

MINUTES
Oneida County Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, March 19th, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.
County Board Meeting Room - 2nd Floor Oneida County Courthouse

CALL TO ORDER.

Chairman Holewinski called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in the County Board Meeting Room of the Oneida County Courthouse. There was a brief moment of silence for our troops, law enforcement officers, and emergency responders followed by the prayer/invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Prayer was offered by Supervisor Condado.

Members Present: Tommy Ryden, Billy Fried, Jim Winkler, Mike Timmons, Linnaea Newman, Scott Holewinski, Steven Schreier, Bob Almekinder, Robert Briggs, Ted Cushing, Collette Sorgel, Chris Schultz, Robb Jensen, Debbie Condado, Russ Fisher, Greg Oettinger, Kris Hanus, Mike Roach and Diana Harris.

Members Present: 19

Absent: Showalter, Rio

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CHAIR, CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- Please use a microphone when speaking.

ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 20, 2024 MEETING:

Motion/Second: Cushing /Winkler to accept the Amended Minutes of the February 20, 2024 meeting. All "Aye", Motion carried.

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS:

- Human Service Structure Report – Mary Rideout – Rideout stated that if you did not get the update she will also be emailing it out. Rideout stated that the Stakeholders Group has been meeting monthly. Rideout presented an overview of what the Transition Oversight Committee has been doing. Rideout clarified that in the future the Transition Oversight Committee will be doing the monthly updates to the County Board. Fried questioned the remaining surplus in the Human Service Center accounts and the process to make sure they are responsibly used. Rideout stated this has been forwarded to the Oversight Panel.
- Transition Oversight Panel – Tyler Young – Young gave an update and stated that the Oversight Panel has had a couple of meetings. Young stated that no decisions have been made at this time and they will be looking for direction from the County Boards. Young stated that there was concern regarding the condition of the facilities and the intent to address those problems. Schreier stated that it was his understanding that there was money in a Buildings and Grounds fund at the Human Service Center that their board needs to approve for spending on the Koinania building. Schreier stated that they are aware there are funds there and they are addressing the issue.
- Broadband Report – John Sweeney stated that the progress is steady. Sweeney reported that two towers have been permitted and a decision returned from the Board of Adjustment. Sweeney explained that the other four tower sites are in the process of being determined. Sweeney stated that there is a lot of work right now so cost is high and a vendor has been selected. Schreier questioned the bid process and if we are getting the best price for the work. Sweeney noted that this is a company that does good work and Bug Tussel routinely uses. Fugle explained that they are not required to follow public bidding requirements, they are not held to the same rules as the County. Schreier stated that we want to see as much fiber in the ground and the most service delivered. Fisher questioned that if additional grants are approved can we get more fiber-optic in the ground. Verdoorn stated that we have not been given the maps for the Bead Grant. Verdoorn explained that the fiber backbone you have approved is not going to change, the Bead Grant will be additional off shoots of the current planned and approved fiber.
- Register of Deeds Annual Report – Kyle Franson – Franson stated the activity report is included in the packet. Franson stated that the revenues for 2023 were a little less than 2022. Franson explained that was to be expected with high real estate sales in prior years. Franson went over his report.
- Medical Examiners Annual Report – Crystal Schaub – Medical Examiner Schaub stated that her report is included in the packet. Schaub stated that there is a total of all three counties combined and also a breakdown per county listed. Schaub stated that 2022 numbers are also included.

PUBLIC COMMENT (time limit of three minutes):

- Sign attendance form at the podium. Joe Steinhage of Newbold spoke regarding Resolution # 12 – 2024. Ted Rulseh of Cassian made a recommendation to accept the Resolution as written. Jeff Verdoorn spoke regarding preserving our lakes. Tom LaDue town of Stella supports Resolution # 12 – 2024 as written. Tamara Feest of the Human Service Center spoke regarding staffing at the Human Service Center. Ann Hagelin of Woodboro spoke in favor of Resolution # 12 – 2024 as presented and would prefer it to be more restrictive. Dan Butkus property owner in Crescent spoke regarding Resolution # 12 – 2024. Mary Sowinski of Three Lakes spoke regarding her running for election for Circuit Court Judge. Karl Fate of Crescent spoke regarding Resolution

12 – 2024 and # 38 – 2024. Eric Rempala spoke on Resolution # 38 – 2024. Kathleen Cooper of Pelican spoke regarding Resolution # 12 – 2024 and # 38 – 2024. Ryan Timmons of Crescent spoke regarding the Wake Resolution. Donna Stone of Crescent read a letter regarding Resolution # 12 – 2024.

