

**CRAWFORD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**August 18, 2020**

The Crawford County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at the Crawford County Administration Building in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin on August 18, 2020.

The Board was called to order by Chairman Tom Cornford. Roll was called with all members present, except Supervisors Hayes-Hall and Orr.

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

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

Human Resources, Cheri Leachman, addressed the Board regarding the Recognition Policy for County employees. She explained that there are four different types of recognition, which are for length of service, retirement, peer-to-peer recognition and an exemplary one-time achievement.

The COVID 19 Travel Risk policy was put into place on July 17<sup>th</sup> and provided to employees as a travel guide.

The Employee Assistance Program will be in alliance with the City of Prairie du Chien. By joining with the County, the cost per employee will be \$15 per employee per year, which is around \$2,000 for the County. This program provides various assistance to employees at no cost to them. The program is provided through Gundersen, but the employee is not required to have Gundersen Health Insurance.

Steve Schneider, CEO of Bug Tussel Wireless addressed the Board. He advised that he was contacted by the Wauzeka/Steuben school district regarding broadband in regards to virtual learning. There are lapses throughout the County with no access to broadband. Mr. Schneider needs to know if the County wants them to be involved before proceeding any further because of the costs involved. There needs to be a commitment from the County. The following school districts had representatives at the meeting: Seneca, DeSoto, Boscobel, North Crawford and Wauzeka/Steuben.

Supervisors asked if there were any costs involved from the County. Mr. Schneider advised that eventually the County will need to ask for a \$250,000 loan from Bug Tussel, which would be at a low interest rate.

Edie Ehlert addressed the Board regarding her concerns for radiation exposure causing serious public health risks.

**Motion by Krachey, second by Dull to support the broadband proposal. Motion carried unanimously.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-2020**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ACCOUNT  
TO BE CARRIED FORWARD INTO 2020**

**WHEREAS**, the Finance Committee has recommended that the following 2019 account be carried forward into 2020:

Sheriff's Department New Auto

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Crawford County Board of Supervisors approve the carryover of the aforementioned account.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Geri Kozelka	Thomas G. Cornford
Wayne Jerrett, Jr.	Greg Russell
Gerald Krachey	Duane S. Rogers

The Clerk advised that this resolution was necessary since the funds that were not spent in 2019 for new vehicles in the Sheriff's Department were not carried forward.

**Motion by Kuhn, second by Olson to approve the resolution. The motion carried unanimously.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-2020**

**Crawford County Support for Second Amendment Rights**

**WHEREAS**, the unalienable Right of the People to Keep and Bear arms is guaranteed as an individual right under the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and also under the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin, Article 1, Section 25 -- "the people have the right to keep and bear arms for security, defense, hunting, recreation or any other lawful purpose"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, and all members of the Wisconsin State Legislature, each having been elected of their respective offices by the citizens of the State of Wisconsin, have each been duly sworn by their Oath of Office to uphold the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS**, all Crawford County Board members, each having been elected to represent the People of Crawford County, have each been duly sworn by their Oath of Office to uphold the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Crawford County Board of Supervisors in session this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020 that the Crawford County Board recognizes and reaffirms their individually sworn Oaths of Office to uphold the entirety of the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin and we hereby urge the Governor and all members of the Wisconsin State Legislature to do likewise.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Crawford County Board hereby opposes any Executive or Legislative action under consideration by the Governor and/or the Wisconsin State Legislature, which would abrogate, diminishes or in any way infringe upon the Second Amendment Rights of the citizens of Crawford County, which if implemented would ban or impose additional regulations regarding the possession of and use of any firearms, firearm accessories, magazines, and ammunition employed by the individual citizens of Crawford County for their personal defense of life, liberty and property.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Crawford County Board opposes any executive or legislative action under consideration by the Governor and/ or the Wisconsin State Legislature, which would implement any firearms confiscation of “buy back” laws, implement any universal background checks or firearms owner ID requirements, or cause the establishment of a punitive tax on the purchase or possession of firearms, firearm accessories, magazines and ammunition.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Crawford County Board opposes any executive or Legislative action under consideration by the Governor and/or the Wisconsin State Legislature, which would implement any type of “red flag law” which would abrogate, diminish, or in any way infringe upon the full legal rights of due process, as guaranteed to all citizens in Crawford County.

