if successful, this would reduce the impact on Knowles Nelson Stewardship. Lemke reported this project ranked second in priority nation-wide as a key conservation project in the nation. Lemke noted that as a result we have received an almost \$11 million dollar grant for the purchase of these 56,000 acres, that reduced the impact on Knowles Nelson Stewardship down to about \$4 Million dollars. Lemke reported that these funds are not borrowed funds, the wording in the Resolution is not correct. Holewinski stated that in September the DNR sent a letter and gave 30 days to respond with approval or disapproval. Holewinski reported that the notice gave a DNR phone number to call. Holewinski stated that he called the number five times with no return phone calls. Holewinski noted he submitted a resolution objecting. Holewinski stated that the DNR did not do their job, the time to talk to the town board was before this was put into this legacy program. Lemke stated that statutorily there is a 30 day notice requirement but the DNR should have reached out earlier. Holewinski stated that there was a phone number listed and no person answered the phone or gave a return phone call. Briggs stated that in October a Resolution from Monico was sent to a Nicole Smith objecting. Lemke stated that he did not get that Resolution and he was not aware to any objections. Holewinski stated that Sugar Camp also sent a Resolution objecting. Lemke stated he has not seen the Resolution from Sugar Camp. Lemke stated that when he presented in front of the NRB he was not aware of any of the objections. Charles Carlin of Gathering Waters stated that he objected to some of the wording in the Resolution. Carlin stated that on line 22 of the Resolution it states that Knowles Nelson Stewardship is borrowed money, this is actually paid for from the segregated Forestry Account, not bonds. Carlin explained that the Forestry Account is funded with General Purpose revenue dollars. Carlin clarified that this is money that the state has already allocated for conservation purposes. Carlin noted on line 34 the Resolution states that the Joint Finance Committee objected to phase one of the project but in fact they raised no objections to the easements. Carlin stated that on line 37 it states that Governor Evers allocated \$4.5 Million in American Rescue Plan Act monies to fund the cancelled purchase. Carlin stated that no ARPA funds were used in phase one of the purchase and the purchase was not cancelled. Carlin stated that it was approved by the Natural Resources Board and the Joint Finance Committee raised no objections to the acquisition. Carlin stated that the acquisition went forward using Knowles Nelson Stewardship Dollars. Carlin stated that none of the 12,500 acres were removed from the tax base and remains on the tax rolls. Carlin went on