Roach signed in via zoom at 9:47 a.m

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution # 33 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Administration Committee to return Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF) back to Oneida County through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) contingency which were previously allocated in Resolution # 58 – 2023 for the purpose of the Courthouse HVAC Upgrades – Phase II Project. **Resolution to Return Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF) back to Oneida County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Contingency which were previously allocated in Resolution #58-2023 for the purpose of the Courthouse HVAC Upgrades – Phase II 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, Oneida County receives funds through CLFRF to assist the County in responding to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts; to provide premium pay to eligible workers; to make necessary investments in infrastructure; and/or to provide government services; and

WHEREAS, certain restrictions of the use of these funds are determined by the United States Treasury (UST) Department including the prohibition of depositing the funds into any pension fund; directly or indirectly offsetting tax revenue; and does limit the amount of CLFRF funding to be used for “government services” to a not-to-exceed revenue reduction cap; and

WHEREAS, the existing air handling equipment did not allow for air supply to the historic areas of the Courthouse on the second and third floors, having surpassed its anticipated lifespan, was installed poorly to the steel infrastructure, and the copper piping was old and corroded, and

WHEREAS, recognition of the need for an effective solution, including the replacement of the existing fan coil air handlers, chiller water control valves, heating water control valve and new ductwork modifications and piping, led to a request for funding; and

WHEREAS, on May 16, 2023, the request for \$546,720 in CLFRF was approved to contract Tweet/Garot Mechanical, Inc. for the execution of the project; and

WHEREAS, the Courthouse HVAC Upgrades – Phase II project was successfully completed, and project fees totaled \$463,423.53; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that \$83,296.47 in CLFRF funds be returned to the ARPA Contingency for future allocation; 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.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Administration Committee this 11th day of March, 2024.

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

Resolution # 34 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Public Works Committee Designating April 15 through April 19, 2024 as Work Zone Awareness Week in Oneida County.

Resolution offered by the Supervisors of the Public Works Committee.

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

WHEREAS, in 1999, the Federal Highway Administration partnered with the American Association of State Highway Officials and more recently the American Traffic Safety Services Association to create the National Work Zone Safety Awareness campaign which is held annually in April prior to construction season in much of the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin County Highway Association is asking all seventy-two counties in the state to unite and kick off “Work Zone Safety Awareness Week” with a resolution and campaign to raise awareness for its workers, the traveling public, public safety workers, and those of various highway contractors performing work for the counties; and

WHEREAS, construction and maintenance activities on our streets and highways periodically require that work zones be established; and

WHEREAS, there has been over 2,000 work zone crashes in Wisconsin in each of the last three years; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, there were 857 fatalities in 774 work zone crashes in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Wisconsin suffered from nearly 2,700 crashes in road construction and maintenance zones,

resulting in over 1,000 injuries and six fatalities; and

WHEREAS, between 2012 and 2017, there were 55 fatalities recorded as a result of crashes in Wisconsin work zones including three Wisconsin County Highway workers which were killed in work zones in 2015; with another recent fatality of a County Highway Worker in Milwaukee County in 2023; and

WHEREAS, through their enforcement activities and other participation, the Oneida County Sheriff's Office, Wisconsin State Patrol, and Oneida County Highway Department are committed to working together in 2024 to make Work Zone Awareness Week a success; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration has designated April 15 through April 19, 2024 as National Work Zone Awareness Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that the week of April 15 through April 19, 2024 be designated as Work Zone Awareness Week in Oneida County.

Approved by the Public Works Committee this 7th day of March, 2024.

Offered and passage moved by: Mike Timmons, Billy Fried, Mike Roach.

