

WASHBURN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA

February 21, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Board Room, Washburn County Services Center, Shell Lake, Wisconsin

1. Call Meeting to Order -- Chair Mackie
2. Moment of Silent Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance -- Supv. D. Wilson
3. Notice of Meeting - County Clerk Olson
4. Roll Call -- County Clerk Olson
5. Approval of January 17, 2023 County Board Proceedings
6. Recognition of Service for Kerri Adams
7. Concerned Citizens

8. **Consent Agenda Resolutions:**
 - A. Approval of 2023 DNR Emergency Fire Warden List
 - B. Resolution Approving Letter of Support for Mosaic
9. **Other Resolutions and Ordinances:**
 - A. Resolution to Increase the 2023 Surface Water Budget with Remaining 2022 Healthy Lakes Grant Funds -- Supv. S. Smith
 - B. Resolution to Accept Funds from the Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) into the 2023 Soil & Water Conservation Budget -- Supv. S. Smith
 - C. Resolution to Increase the Soil & Water Conservation Budget with Remaining 2022 SWRM Grant Funds -- Supv. S. Smith
 - D. Resolution to Increase the 2023 Soil and Water Conservation Budget, with Remaining 2022 Producer LED Grant Funds -- Supv. S. Smith
 - E. Resolution to Increase the Register of Deeds 2023 Budget for Purchase of Fidler Program -- Supv. S. Smith
 - F. Resolution to Carry Over 2022 Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP) Grant Dollars to the 2023 Land Information/Surveyor Budget and Register of Deeds Budget -- Supv. S. Smith
 - G. Resolution to Approve Washburn County Forest Species and Habitat Conservation Agreement -- Supv. S. Johnson

10. Committee Reports
11. Chair Appointments
12. Citizen Comments
13. Chair Comments
14. Next Meeting Date and Possible Future Agenda Items
15. Audit Per Diems
16. Adjourn

Copy via Email: County Clerk; Department Heads; News Media. Individuals with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act, in need of accommodations, should contact the County Clerk's office at 468-4600 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

WASHBURN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

January 17, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Board Room, Washburn County Services Center, Shell Lake, Wisconsin