**By: Thomas G. Cornford, County Board Chair**

**Motion by Kuhn, second by Munson to have the Clerk read the resolution by title only. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mary Sundberg Stirling spoke against the resolution and asked the Board to not pass the resolution.

Supervisors advised that they had received calls both for and against the resolution.

**Motion by Russell, second by Flansburgh to adopt the resolution. The voting members voted aye: Cornford, Flansburgh, Kozelka, Krachey, Kuhn, Lorenz and Russell. Voting nay were: Dull, Jerrett, Kelley, Munson, Olson, Rogers, Steiner and Stirling. The motion to adopt failed.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 13-2020**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN APPLICATION TO WHEDA’S RURAL AFFORDABLE WORKFORCE HOUSING INITIATIVE**

**WHEREAS**, WHEDA’s Rural Affordable Workforce Housing Initiative (“Initiative”) is a community-based pilot process that seeks to inform and address workforce housing disparities in rural communities across the state, and

**WHEREAS**, the need for workforce housing in Crawford County is an ongoing barrier to population growth, community enhancement, job growth, and economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, WHEDA is seeking applications from communities to participate in the Initiative; and

**WHEREAS**, Crawford County meets the definition of “community” within the application guidelines and reflects the area impacted by the workforce housing challenge, and

**WHEREAS**, Community Development Alternatives, Inc. (“CDA, Inc.”) has credibility, connections, experience, capacity, and expertise in the successful development of a range of housing in Southwest Wisconsin and will serve as the “convener” for the project mobilizing, coordinating, and supporting the pilot design process and solutions, and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Crawford recognizes that the solutions to providing successful workforce housing will require leadership, creativity, cooperation, sustainability, and community participation

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County Board of the County of Crawford does hereby

- 1) Support and endorse an application representing all of Crawford County to the Rural Affordable Workforce Housing Initiative;
- 2) Concur in Community Development Alternatives serving as convener;
- 3) Agree to participate fully and cooperatively in the pilot design process and development of solutions.

Adopted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

Resolution introduced and adoption moved by: David Olson  
Motion for adoption seconded by: Linda Munson  
By a vote of 15 in favor, 0 against, and 0 abstain.

Thomas G. Cornford, Crawford County Board Chairman

Janet Geisler, County Clerk

Lori Bekkum addressed the Board and explained that this is a pilot program and three communities will be chosen to participate. The funds will be used for infrastructure. An application needs to be submitted in order to participate in the program.

**Motion by Olson, second by Munson to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 226-2020**

**ORDINANCE DELETING 7.02  
CRAWFORD COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES**

The Crawford County Board of Supervisors do ordain as follows:

Section 1. That the Crawford County Code of Ordinances Number 7.02 relating to speed limits is deleted in its entirety from the Code of Ordinances.

Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective from and after its passage and publication as required by law.

**HIGHWAY COMMITTEE:**

Thomas G. Cornford  
Derek Flansburgh  
Gerald F. Krachey  
David Olson

**Published this        day of September, 2020.**

**Effective this        day of September, 2020.**

Highway Commissioner, Kyle Kozelka, addressed the Board and explained that the speed limit ordinance pertained only to vehicles on County Trunk K, which had different speed limits at various points in the road. By deleting this ordinance, there would no longer be different speed limits.