Resolution # 35 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Land Records Committee Granting WPS an Easement for Electric Distribution Across Parcel Number WB-2-1 in the Town of Woodboro.

Resolution to grant WPS an Easement for Electric Distribution.

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, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation is in the process of obtaining easements from landowners to improve reliability by converting overhead electric lines to underground; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation has requested an easement from Oneida County across parcel number WB-2-1 in the Town of Woodboro as shown in Exhibit A attached hereto; and,

WHEREAS, the Land Records Committee reviewed the proposed location and has no objection to the easement request, and the Land Records Committee has determined it would be in the best interest of the residents of Oneida County dependent on Wisconsin Public Service Corporation to grant such easements at no cost and recommends the County Board to approve such request.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County hereby approve granting the easements for no costs, across those lands as described in Exhibit A below to Wisconsin Public Service Corporation; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is authorized to sign and place the county seal upon the easement documents and other documents necessary to complete such transaction.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Land Records Committee this 12th day of March, 2024.

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

Resolution # 36 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee to apply for withdrawal from County Forest Law of a Parcel located in the Town of Little Rice for Construction of a Wireless Communication Tower.

Resolution to Apply for Withdrawal from County Forest Law of a Parcel Located in the Town of Little Rice for Construction of a Wireless Communication Tower.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee.

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

WHEREAS, as part of the Broadband and Cellular Infrastructure Expansion project being undertaken by Oneida County, Bug Tussel Wireless, LLC has proposed siting a cellular/broadband communication tower on land owned by Oneida County and enrolled in the County Forest Law Program in the Town of Little Rice, Oneida County, Wisconsin (see attached Exhibits A & B); and

WHEREAS, the need for more and better access to both cellular phone signal and broadband wireless internet is a known issue in Oneida County; and

WHEREAS, in addition to cellular and broadband signal, the tower will also be available to the Oneida County Sheriff and Highway Departments, WI Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), and local Town governments to co-locate antennas on this tower improving communications for public safety; and

WHEREAS, the WDNR has determined the construction of communication towers on County Forest Land is not consistent with the County Forest Law Program under Wisconsin state statute 28.11; and

WHEREAS, field inspections of the proposed site conducted by Oneida County Forestry Department staff has determined that little modification is needed to accommodate the tower and minimal loss of public benefits will occur; and

WHEREAS, based upon careful examination of this information, the Oneida County Forestry, Land and Recreation

Committee has concluded the benefits of retaining this small parcel as County Forest, are outweighed by the social and economic benefits of withdrawing the parcel to provide improved communication for public safety and cellular phone and wireless internet access to the public; and

WHEREAS, ownership of this parcel shall remain with Oneida County;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, upon receipt of a legal survey showing the footprint of the parcel to be withdrawn and a draft lease agreement that is acceptable to the County, the Oneida County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Forestry Director to proceed with an application to withdraw a parcel of land from the County Forest Law program under Wisconsin state statute 28.11 to facilitate the construction of a cellular phone and broadband wireless internet tower and the application shall be sent to the WDNR for consideration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in the event the above described land is no longer needed to facilitate a communication tower, an application shall be submitted to the WDNR to enroll the parcel back in the County Forest Law program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, revenue from the lease of this parcel shall be deposited in the Land Purchase Account #101.20.51570.483110 until such time three times the value of the parcel has been deposited, at which point the revenue shall then be deposited in the Rent of Other Facilities account #101.20.56110.482100.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, upon approval of the withdrawal from the County Forest Law Program and approval of a County-wide Facility Access Agreement for all infrastructure related to the Broadband Expansion Project and, this tower along with the lease of the property on which it is located shall be included in this agreement.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee this 12th day of March 2024.

Offered and passage moved by: Robert Briggs, Collette Sorgel, Robert Almekinder, Chris Schultz, Jim Winkler

Resolution # 37 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee to Amend the Oneida County Forest 15 year Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Resolution to Amend the Oneida County Forest 15 Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee.