1. Call Meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Mackie
2. Moment of Silent Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Supv. D. Wilson.
3. Notice of Meeting was read by County Clerk Olson.
4. Roll Call was done by County Clerk Olson. Board members present: (20) Jeanne Bruce via Zoom; Excused: (1) Paul Johnson; Youth Present: (1) Sydney Greenfield.
5. Approval of December 27, 2022 County Board Proceedings on motion by Supv. B. Olsgard, 2nd by Supv. G. Cusick; MC.
6. Concerned Citizens – Colleen Cook, Spooner, commented on Senior Dining at 5 and shared a “thank you” to the board from the Seniors; also indicated that she would advocate for the youth in regard to the use of the current Senior Center building.
7. **Consent Agenda Resolutions:** on motion to approve by Supv. D. Wilson, 2nd by Supv. G. Cusick; MC.
 - A. **Resolution 2023-1 Ratifying the Disaster Proclamation of December 15, 2022**
 - B. **Resolution 2023-2 Approving Annual Updates to Employee Handbook**
8. **Other Resolutions and Ordinances:**
 - A. **Resolution 2023-3 Approving Sale of Hwy H Property to Barron Electric** on motion to approve by Supv. L. Featherly, 2nd by Supv. S. Smith; Tim Kessler requested to abstain due to his role on the Barron Electric board. Roll Vote: Yes (19), Abstain (1) T. Kessler, No (0); Youth: Yes (1); MC.
 - B. **Resolution 2023-4 Authorizing the Sale of Certain ROW Lands Lying Along CTY D in the Village of Birchwood to Michael and Misty Berg** on motion to approve by Supv. T. Kessler, 2nd by Supv. S. Johnson. Roll Vote: Yes (20), No (0); Youth: Yes (1); MC.
 - C. **Resolution 2023-5 Requesting the State to Revise the Current Real Estate Transfer Fees Revenue Sharing Formula** on motion to approve by Supv. S. Smith, 2nd by Supv. J. Hoy. Discussed surplus at the state. Thanked newly appointed Register of Deeds Jessica Hedinger for bringing it forward. Roll Vote: Yes (20), No (0); Youth: Yes (1); MC.
 - D. **Resolution 2023-6 for the Unit on Aging to Accept the 2023 WisDOT 53.10 Grant and Increase the 2023 Budget** on motion to approve by Supv. L. Featherly, 2nd by Supv. S. Smith. Supv. B. Olsgard gave credit to Linda Hand on a successful grant and indicated that there is a very strong likelihood that we will continue to receive the grant in future years. Roll Vote: Yes (20), No (0); Youth: Yes (1); MC.
 - E. **Resolution 2023-7 for the Veterans Service Office to Accept Donations from a Local Veterans Service Organization and Amend the 2022 Budget** on motion to approve by Supv. D. Wilson, 2nd by Supv. C. Masterjohn; Supv. G. Cusick indicated that the Springbrook VFW does a lot for the community. Roll Vote: Yes (20), No (0); Youth: Yes (1); MC.
 - F. **Resolution 2023-8 Increasing the 2023 Forestry Department Budget for Storm Damage Cleanup of Recreation Trails** on motion to approve by Supv. S. Roppe, 2nd by Supv. D. Wilson. Snowmobile trail clubs were very appreciative of the support for fixing the trails. The Forestry Committee and Forest Administrator Mike Peterson were commended for their efforts. Roll Vote: Yes (20), (0); Youth: Yes (1); MC.
 - G. **Resolution 2023-9 to Carryover 2022 Funds to the 2023 Highway Dept Budget re: Truck Expense** on motion to approve by Supv. C. Masterjohn, 2nd by Supv. G. Cusick. Roll Vote: Yes (20), No (0); Youth: Yes (1); MC.
 - H. **Resolution 2023-10 to Transfer Funds to Restricted Lease Buyback Fund re: Truck** on motion to approve by Supv. S. Smith, 2nd by Supv. C. Stariha. Brian Danielsen, Highway Commissioner, stated that he had researched the lease vs buy issue and the current plan is to discontinue leasing and to keep trucks 10+ years with the decision to trade, etc., to be made at

that time. Supv. S. Smith added that what is approved in the future depends on circumstances at that time. The Highway Committee and Commissioner Danielsen were thanked for savings to the county. Roll Vote: Yes (20), No (0); Youth: Yes (1); MC.

9. Committee Reports - dispensed
10. Chair Appointments – Jocelyn Ford to Northern Waters Board; ADRC Governing Body – at this time the following have been confirmed: Michael Linton, Mark Van Etten, Mike Schroeder, Bob Olsgard, Kathy Fabert, Cathy Peterson, Danielle Larson, Char Snarski, Colleen Cook. Motion to approve by Supv. D. Wilson, 2nd by Supv. C. Masterjohn; MC.
11. Citizen Comments - none
12. Chair Comments –Chair Mackie read a thank you card received from Colleen Cook regarding the Spooner Annex. He also thanked Linda Hand on behalf of the board as well as the Committee on Aging and the ADRC Governing Body for the fine work they have done getting us into the stand alone ADRC in 2023. Chair Mackie also thanked Brian Danielsen and the Highway Department for all the work involved with the recent snow events and stated that the citizens of Washburn County should be proud of the work highway does.
13. Next Meeting Date and Possible Future Agenda Items – Tuesday, February 21, 2023, review of 2022
14. Audit Per Diems on motion by Supv. C. Masterjohn, 2nd by Supv. L. Featherly; MC.
15. Adjourn at 6:55 pm on motion by Supv. C. Masterjohn, 2nd by Supv. L. Featherly; MC.

