

CRAWFORD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
November 13, 2018

The Crawford County Board of Supervisors met in annual session at the Crawford County Administration Building in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin on November 13, 2018.

The Board was called to order by Chairman Tom Cornford. Roll was called with all members present except Supervisor Mary Kuhn.

The Chairman led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was verified as being properly posted.

Motion by Kelley, second by Steiner to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Cornford stated that the County Board of Supervisors will now take up the matter of the 2019 Budget.

Supervisor Duane Rogers, Chairman of the Finance Committee, gave a presentation to the Board of the 2019 proposed budget which included a historical perspective of all fund balances and the changes in those fund balances. The General Fund balance has increased by \$516,161 over the past five years.

Supervisor Rogers explained that initially the 2019 budget was \$675,000 above the allowable levy limit. In order to balance the budget \$357,000 was applied from the general fund; the Highway Department's request was reduced by \$250,000 and \$67,931 was applied from the TIF closeout funds. The proposed tax levy would decrease by 1%.

There was concern expressed by the supervisors on future budgets and the amount of money being taken from the General Fund. The supervisors know that this cannot continue. Supervisor Rogers stated that if the levy limits continue, another option would be to consider borrowing for capital purchases.

Motion by Kelley, second by Orr that the Clerk shall read the budget total only for each department. The motion carried and the Clerk read the budget total for each department.

Motion by Dull, second by Krachey to allow any questions or appearances to come before the Board. Motion carried unanimously. There were no further questions.

Motion by Krachey, second by Kelley that the budget be read by summaries only. The motion carried and the Clerk read the budget by summaries only.

Chairman Cornford stated the Budget has been read and considered several times, the question is, "Shall the 2019 Budget be adopted?"

Motion by Russell, second by Olson that the 2019 Budget be adopted. Motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Dan McWilliams, Health and Human Services Director, appeared before the Board to explain the resolution. There has been a 39% increase across the state for out of home placements since 2012. Drugs and alcohol have contributed to this factor. The County continues to see costs rise on child welfare services with a 28% increase since 2014. The caseload for workers in the child welfare unit was provided which shows that the County continues to see a higher than average caseload per worker. Dan is asking for the County's support by passing this resolution which would request that the State's allocation for the Children and Family Aids for the 2019-2021 state biennial budget be increased by \$30 million annually.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-2018

RESOLUTION REQUESTING INCREASED FUNDING AND OVERSIGHT REFORMS FOR WISCONSIN'S CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin child welfare system is county-operated and state-supervised, except Milwaukee County, where the system is administered by the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF), Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (DMCPS); **and**

WHEREAS, DCF provides insufficient funding to counties for the provision of child abuse and neglect services including prevention, investigation, treatment, and out-of-home placement costs, though the state has primary responsibility for compliance with federal requirements and shares liability for ensuring the system is meeting its obligations to children and families in all 72 counties; **and**

WHEREAS, in recent years the state of Wisconsin added numerous mandates and practice expectations which increased county child protective services (CPS) workload and costs; **and**,

WHEREAS, the opioid and methamphetamine epidemics have brought Wisconsin's child welfare system to a point of crisis, with increasing concern about the system's ability to meet its obligations to children and families; **and**,

WHEREAS, the capacity for counties to continue to bear the lion's share of financial responsibility to address this crisis has been exhausted, as rising county contributions to the CPS system have far outpaced increases to the DCF Children and Family Aids allocation and counties have used reserve funding to cover CPS expenses and increase staffing; **and**,

WHEREAS, maintaining sufficient resources for Wisconsin's child welfare system is critical to secure the safety and future of our most vulnerable children; **and**,

WHEREAS, without a proportional increase in the DCF Children and Family Services allocation, the CPS system has been stressed for over a decade, causing caseloads for CPS workers to grow to unreasonable levels, contributing to high levels of staff turnover in some counties and an overrun of out-of-home care costs above what counties can sustain within available resources; **and**,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's CPS system leaves significant gaps in state-level oversight for all counties except Milwaukee County, including the absence of caseload standards, no process for regular legislative evaluation and prioritization of CPS needs and the absence of a legislative committee that provides regular policy guidance concerning CPS system issues such as adequate funding, performance, cost sharing and long-term stability; **and**,

WHEREAS, along with DMCPs, all eleven of Wisconsin's peer states with county-administered CPS systems have either adopted caseload standards for CPS caseworkers, completed thorough workload studies as a basis of determining funding needs, or otherwise have made significant recommendations related to keeping CPS workloads manageable; **and**,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Crawford County Board of Supervisors does hereby request that the state of Wisconsin increase the Children and Family Aids Allocation to counties in the 2019-2021 state biennial budget by \$30 million annually in order to cover a greater share of out-of-home care costs and increase staffing levels based on the caseload standards developed by the Wisconsin County Human Services Association (WCHSA) so Wisconsin's CPS system can meet its obligations; **and**,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Counties Association urges the state of Wisconsin to close critical oversight gaps by creating legislative mechanisms to review the CPS resource needs of all counties as part of the biennial budget process and ensure an appropriate committee provide ongoing policy guidance to respond to emerging CPS trends and ongoing system needs; **and**,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Scott Walker, Department of Children and Families Secretary Eloise Anderson, Department of Administration Secretary Ellen Nowak, area legislators, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Dated this 8th day of October, 2018.

Wade Dull, Chairman
Joyce Roth
Carl Orr
Elling Jones

Mary Kuhn
Ellen Brooks
Brad Steiner

Passed and approved this 13th day of November 2018.

Tom Cornford
County Board Chairman

ATTEST:
Janet L. Geisler
County Clerk

Motion by Orr, second by Stirling to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-2018

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2019 BUDGET

BE IT RESOLVED that the County Board of Supervisors of Crawford County now in open session this 13th day of November, 2018, that the 2019 Budget be adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk be and hereby is instructed and ordered to assess the same against the taxable property of Crawford County, both real and personal, pursuant to the action and recommendations of the County Board and the Wisconsin Statutes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Duane S. Rogers

Geri Kozelka

Greg Russell

Gerald F. Krachey

Wayne Jerrett

Motion by Rogers, second by Dull to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

Dave Troester, County Conservationist, gave a report on the recent County-wide clean sweep program. The total cost to the County was \$355.48. The price for TV disposal charge went from \$5 to \$10. Microwaves were advertised for disposal at a cost of \$10. The total weight for microwaves was 2,383 compared to 591 in 2017. The amount of electronic collections was down. The total weight for the electronics collection was 46,448. This is down from 2017 when it was 61,495. All but two of the townships and two of the villages contributed the \$200 contribution that was requested to offset the costs.

Under new business there was a **motion by Krachey, second by Steiner to approve a 2.5% pay increase for employees. Motion carried unanimously.**

There was a damage by dog claim submitted by Bonnie Wideman in the amount of \$150 for the loss of a lamb.

Motion by Krachey, second by Dull to table the damage by dog claim until the December County Board meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board there was a motion by Esser, second by Kelley to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
(ss)
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD

I, Janet L. Geisler, Clerk of County of Crawford, State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Journal of Proceedings of the Crawford County Board of Supervisors at the Annual Session on November 13, 2018

Janet L. Geisler, Crawford County Clerk