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

WHEREAS, Oneida County manages approximately 83,000 acres of County Forest Lands along with numerous recreational trails and facilities for multiple benefits; and

WHEREAS, the lands known as the Oneida County Forest are managed under the direction of the Oneida County Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee, in accordance with Wisconsin State Statute 28.11, the County Forest Law; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statute Chapter 28.11 requires that all county forests operate under a County Forest 15 Year Comprehensive Land Use plan (the Plan); and

WHEREAS, the Oneida County Forest is third party certified through the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI®) to ensure long-term sustainable management of the Forest; and

WHEREAS, periodic changes to this plan are needed due to changes in management techniques, land use, and requirements of Forest Certification; and

WHEREAS, Forest Certification requires certain items be placed in certain sections of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, Land use changes have occurred since the adoption of the Plan;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts the changes to chapters 100, 500, 800 and 900 of the Plan as shown on Attachment A to this resolution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Forest Director will forward the amendments to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for approval.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee this 12th day of March, 2024.

Offered and passage moved by: Robert Briggs, Chris Schultz, Robert Almekinder, Collette Sorgel, Jim Winkler

- Appointments to Committees, Commissions and other Organizations:
 - Appoint Eileen Persike to the Wisconsin Valley Library Board for a 3-year term to expire in December 2026.

Motion/Second: Jensen/Timmons to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote: 19 Aye; 2 Absent, Rio, Showalter

Motion: Adopted

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Amended Resolution # 12 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Conservation and UW-Extension Education Committee on Enhanced Wake Regulations.

Resolution on Enhanced/Excessive Wake Regulations.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Conservation and

UW-Extension Education Committee.

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

WHEREAS, Oneida County has over 1,100 lakes, rivers, and streams, and contains one of the highest concentrations of natural lakes in the world, and
WHEREAS, Oneida County recognizes the importance of the quality of our waters to its citizens and local economies, and
WHEREAS, the lakes of Oneida County, Wisconsin are integral to the recreational base of the economy in Oneida County, and
WHEREAS, legislation has been proposed to regulate wakesurfing and wakeboarding, and
WHEREAS, the legislation as currently written fails to set minimum standards for the protection of private property, public safety and enjoyment, and aquatic environments, and
WHEREAS, towns in Oneida County have already set or are in the process of setting standards that use evidence from aquatic and engineering studies which protect shorelines of lakes in Oneida County from erosion by these enhanced/excessive wakes, and
WHEREAS, the legislation fails to include a standard related to wake depth that would protect water quality in lakes from scouring by enhanced/excessive wakes, and
WHEREAS, the legislation also fails to address the transfer of AIS through ballast water tanks and/or bladders,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors does recommend that the Wisconsin Legislature engage in meaningful discussions to set standards of at least 500 feet from the shore, and to prohibit enhanced/excessive wake creation in waters shallower than at least 20 feet in depth to balance the right of everyone to recreate on waters of the State of Wisconsin, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Wisconsin's local governments deserve local control to set their own standards beyond state minimums, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Legislature address the transfer of aquatic invasive species through ballast water tanks and/or bladders for the protection of water quality that drives the economy of Oneida County.

Approved by the Conservation and UW-Extension Education Committee this 11th day of March, 2024.

Offered and passage moved by: Linnaea Newman, Jim Winkler, Robb Jensen, Collette Sorgel, Tommy Ryden

Discussion: Winkler stated that the Resolution was reviewed and this is the final recommendation. Michele Sadauskas stated that each of the counties are required to have a Land and Water Resource Management 10 year plan. Sadauskas stated that the 2020 plan was created and approved by the County Board and the State of Wisconsin. Sadauskas stated that the number one goal in that plan was to protect our surface waters and the number one activity was to protect our Shorelands. Sadauskas stated that the Land and Water Department recommended to the committee the standards be set at 500 feet from shore and a 20 foot minimum depth in waters for Oneida County. Discussion regarding the research and data. Jensen stated that this is an advisory only Resolution.

Harris left at 11:05 a.m.