Copy via Email: County Clerk; Department Heads; News Media. Individuals with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act, in need of accommodations, should contact the County Clerk's office at 468-4600 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

RESOLUTION _____

**WASHBURN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
RESOLUTION TO COMMIT TO A PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP WITH MOSAIC
TECHNOLOGIES FOR BROADBAND EXPANSION PROJECTS**

WHEREAS, Washburn County (the “County”) continues to strive in the expansion of broadband technology available to its residents and visitors; and,

WHEREAS, Mosaic Technologies (“Mosaic”) is a not-for-profit local provider of broadband services in and around the County; and,

WHEREAS, the County has been certified as a Broadband Forward community by the Public Service Commission (PSC) of Wisconsin, which “distinguishes the county as supportive of increased broadband access by taking steps to reduce obstacles for private and public investment”; and,

WHEREAS, since this certification in 2018, Mosaic has been the only provider willing to come forward and work with the County; and,

WHEREAS, through various resolutions over the past several years, the County has approved investing in broadband infrastructure as well as committing to a public/private partnership with Mosaic for several recent projects; and,

WHEREAS, the County has indicated it prefers a local provider who will guarantee investment of dollars in the County until the projects are done; and,

WHEREAS, Mosaic has indicated a guarantee of such nature as described, insomuch as they would pay the County back all dollars expended by the County, with interest, if the projects do not get done; and,

WHEREAS, such a commitment will provide for a unified effort so that broadband expansion can move forward faster with more favorable grant opportunities as well.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washburn County Board of Supervisors hereby approves a continued commitment to a public private partnership with Mosaic Technologies as the preferred provider of broadband services in Washburn County.

FISCAL IMPACT: Funding to support the partnership may be done by budgeting of XX dollars/year, TBD, depending on grant requirements.

Recommended for approval by the Executive Committee this 15th day of February, 2023 and approved by the Washburn County Board of Supervisors this 21st day of February, 2023.

Thomas J. Mackie, Chair

David Wilson, 1st Vice Chair

Linda Featherly, 2nd Vice Chair

Hank Graber, Member

Mark Radzak, Member



CONTRIBUTED

The Washburn County IT Committee, consisting of (left to right) Stephen Smith, IT Director Tom Boron, Linda Featherly, Administrative Coordinator Lolita Olson, Cristina Masterjohn, Bob Olsgard.

Washburn County 'serious' about broadband

Washburn County has been certified as a Broadband Forward community by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, which distinguishes the county as supportive of increased broadband access by taking steps to reduce obstacles for private and public investment.

Gov. Scott Walker signed The Broadband Forward! Community certification Bill into law as 2015 Act 287.

"Expanding broadband is critical to the citizens of Washburn County, and we need to take all the steps we can

to reduce the hurdles for deployment of additional infrastructure," said County Board Chair Tom Mackie. "Our Broadband Forward! Certification sends the signal that Washburn County is serious about working with broadband providers to extend service."

"The State Broadband Office at the Public Service Commission stands ready to serve as a resource to communities and providers looking to maximize broadband infrastructure investments in Wisconsin with the goal of bringing broadband service to ev-

ery corner of our state," Walker said.

To assist in the expansion of broadband in Wisconsin, Walker created the Broadband Expansion Grant Program in the 2011-13 biennial budget. In 2015, Walker and the Legislature tripled the amount of funding for broadband expansion grants to \$1.5 million annually, with a total of \$6 million allocated from the Universal Service Fund cash reserves, to fund grants over a four-year period.

"Our current budget allocates a historic \$35.5 million in additional

spending for broadband expansion efforts via the expansion grant program and TEACH grants," said Walker.

"In addition to these significant and flexible public-private grants, a six-year, \$570 million federal program is providing funding to expand rural broadband access in Wisconsin," said Walker. "Any improvement in the speed and efficiency of these investments, such as that provided by the Broadband Forward! Community Program, will make a significant difference in Wisconsin."