to say that line 41 states that the DNR is proposing to acquire an additional 54,928 acres impacting the overall County tax base. Carlin stated that this is private land and will remain so, the tax status will not change. Carlin stated that line 49 the state of Wisconsin and the DNR ought to cease the unsustainable and runaway debt of the Knowles Nelson Stewardship Fund. Carlin stated that there is no evidence that any state debt is unsustainable or runaway, Knowles Nelson debt is less than 5% of the states approximate total debt of \$11.5 billion dollars. Carlin stated that this project is funded with Segregated Forestry account revenue, not debt. Carlin stated line 52 says that the State created a statute prohibiting purchases and easement of land when 35% of the land within a town or county is public land. Carlin reported that currently about 26% of Oneida County is public land. Carlin stated line 15 states that excepting those lands, Oneida County has less than 35% of its area to levy all taxes. Carlin noted that including lakes and rivers as land that has been removed from the tax rolls artificially inflates the amount not on the tax rolls. Carlin states that about 26% of Oneida County in public land, being number 10 in the state. Carlin stated that line 18 states that Oneida County's economic growth and growth of the tax base is totally dependent on MFL property, which has been left in reserve for years with hardly any taxes paid. Carlin discussed whether MFL payments may not be adequate, but that is a different debate. Carlin went over some background of the Knowles Nelson Stewardship Grant. Carlin discussed line 56 pertaining to affordable housing. Roach questioned the amount of land the government should own and what is enough. Lemke stated that this is listed in Statute and he would research that and get back to the board. Senator Mary Felzkowski discussed Knowles Nelson stating that the State of Wisconsin has \$5.9 Million acres of public land. Felzkowski stated that the counties of Forest, Florence, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida and Vilas total \$1.3 Million acres of public land. Felzkowski stated that the Pelican River project will not be borrowed funds. She stated that 10% of debt for the state is the recommended limit and we are currently at 16.9%. Felzkowski went over the debt of the Knowles Nelson Grant. Felzkowski stated that she is not against conservation but feels that land purchases should be done in the higher populated areas, so those populations can use the land. Felzkowski stated that she objected to this purchase, the purchase of land north of Highway 64 has to stop. She stated that there needs to be balance as there is an economic impact to those counties, towns and schools. Felzkowski stated that if they wanted to open the roads, they could do it tomorrow. Felzkowski stated that they are choosing not to, to put the pressure on to get this approved. She stated that County and State land should be open. Schreier objected and stated that everyone else got three minutes, this should not be allowed. Discussion regarding the objection. Holewinski ruled Schreier as out of order and allowed Senator Felzkowski to speak. Discussion regarding the current Knowles Nelson purchase and opening of the lands. Felzkowski stated this is a contract with the State of Wisconsin and the land owner. Felzkowski stated that this easement is in perpetuity and it is forever. Discussion of a temporary easement. Robert Briggs stated that the easement is not going to change the water quality. Briggs stated they are using the easement as a bargaining chip, they are saying that if this gets approved then they will allow UTV access. Briggs noted that at this time the gates are closed. Briggs explained that 81.5% of the Monico Township can never be developed if this goes through. Briggs discussed how this would affect his town. Holewinski stated his town also objected to this easement. Schreier stated that this should get tabled and be brought back to this body. Schreier stated this has not been discussed and we do not know enough to even consider this Resolution. Discussion regarding what would be a reasonable amount of time to bring this back. Holewinski stated that there was only a 30 day window for the municipalities to respond to this proposal and that the timeline was set through the DNR. Newman stated that she is in agreement to table this Resolution and bring it back. Thome stated that 22 people were against this. Thome stated that we need to delay and postpone this Resolution to a different meeting. Cushing stated that Hazelhurst also passed a Resolution. Cushing questioned why the DNR did not have a public hearing regarding this and there was only a 30 day window to respond. Ryden stated he is on the Conservation Congress and he has not heard anything regarding this. Rio stated that there is misinformation in the Resolution and was in favor of postponing this Resolution. Winkler stated that there are people on both sides of this issue. Schultz asked if there are 90 days before this decision is made. Schreier clarified that this is purchasing rights to the land and that government is not buying land, just the easements. Discussion regarding postponing the Resolution.

Motion/Second: Winkler/Thome to postpone Resolution # 25 – 2023 to the May 16th, 2023 County Board Meeting.

Roll Call Vote on Postponement: 9 Aye, Thome, Kelly, Winkler, Schreier, Rio, Showalter, Newman, Harris, Fisher; 11 Nay, Schultz, Condado, Roach, Ryden, Almekinder, Briggs, Timmons, Cushing, Sorgel, Oettinger, Holewinski; 1 Absent, Fried.

Motion: Fails

Discussion: Roach stated he wants to vote on the Resolution as it is not binding they will do what they want anyways. Schreier stated that we are speaking for our constituents and this Resolution is not accurate. Schreier stated this is non-binding but it is our responsibility to make sure what we are saying is accurate, this should go through a process. Showalter stated that this needs to be discussed on both sides. Cushing stated that he believes that a standing committee should be set. Thome stated that there are errors in this Resolution. Rio stated this decision will affect generations after we are gone, this information should be accurate.

Motion/Second: Schreier/Cushing to create a committee of not more than five members of the County Board to work on Resolution # 25 – 2023 and return to the County Board on May 16th, 2023.

Roll Call: 20 Aye; 1 Absent, Fried

Motion: Adopted

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME March 21, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.
Unless a motion is made to change the starting time.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Holewinski adjourned the meeting at 1:02 p.m.