Motion/Second Fried/Oettinger to strike lines 37 through 39 after "Standards" and include "To address enhanced/excessive wakes in water shallower than at least 20 feet in depth to ensure safety of our waters and protect our shorelines.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment to Resolution # 12 – 2024: 2 Aye, Fried, Ryden; 16 Nay; 3 Absent, Rio, Showalter, Harris

Amendment to Resolution # 12 – 2024: Fails

Harris returned at 11:08 a.m.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution # 12 – 2024: 13 Aye; 6 Nay, Harris, Briggs, Ryden, Roach, Oettinger, Holewinski; 2 Absent, Rio, Showalter

Resolution # 12 – 2024: Adopted

Resolution # 38 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee to Submit Opposition Letter to the US Forest Service (USFS) Regarding Proposed Planning Process to Change Land Management Plans, i.e. Old Growth Standards.

Resolution to submit opposition letter to the US Forest Service (USFS) regarding proposed planning process to change Land Management Plans, i.e. Old Growth standards.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee.

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

WHEREAS, the USFS owns lands within the boundaries of Oneida County, Wisconsin; and
WHEREAS, the USFS has proposed a change to all 128 Property Management Plans for USFS lands in the United States in regard to Old Growth; and
WHEREAS, the 2012 Planning Rule states the USFS will "...Provide for a transparent, collaborative process that allows effective public participation..."; and
WHEREAS, Oneida County and the Towns within Oneida County have not been consulted or collaborated with during the drafting of these proposed changes; and
WHEREAS, it is the belief of the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that local governmental units have a stake in the outcome of the proposed changes and should have been consulted with early in the planning process; and
WHEREAS, The 2012 Planning Rule sought to create a planning process which "is science-based and additionally recognizes the value of local knowledge," and was intended to "balance the need for national consistency with the need for local flexibility to reflect conditions and information on each unit."
WHEREAS, it is the belief of the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that each individual USFS property should consider changes to their management plans on an individual property basis to account for the wide variety of conditions present on each property and in the communities surrounding them; so
~~**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors hereby submits the attached letter of opposition to any changes to property plan(s) within its boundaries until such time the County and its citizens and local units of government have been consulted with; and~~
THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors request that plan revisions be done on a property by property basis, not as a blanket change to all property management plans.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee this 12th day of March, 2024.

Offered and passage moved by: Robert Briggs, Chris Schultz, Robert Almekinder, Collette Sorgel, Jim Winkler

Discussion: Forestry Director Paul Fiene gave an explanation on the letter that was sent to the committee and some history on the request. Fiene stated that it is anticipated that there will be another open comment period in May. Discussion regarding the intent. Schreier expressed concern as we do not even know what the plan is. Schreier stated he feels the letter is confusing and would prefer just the Resolution be sent.

Motion/Second: Schreier/Hanus to strike lines 37 through 40.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment to Resolution # 38 – 2024: 19 Aye; 2 Absent, Rio, Showalter

Amendment to Resolution # 38 – 2024: Adopted

Motion/Second: Jensen/Winkler to strike the work "further" from line 42.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment to Resolution # 38 – 2024: 19 Aye; 2 Absent, Rio, Showalter

Amendment to Resolution # 38 – 2024: Adopted

Roll Call Vote on Amended Resolution # 38 – 2024: 19 Aye; 2 Absent, Rio, Showalter

Amended Resolution # 38 – 2024: Adopted

Resolution # 39 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Administration Committee to Authorize 2023 Budget Transfers.

Resolution to Authorize 2023 Budget Transfers.

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, Wisconsin State Statute Section 65.90(9) dictates that appropriations may not be changed unless authorized by a vote of two-thirds of the entire membership of the County Board of Supervisors; and,

WHEREAS, Oneida County Code Section 3.11 (4)(b)(2) dictates if no funding is otherwise available in a departments' budget to cover overdrawn line items, budget transfers will be requested by the department heads, prepared by the Finance Director, and presented to the Administration Committee for consideration and action; and,

WHEREAS, the Finance Director proposes the following budget transfers, with explanation provided as follows:

Department	Unaudited	Budget	(Over)	Transfer
Corporation Counsel	660,298	581,978	(78,320)	78,320
County Treasurer	229,283	225,536	(3,747)	3,747
District Attorney	298,947	288,459	(10,488)	10,488
Labor Relations & Employee Benefits	432,044	370,856	(61,188)	61,188
General Reserve for Contingency	25,535	321,958	296,423	(153,743)
Net Transfers				\$-