RESOLUTION # _____

**RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE 2023 SURFACE WATER BUDGET, WITH
REMAINING 2022 HEALTHY LAKES GRANT FUNDS**

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Washburn County Land and Water Conservation Department received funding through the WI Department of Natural Resources for a Surface Water Grant-Healthy Lakes and Rivers in the amount of \$10,000; and,

WHEREAS, the goal of the grant is to protect the surface waters of the state by paying up to \$1000 per shoreline owner to establish a shoreline restoration composted of native plants ; and,

WHEREAS, this is a matching fund grant where the landowner pays the 25% with labor costs to install the restoration and the costs beyond the grant will be encumbered by the landowners and have no fiscal impact on the County; and,

WHEREAS, this grant ran from March 15, 2022 and terminated December 31, 2022, but an extension was received due to expenses not being entirely used; and,

WHEREAS, the amount of unused 2022 funds is \$6,549; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that the 2022 remaining funds of \$6,549 be added into the 2023 DNR Surface Water Grant expense account 100.56973-50290 and 100.56973-43585 revenue account.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$6,549

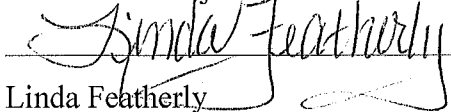
Recommended for adoption by the Washburn County AG/LCC Committee on the 19th day of January, 2023 and approved by the Washburn County Finance Committee on this 2nd day of February, 2023 and approved by the Washburn County Board of Supervisors on this ____ day of _____, 2023.



Stephen Smith, Chair



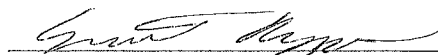
Cristina Masterjohn, member



Linda Featherly



David Wilson, Vice Chair



Scott Roppe, member

RESOLUTION # _____

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION (DATCP) INTO THE 2023 SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION BUDGET**

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Washburn County Land and Water Conservation Department applied for the Producer Led – Watershed Protection Grant from DATCP for the Shell Lake - Yellow River Farmer-Led Watershed Council and was awarded a grant in the amount of \$13,200; and,

WHEREAS, this grant that runs from January 1, 2023 and terminates December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the grant is to improve Washburn County’s soil and water quality by encouraging producer-led conservation decision making; and,

WHEREAS, these funds will be used by the council to provide educational workshops, field days, and demonstration projects that highlight conservation practice along with the farmers utilizing them; and,

WHEREAS, additionally these funds may be used by the council to provide incentive payments to producers for implementing conservation practices, such as rotational grazing, soil testing, cover crops, nutrient and manure management planning, no-till, buffer strips, grassed waterways, manure composting; and,

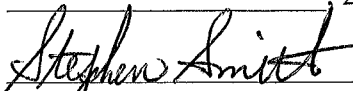
WHEREAS, this is a matching fund grant where the match must be at least equal to the requested grant fund amount, with 50% of the match being composed of a farmer’s contribution based on the cost of planting cover crops and the other 50% composed of contributed hours set at a rate of \$25 per hour; and,

WHEREAS, it is a collaborative effort with technical support group consisting of staff from UW Extension, Wisconsin DNR, Washburn & Burnett County Land and Water Conservation Departments, Natural Resource Conservation Service and Northwest Graziers, whose hours along with that of the council members and participating farmers will be utilized as match; and,

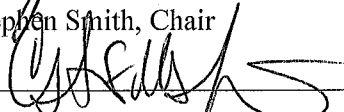
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that \$13,200 will be added to the Soil and Water Conservation 2023 expense account 100.56970-50290 and 100.56970-43585 revenue account.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$ 13,200

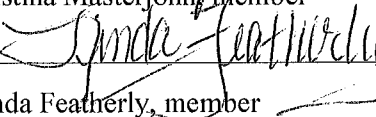
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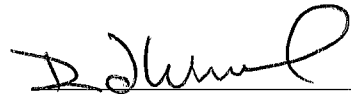
Stephen Smith, Chair



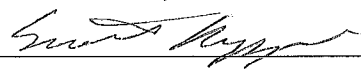
Cristina Masterjohn, member



Linda Featherly, member



David Wilson, Vice Chair



Scott Roppe, member

RESOLUTION # _____

RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE 2023 SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION BUDGET, WITH REMAINING 2022 SWRM GRANT FUNDS

