

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Brown County



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LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Supervisor Norb Dantine, Chair
Citizen Rep Stan Kaczmarek, Vice Chair
Supervisor Nicholas Dagneau, Supervisor Tom Friberg,
Supervisor Kevin Gannon, Supervisor Stephen Przybelski

LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025
6:00 PM
Room 200, Northern Building
305 E. Walnut Street
Green Bay, WI

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COMMITTEE MAY TAKE ACTION ON
ANY ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

- I. Call Meeting to Order.
- II. Approve/Modify Agenda.
- III. Approve/Modify Minutes of February 4, 2025.

Comments from the Public

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION

- 1. Resolution in Support of Increasing Base Funding for County Conservation Staffing to \$15.1 Million.
- 2. East River Water Trail Update.
- 3. Director's Report:
 - a. ARPA Project Update: Project 78 (Cover Crop and No-till Incentive Program), Project 79 (East River Water Trail).
 - b. Other Project Updates.

Other

- 4. Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law.
- 5. Adjourn.

Norb Dantine, Chair

Notice is hereby given that action by the Committee may be taken on any of the items which are described or listed in this agenda.

Please take notice that it is possible additional members of the Board of Supervisors may attend this meeting, resulting in a majority or quorum of the Board of Supervisors. This may constitute a meeting of the Board of Supervisors for the purposes of discussion and information gathering relative to this agenda.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Section 18.94 Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Land Conservation Subcommittee** was held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025 in Room 200, Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, WI.

Present: Chair Norb Dantine, Vice Chair (Citizen Rep) Stan Kaczmarek, Supervisor Tom Friberg, County Board Chairman Patrick Buckley
Excused: Supervisor Kevin Gannon, Supervisor Nick Dagneau
Also Present: County Conservationist Nick Peltier, Assistant County Conservationist Jon Bechle, and other interested parties

I. Call Meeting to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dantine at 6:00 p.m.

II. Approve/Modify Agenda.

**Motion made by Stan Kaczmarek, seconded by Supervisor Friberg to approve. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

I. Approve/Modify Minutes of January 7, 2025.

**Motion made by Supervisor Friberg, seconded by Stan Kaczmarek to approve. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Comments from the Public None.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION

- 1. Budget Adjustment Request (25-008): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.**

**Motion made by Stan Kaczmarek, seconded by Supervisor Friberg to approve. Vote taken.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 2. Budget Adjustment Request (25-009): Any increase in expenses with an offsetting increase in revenue.**

Motion made by Supervisor Friberg, seconded by County Board Chair Buckley to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 3. 2024 Wildlife Damage Program update.**

Assistant County Conservationist Jon Bechle referred to the handout re: 2024 Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP) Update, provided in the agenda packet, and spoke to it.

4. **Director's Report:**

Peltier informed they've had an Engineering position open since September and will have a second Engineer position open in April with Bechle leaving.

The Demo Farm winter event, the Fox Farm Roundtable, will be at Van Abels on February 18, 2025.

On Friday, Kaczmarek and Peltier will meet with Senator Wimberger to discuss stormwater resource management funding for the last two dozen budget cycles that have been underfunded.

Lastly, a significant part of their budget is federal funds and they're participating in the Climate Smart project. They're getting mixed signals on implementing and are in a holding pattern with it.

- a. **ARPA Project update: Project 78 (Cover Crop/No-till Incentive Program), Project 79 (East River Water Trail).**

County Conservationist Nick Peltier informed there were no changes for this month, balances stayed the same and the funds were under contract to be carried forward into this year.

- b. **Other Project Updates.**

Other

5. **Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law.**

6. **Adjourn.**

Motion made by Stan Kaczmarek, seconded by County Board Chair Buckley to adjourn at 6:17 p.m. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia A. Loehlein
Legislative Specialist

March 19, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE BROWN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Ladies and Gentlemen:

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASING BASE FUNDING
FOR COUNTY CONSERVATION STAFFING TO \$15.1 MILLION**

WHEREAS, County Land and Water Conservation Department (LWCD) staff are relied upon to carry out a range of Wisconsin's state agricultural and resource management programs that reduce non-point pollution, preserve farmland, protect waterfront property, reclaim non-metallic mines, limit aquatic invasive species control, manage forests and reduce floods; and

WHEREAS, LWCDs assist Wisconsin's farmers in many ways, including supporting producer-led watershed groups, developing nutrient management plans, engineering manure storage and transfer systems and applying conservation practices that promote soil health and build profitability; and