Corporation Counsel's department exceeded budget by 12%. A change in the County's policy to pick up the full employer health insurance cost for permanent, part-time employees, caused an unfavorable variance versus the budget for Corporation Counsel as the budget for permanent, part-time employees under the health plan in place at the time the 2023 budget was prepared. In addition the Corporation Counsel's office experienced a retirement of a long-serving employee resulting in sizable paid-time-off bank cash out that was not anticipated at the time the 2023 budget was prepared.

The County Treasury's office exceeded budget by 2%, due to an underestimate of employer costs associated with workers compensation insurance, and higher than anticipated telephone and internet charges during the year. The District Attorney's office exceeded budget by 4% due to an underestimate of part-time wages, and higher than anticipated training fees resulting from turn-over in key personnel. The Labor Relations & Employee Benefits department exceeded budget by 14% driven by two key factors. First, new hire screening increased significantly over the prior year resulting from higher than expected turn-over in positions requiring medical exams prior to employment offers being made. Second, the costs associated with the Employee Section 125 plan are now recognized as an expense to the LRES budget at the auditor's recommendation, this change in accounting practice was not known at the time the 2023 budget was prepared.

WHEREAS, the Administration Committee has reviewed and does recommend the 2023 budget transfers as presented, and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Oneida County Board of Supervisors authorizes Finance Director to execute the budget transfers as presented.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Administration Committee this 11th day of March, 2024.

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

Discussion: Fried stated that the Finance Director could not be here, this is the closing of the 2023 Budget. Holewinski stated that each of the transfers is explained.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution # 39 – 2024: 19 Aye; 2 Absent, Rio, Showalter

Resolution # 39 – 2024: Adopted

Resolution # 40 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Administration Committee to Establish Compensation for Oneida County Clerk, Register of Deeds, Treasurer 2025 – 2028.

Resolution to establish compensation for Oneida County Clerk, Register of Deeds, Treasurer 2025 – 2028.

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, it is the opinion of the Oneida County Corporation Counsel that after the earliest time for filing nomination papers, the County cannot enact any salary increase pertaining to the elected position of County Clerk, Register of Deeds and Treasurer, and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to provide fair and equitable wage increases to the Office of the County Clerk, Register of Deeds and Treasurer and

WHEREAS, the Labor Relations Employee Services Committee, having reviewed wage comparables, does recommend a wage adjustment of each calendar year 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors authorizes and directs that the salary for the position of County Clerk, Register of Deeds and Treasurer, be established as follows:

- The salary for the position of County Clerk, Register of Deeds and Treasurer, shall be equal to the Oneida County Wage Scale:
 - 2025 – Grade Level O, Step 3
 - 2026 – Grade Level O, Step 4
 - 2027 – Grade Level O, Step 5
 - 2028 – Grade Level O, Step 6

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that an employee in the position identified above who takes the County's health plan shall pay the employee contribution as designated by the LRES Committee on an annual basis, of the monthly premium towards the cost of the health plan; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that an employee in the position identified above must be enrolled or continue to participate in the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) and will be responsible to pay the employee portion of the retirement contribution which is established each year by the WRS; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors, that an employee in the position identified above is eligible to participate in the Life Insurance Program with the County paying 100% of the premium for one unit of coverage; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that an employee in the position identified above is eligible to participate in Income Continuation Insurance Program with the County paying 100% of the premium

for a waiting period of 180 days. **BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that it authorizes the aforementioned updates to the County Clerk, Register of Deeds and Treasurer position compensation package for 2025 through 2028.

A fiscal impact statement is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the LRES Committee this 21st day of February, 2024.