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Washburn County Land and Water Conservation Department received its annual allocation for cost sharing from the Department of Trade and Consumer Protection (DATP); and

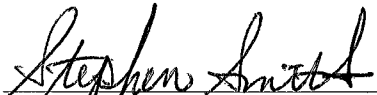
WHEREAS, these funds are used to provide landowners cost sharing to install conservation practices. Those projects that were not able to be completed included a well abandonment, two shoreline protection projects and two stream crossing projects; and

WHEREAS, the amount of unused 2022 funds is \$25,794; and

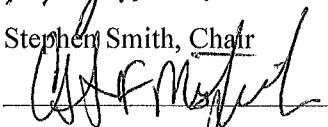
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that the 2022 remaining funds of \$25,794 be added into the Soil and Water Conservation 2023 expense account 100.56970-50290 and 100.56970-43585 revenue account.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$25,794

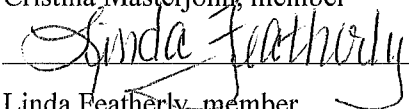
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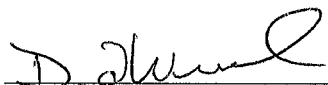
Stephen Smith, Chair



Cristina Masterjohn, member



Linda Featherly, member



David Wilson, Vice Chair



Scott Roppe, member

RESOLUTION # _____

RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE 2023 SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION BUDGET, WITH REMAINING 2022 PRODUCER LED GRANT FUNDS

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Washburn County Land and Water Conservation Department received funding through the Producer Led – Watershed Protection Grant from DATCP for the Shell Lake - Yellow River Farmer-Led Watershed Council and was awarded \$21,252; and

WHEREAS, these funds will be used by the council to provide educational workshops, field days, and demonstration projects that highlight conservation practice along with the farmers utilizing them; and

WHEREAS, additionally these funds may be used by the council to provide incentive payments to producers for implementing conservation practices, such as rotational grazing, soil testing, cover crops, nutrient and manure management planning, no-till, buffer strips, grassed waterways, manure composting, and other innovative conservation practices; and


WHEREAS, this grant ran from January 1, 2022 and terminated December 31, 2022, but an extension was received due to expenses not being entirely used; and

WHEREAS, the amount of unused 2022 funds is \$5,041; and


THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that the 2022 remaining funds of \$5,041 be added into the Soil and Water Conservation 2023 expense account 100.56970-50290 and 100.56970-43585 revenue account.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$5,041.00

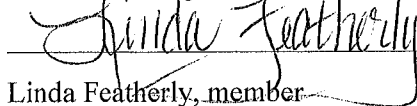
Recommended for adoption by the Washburn County AG/LCC Committee on the 19th day of January, 2023 and approved by the Washburn County Finance Committee on this 2nd day of February, 2023 and approved by the Washburn County Board of Supervisors on this ____ day of _____, 2023.



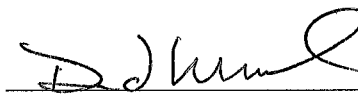
Stephen Smith, Chair



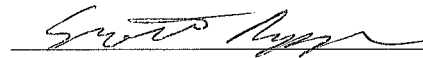
Cristina Masterjohn, member



Linda Featherly, member



David Wilson, Vice Chair



Scott Roppe, member

RESOLUTION # _____

RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE REGISTER OF DEEDS 2023 BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Register of Deeds (ROD) would like to change from TriMin Systems Inc. to Fidlar Technologies because Fidlar offers many user-friendly features and upgrades at no additional cost, a lesser annual maintenance rate by \$5,000, and a 2% lower rate of annual cost increase; and

WHEREAS, the ROD 2023 budget does not include the appropriate budget items to fund the change from Trimin to Fidlar; and

WHEREAS, if the Fidlar contract is signed by May 31, 2023, there would be no need to resign a TriMin contract, which was budgeted in the amount of \$19,998 in the Information Technology (IT) budget as levy; and