WHEREAS, the shared conservation work of LWCD professionals and landowners has major water quality benefits, including preventing soil erosion, protecting drinking water supply, increasing rainwater infiltration into groundwater aquifers and restoring native habitat; and

WHEREAS, LWCD experts are trusted, technical advisors that consult with landowners to understand their land management goals and then propose customized solutions including project planning and contracting, engineering, quality control, and securing of cost-share funding to reduce project expenses to; and

WHEREAS, building a partnership based on trust and understanding with farmer and landowner clients cannot happen instantly, but rather, requires a sustained commitment over time from LWCD professionals; and

WHEREAS, LWCDs leverage cost-share funding from federal and private sources, providing a 2:1 return on the state investment, and spurring local economic growth in industries including agriculture, construction, tourism, forestry and recreation; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin codifies LWCDs' role in carrying out state conservation standards via Wis. Stats Chap. 92, defining a goal that the State fund staff positions in every LWCD at: 100% of the first; 70% of the second; and 50% of each additional staff position; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has not ensured baseline support of LWCDs by meeting this funding goal since its inception, and **in the 18-year period from 2006 to 2024, base funding relative to LWCD staffing needs decreased by 24%**; and

WHEREAS, supporting county LWCDs is a priority widely supported by conservation, environmental and local government groups alike.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Brown County Board of Supervisors hereby urges the Wisconsin State Legislature to strengthen the viability of the State's County Land and Water Conservation Staffing Program, **by increasing base funding for the program by \$6,131,000 on an annual basis to a total of \$15.1 million annually, and**

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent via email to: the WI Land and Water Conservation Association; all State Legislators; the Governor; the DATCP Secretary; the DNR Secretary; the DOA Secretary; the Wisconsin Counties Association; and the Wisconsin Towns Association.

Fiscal Note: This resolution does not require an appropriation from the General Fund. This is a 'Sense of the Board' resolution that seeks additional funding from the state.

Respectfully submitted,

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Approved By:

TROY STRECKENBACH
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Date Signed: _____

25-043R

Authored by: Land and Water Conservation Department
Final Draft Approved by: Corporation Counsel's Office

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ROLL CALL # _____

Motion made by Supervisor _____

Seconded by Supervisor _____

SUPERVISORS	DIST. #	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	EXCUSED
ANTONNEAU	1				
DE WANE	2				
NICHOLSON	3				
JACOBSON	4				
THENO	5				
LEFEBVRE	6				
FRIBERG	7				
BORCHARDT	8				
EVANS	9				
VANDER LEEST	10				
BUCKLEY	11				
GANNON	12				
DANTINNE, JR	13				

SUPERVISORS	DIST. #	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	EXCUSED
DAGNEAU	14				
RENTMEESTER	15				
KASTER	16				
VAN DYCK	17				
MCDONALD	18				
LABOUVÉ	19				
COENEN	20				
PRZYBELSKI	21				
PETERS	22				
WOLFE	23				
TOELLNER	24				
LUND	25				
PYLE	26				

Total Votes Cast _____

Motion: Adopted _____ Defeated _____ Tabled _____

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION



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GREEN BAY, WI 54311

NICK PELTIER

PHONE (920) 391-4620 WEB: www.browncountywi.gov

COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST

RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE SUBMISSION TO COUNTY BOARD

DATE: 2/27/2025
REQUEST TO: Land Conservation Committee, County Board
MEETING DATE: 3/4/2025, 3/19,2025
REQUEST FROM: Nick Peltier
County Conservationist

REQUEST TYPE: New resolution Revision to resolution
 New ordinance Revision to ordinance

TITLE: Support for increasing base funding for county conservation staffing

ISSUE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Wisconsin stats 92.14(6)(b) defines the state's effort to fund county land conservation departments. \$20.2 million is needed to meet that goal. State funding in the last biannual budget was approx. \$11.2 million per year with \$8.9 million being base funding. The governor has proposed \$15 million in base funding for 2026 and \$15.6 million for 2027.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Encourage Wi legislature to provide additional funding for county land conservation in the state budget.

FISCAL IMPACT:

NOTE: This fiscal impact portion is initially completed by requestor, but verified by the DOA and updated if necessary.

1. What is the amount of the fiscal impact? \$0
2. Is it currently budgeted? Yes No N/A (if \$0 fiscal impact)
 - a. If yes, in which account? _____
 - b. If no, how will the impact be funded? _____
 - c. If funding is from an external source, is it one-time or continuous?
3. Please provide supporting documentation of fiscal impact determination.

COPY OF RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE IS ATTACHED