Offered and passage moved by: Ted Cushing, Jim Winkler, Diana Harris, Scott Holewinski, Robb Jensen

Discussion: Cushing stated this is the time of year that wages are looked at for these positions. Cushing explained that when all of the other county employees received increases these positions were left out. Charbarneau stated that the wage increases in the past years for employees have been good. Charbarneau explained that this places these positions in a grade level in the pay plan and they will be able to keep them in line with regular employees. Charbarneau stated that Corporation Counsel stated we can do this and it was already done in the past with the Sheriff. Schreier questioned if this was comparable. Charbarneau stated they were placed in the pay grade level they felt they should be placed in. Schreier explained that this is only effective during the timeframe that it spells out, till the year 2028. Schreier stated that in past years they have been far behind. Hartman stated that over the course of four years they have received 12 percent in raises and other department heads and employees have received 33.7 percent in raises. Hartman explained that statutorily they can only come to the County Board once every 4 years and did not get the cost of living raises that the employees received each year. Hartman clarified that by putting them in the wage schedule this will eliminate the continuous guessing game and will keep them in line with what the employees receive. Holewinski stated that if the wages are reduced they will also follow that. Fried stated that these are elected officials and we should lock in a salary.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution # 40 – 2024: 15 Aye; 4 Nay, Hanus, Sorgel, Roach, Fried; 2 Absent, Rio, Showalter
Resolution # 40 – 2024: Adopted

Resolution # 41 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Social Services and Public Safety Committee to Authorize Implementation Planning for the Reorganization of the Department of Community Programs and Social Services into a Consolidated Department of Human Services, Effective January 1, 2025.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND SOCIAL SERVICES INTO A CONSOLIDATED DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Social Services and Public Safety Committees.

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

WHEREAS, the County Boards of Forest, Vilas and Oneida County each passed a Resolution to withdraw from the Tri-County Human Services Board effective December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Human Service Center provides behavioral health, substance use services, and services to children with long-term support needs, Department of Community Programs, for residents of Forest, Oneida and Vilas County; and,

WHEREAS, the Oneida County Department of Social Services (DSS) serves residents by providing various services relating to our older adults, people with disabilities, children, youth and families in need, and enrollment into various financial assistance programs; and,

WHEREAS, the services provided by units within both the Human Service Center and Social Services will at times overlap and be duplicative, thereby creating inefficiencies in the services being provided; and,

WHEREAS, Forest, Oneida and Vilas Counties agreed to hire a consultant to conduct a feasibility study focused on governance and management structures for county based human and social services in the tri-county; and,

WHEREAS, based on feedback from stakeholders in the tri-county area and research on other counties' governance structures throughout Wisconsin, the consultant's recommendation is for the Forest, Oneida and Vilas Counties to develop single county Human Service Departments and begin to develop Human Service Department implementation plans for consolidation of the Departments of Community Programs (DCP), currently provided by the Human Service Center, and Social Services into one Department of Human Services within each county, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §46.23; and

WHEREAS, Forest, Oneida and Vilas Counties desire to continue to work together to ensure continuation of all Human Services in the Tri-County area; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §46.23(3)(a), a feasibility study and program implementation plan to consolidate DCP and DSS into a Department of Human Services (DHS) must be approved by the Wisconsin Departments of Children and Families, Corrections, and Health Services; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that the recommendation for the consolidation of the Departments of Community Programs and Social Services into a Department of Human Services, as outlined in the attached Forest, Oneida, and Vilas Counties Feasibility Study Governance and Management Structures for Human and Social Services, dated March 2024, are adopted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Transition Oversight Committee will work with the consultant, Patrick Cork Counseling and Consulting LLC, to develop an implementation plan and submit to the State Departments of Children and

Families, Corrections, and Health Services, along with the feasibility study for their approval by July 31, 2024; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the implementation plan, including organizational charts and budget will be submitted to the Oneida County Board no later than September 30, 2024 for final approval and to be effective January 1, 2025, if approved by the State Departments of Children and Families, Corrections, and Health Services.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Social Services and Public Safety Committees this 14th day of March, 2024.