WHEREAS, Washburn County would not be required to pay the annual maintenance fee for ID Protect for social security redaction. This software is include in Fidlar's maintenance fee. Thus, reducing additional annual costs for the county; and,

WHEREAS, the cost of the conversion for the Fidlar contract for the first year is \$22,000 and the cost of conversion of the IMS system is \$12,000; and,

WHEREAS, on January 25, 2023, the IT Committee approved the levy transfer from IT to ROD of \$19,998, leaving the remainder of the cost of Fidlar, \$2,002, which would come from the ROD Department's Retain fees of \$8,000 and \$6,002 from the fund balance applied account; and

WHEREAS, a separate issue from the Fidlar conversion, but pertinent to an error in the 2023 ROD budget, it has been determined that the contracted services line and the real estate transfer fees were both under-budgeted by \$8000 in 2023; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the 2023 ROD budget be amended in the accounts noted below:

100.51710-41230 Real Estate Transfer Fee +\$8,000.00

100.51710-49310 Retain Fee Fund Balance Applied +\$6,002.00 + IMS Cost \$12,000.00

100.51710-50250.RET +\$6,002.00 + IMS Cost \$12,000.00

100.51710-50299 +\$8,000.00

100.51450-41110 -19,998

100.51450-50316 -19,998

100.51710-41110 +19,998

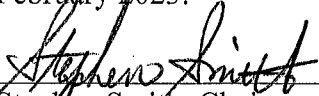
100.51710-50316 +19,998

FISCAL IMPACT: +\$34,000 to ROD Budget;

FISCAL IMPACT: -\$19,998 to IT Budget

Page 2 - RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE REGISTER OF DEEDS 2023 BUDGET

Recommended for adoption by the Washburn County Finance Committee this 2nd day of February 2023 and approved by the Washburn County Board of Supervisors this 21st day of February 2023.



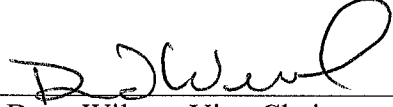
Stephen Smith, Chair



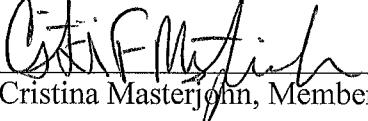
Linda Featherly, Member



Scott Roppe, Member



Dave Wilson, Vice-Chair



Cristina Masterjohn, Member

TriMin vs Fidar Cost Analysis

10 Yr Study

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>		
	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>		<u>Years 1-5</u>
Fidar	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 34,000.00	\$ 34,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	Total	\$ 132,000.00
IMS Cost	\$ 12,000.00						
TriMin	\$ 19,998.00	\$ 20,997.90	\$ 22,047.80	\$ 23,150.18	\$ 24,307.69	Total	\$ 110,501.57
5%	\$ 999.90	\$ 1,049.90	\$ 1,102.39	\$ 1,157.51	\$ 1,215.38		
	\$ 20,997.90	\$ 22,047.80	\$ 23,150.18	\$ 24,307.69	\$ 25,523.08		
							<u>Years 6-10</u>
	<u>2028</u>	<u>2029</u>	<u>2030</u>	<u>2031</u>	<u>2032</u>		
	<u>Year 6</u>	<u>Year 7</u>	<u>Year 8</u>	<u>Year 9</u>	<u>Year 10</u>		
Fidar	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 17,250.00	\$ 17,250.00	\$ 17,250.00	\$ 17,250.00	Total	\$ 86,250.00
Rate of Increase	15%	\$ 2,250.00					
	\$ 17,250.00	\$ 17,250.00	\$ 17,250.00	\$ 17,250.00	\$ 17,250.00	Total	\$ 86,250.00
TriMin	\$ 25,523.08	\$ 26,799.23	\$ 28,139.19	\$ 29,546.15	\$ 31,023.46	Total	\$ 141,031.12
Annual Rate of Increase	5%	\$ 1,276.15	\$ 1,339.96	\$ 1,406.96	\$ 1,477.31		
	\$ 26,799.23	\$ 28,139.19	\$ 29,546.15	\$ 31,023.46	\$ 32,574.63		
Fiscal Impact Years 1-5:		\$ (21,498.43)					
Fiscal Impact Years 6-10:		\$ 54,781.12					
Fiscal Impact over 10 years:		\$ 33,282.69 SAVINGS!					