**Motion by Krachey, second by Olson to adopt the ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.**

Supervisor Duane Rogers addressed the Board regarding the finances of the County. He explained that the County's General Fund balance had decreased by \$442,882 between 2017 and 2018. The County continues to take money from the General Fund in order to balance the budget each year. Information was given detailing the amount of the spend down of the General Fund over the last four years. The County's General Funds ratio has dropped from 32.8% to 25.4%. The Finance Committee is recommending a wheel tax be implemented. The County has approximately 19,000 vehicles. A tax of \$20 per vehicle could result in as much as \$380,000 revenue. The tax would go into effect January 1, 2021. This revenue must be used for transportation purposes only. The Highway department would then have their budget reduced by the amount of the revenue from the wheel tax.

**Motion by Munson, second by Kuhn to read the ordinance by title only. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **ORDINANCE NO. 227-2020**

#### **ANNUAL COUNTY VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE CRAWFORD COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES**

The Crawford County Board of Supervisors do ordain as follows:

**WHEREAS**, building and maintaining highway and bridges are essential to sustaining the quality of Wisconsin's highway infrastructure, which is vital to the state, counties and municipalities to support commerce, tourism and the safe transportation of people and goods; and

**WHEREAS**, the Crawford County property tax appropriation and other revenues from the State of Wisconsin have not been able to keep up with the increases in the cost of materials needed to maintain the county highway maintenance and construction programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin Statutes 341.35 gives a county the authority to enact an ordinance imposing an annual flat registration fee on all motor vehicles customarily kept in the county; and

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin Statutes 341.35 defines a "motor vehicle" as an automobile, or motor truck registered under Wis. Stats. 341.25(1)(c) at a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds; and

**WHEREAS**, a \$20 annual county vehicle registration fee would become a designated revenue source for the core service of highway maintenance and construction in Crawford County that comes directly from the users of highways; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation collects the fee and remits the moneys collected to the county less an administrative fee, currently at \$0.17 per motor vehicle; and

**WHEREAS**, the Crawford County Board of Supervisors directs these annual fees to be in addition to other fund sources currently being utilized by the Crawford County Highway Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this Ordinance to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation requires a minimum of ninety (90) days notice prior to the first date of the month the Ordinance is to be made effective,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Crawford County Board of Supervisors hereby creates an Annual County Vehicle Registration Fee of the Crawford County Code of Ordinances, to be made effective January 1, 2021.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Duane Rogers  
Gerald Krachey  
Geri Kozelka  
Wayne Jerrett

**Motion by Krachey, second by Dull to adopt the ordinance. The roll was called with all members voting aye, except Supervisor Russell who voted nay.**

Supervisor Duane Rogers addressed the Board regarding the \$500,000 loan that the County had approved for 2020, which was to be paid back in the same year. Quotes were received from several banks for the interest rates. The County Board must approve the quote. The Finance Committee had reviewed the various quotes in February and had approved the quote from Peoples State Bank with an interest rate of 1.4%.

**Motion by Kuhn, second by Stirling to approve the borrowing from Peoples State Bank. The motion carried with Supervisor Rogers abstaining.**

County Clerk Janet Geisler advised the Board that municipalities would be purchasing new voting machines in 2021. The purchase will be made through the County, and municipalities will reimburse the County with the option of paying over one or two years. All of the townships and three of the villages will be purchasing tabulating machines at a cost of \$6,600. The County was able to receive a sizable discount since the purchase will be coordinated with several other counties. The original cost was \$8,440. The City of Prairie du Chien and Town of Bridgeport have already purchased new

machines on their own. The smaller villages with a population of under 100 will be purchasing replacement touch screen machine. The Village of Gays Mills with approximately 271 voters chose not to purchase the tabulating machine. The life span of the new machines is estimated at 20 years.

Supervisor David Olson discussed the CAFO moratorium. A public hearing will be held virtually around the first week of September.

There being no further business to come before the Board, there was a motion by Flansburgh, second by Krachey 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 Regular Session on August 18, 2020.

**Janet L. Geisler, Crawford County Clerk**