Offered and passage moved by: Tony Rio, Steven Schreier, Jim Winkler, Ted Cushing, Diana Harris, Russ Fisher

Discussion: Rideout stated that this has been many years of discussion and study regarding the structure of Human Services. Rideout explained that there have been many studies done over the years. Rideout reported that the Department of Social Services supports the recommendation in the feasibility study to create a department of Human Services in Oneida County. Rideout stated that over 90 percent of counties are organized in this way. Rideout stated there are many benefits to this structure. Rideout explained the benefit of the new structure. Rideout explained that the recommendation is to absorb the Human Service staff and current location. Rideout noted that while absorbing this many employees may feel daunting, she reminded that these are positions that Oneida, Vilas and Forest have been paying for for decades. This will give the three counties time to determine what services will be provided per county and which services we will do together through a contract. Rideout stated that if this is approved today they will begin putting together the new structure immediately. Rideout explained that would prioritize staffing and the integration of the Human Service Center staff into the county structure. Fried questioned efficiencies. Rideout stated that efficiencies will take time and they want to work on staffing immediately.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution # 41 – 2024: 18 Aye; 1 Abstain, Newman; 2 Absent, Rio, Showalter

Resolution # 41 – 2024: Adopted

Resolution # 42 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Social Services and Public Safety Committee to Amend the 2024 Joint County Human Services Agreement with County Transition Oversight Panel.

Resolution to Amend the 2024 JOINT COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH COUNTY TRANSITION OVERSIGHT PANEL.

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

WHEREAS, in 1984 Vilas, Forest and Oneida Counties each passed resolutions to combine with the others to establish the Community Mental Health Program to provide services in mental health, developmental disabilities, alcoholism and other drug abuse pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 51.42; and,

WHEREAS, the Boards of Supervisors of Forest, Oneida & Vilas Counties modified the original organizational document at their respective meetings on November 13, 1984. The resolutions each also provided for the creation of a board of directors to be the governing and policy-making board for what was then called the Human Services Board. The County resolutions provided for the appointment of six (6) directors to the board by Oneida County and four (4) directors each to the board by Vilas and Forest Counties and for other provisions regarding the appointment and terms of office of the Human Services Board members, and,

WHEREAS, the Human Services Board established The Human Service Center to provide these services on behalf of the three counties; and,

WHEREAS, Forest, Oneida and Vilas Counties have each passed a Resolution to withdraw from the Tri-County Human Service Board effective December 31, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the services offered by the Tri-County Human Service Board are vital community services and many are statutorily required to continue thereafter; and,

WHEREAS, the Counties, each and collectively, have a vested interest in retaining current Tri-County Human Service Board staff to ensure services continue uninterrupted to the vulnerable members of our communities that rely on these services; and,

WHEREAS, each of the three counties has passed a Resolution creating a County Transition Oversight Panel (Oneida and Forest County November 14, 2023 and Vilas County January 23, 2024) to ensure the smooth and seamless transition upon the effective date of the withdrawal; and,

WHEREAS, the Tri-County Human Service Board has not abided by the direction provided by the three counties as set forth in the County Transition Panel Resolutions; and,

WHEREAS, the Tri-County Human Service Board has sought clarification regarding the counties decision to form a Transition Oversight Committee.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Forest, Oneida and Vilas Counties hereby amend any and all prior Agreements stated or not listed above with the attached Agreement; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the attached 2024 AMENDED JOINT COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH COUNTY TRANSITION OVERSIGHT PANEL shall be effective upon passage by each of the three counties; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any actions of the Tri-County Human Service Board inconsistent with the County Transition Oversight Panel Resolutions passed by Forest, Oneida, and Vilas Counties are and hereby revoked effective

as of January 23, 2024, which was the date of Vilas County's passage of the County Transition Oversight Panel Resolution.

Offered and passage moved by: Tony Rio, Steven Schreier, Jim Winker, Ted Cushing, Diana Harris, Russ Fisher

Discussion: Rideout stated that this is just an update to match a statute. Fugle stated that DHS asked for an addition to clarify the organizational structure and how payments will be made.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution # 42 – 2024: 19 Aye; 2 Absent, Rio, Showalter

Resolution # 42 – 2024: Adopted

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME April 16th, 2024 @ 9:30 a.m.

Unless a motion is made to change the starting time.

ADJOURN:

Chairman Holewinski adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

DRAFT