RESOLUTION # _____

RESOLUTION TO CARRY OVER 2022 WISCONSIN LAND INFORMATION PROGRAM (WLIP) GRANT DOLLARS TO THE 2023 LAND INFORMATION/SURVEYOR BUDGET AND REGISTER OF DEEDS BUDGET.

WHEREAS, Washburn County received 2022 WLIP Base Budget Grant dollars from the State of Wisconsin in the amount totaling \$48,536.00; and

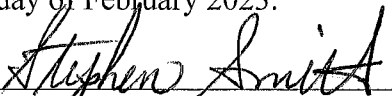
WHEREAS, \$12,896.43 remain of the 2022 WLIP Base Budget Grant; and

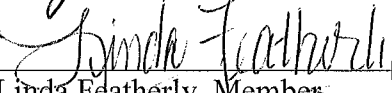
WHEREAS, the \$12,896.43 is intended to be used towards Base Budget Grant projects completed in 2023; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; that \$2,896.43 aforementioned Grant Funds and Fund Balances be carried into the FY 2023 Land Information/Surveyors Office Budget and be applied towards expense account 100.51720-50290 and that \$10,000.00 aforementioned Grant Funds and Fund Balances be carried into the FY 2023 Register of Deeds Office Budget and be applied towards expense account 100.51710-43512

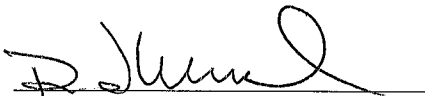
FISCAL IMPACT: State funded \$12,896.43

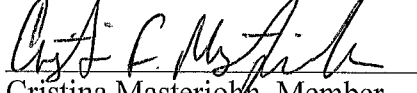
Recommended for adoption by the Washburn County Finance Committee this 2nd day of February, 2023 and approved by the Washburn County Board of Supervisors this _____ day of February 2023.


Stephen Smith, Chair


Linda Featherly, Member


Scott Roppe, Member


Dave Wilson, Vice-Chair


Cristina Masterjohn, Member

APPROVAL WASHBURN COUNTY FOREST SPECIES AND HABITAT CONSERVATION AGREEMENT

Resolution No. _____

WHEREAS, Washburn County manages approximately 150,000 acres of County Forest Lands along with numerous recreational trails and facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Northern long-eared bat is expected to be listed as federally endangered in 2023 and the Little brown bat is under review for listing; and

WHEREAS, the states of Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan have jointly developed the Lakes States Forest Management Bat Habitat Conservation Plan in order to receive an incidental take permit for forest management activities issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and

WHEREAS, Washburn County plans to engage in activities that could result in the incidental take of the bats and seeks to be included in under the Broad Incidental Take Permit issued to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, time is of the essence as the final endangered species listing is expected to occur in the near future and the draft template agreement for inclusion has not been finalized by Department of Natural Resources and is currently being reviewed by partners.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washburn County Board of Supervisors in consideration of the needs to conserve the bat populations in Wisconsin while continuing multiple use management consistent with the Washburn County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan, approves application for inclusion into the Bat Habitat Conservation Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the County Forest Administrator is authorized to execute an agreement for inclusion into the Lakes States Forest Management Bat Habitat Conservation Plan that is deemed acceptable by the Washburn County legal counsel and the approved by the Forestry, Parks and Recreation Committee.

Submitted for adoption this ____ day of _____, 2023 by:

Forestry, Parks and Recreation Committee:

FISCAL IMPACT: Undetermined

Motion for adoption by:
Supervisor _____

Sandy Johnson, Chair

Hank Graber, Vice Chair

Seconded by:
Supervisor _____

Mark Radzak

Jerry Smith

Brian Melton