

## In Ferryville River Bluff Daze coming up soon

River Bluff Daze in Ferryville is the place to be for family-friendly entertainment. The event will feature an antique tractor pull, a river bluff hike, a Farmer's Market, fun, food, and fireworks!

All this will be in Ferryville, Wisconsin on Saturday, July 22. All events are free. Mark your calendars, and plan to spend the day in Ferryville. For more details, keep on checking our Facebook page: facebook.com/ferryvillewi or our website www.visitferryville.com

### Event schedule

- 8:30 a.m.—Join Joanne White for a nature hike on the Sugar Creek Bluff Natural Area. Meet at the Ferryville Boat Landing at 8:30 a.m., and carpool to the trailhead. Hikers will see birds, wildlife, and wild flowers on the gradual 1.5 mile round trip to the scenic overlook. This hike is sponsored by the Ferryville Tourism Council.

- 9 a.m.—Farmer's Market opens at Sugar Creek Park. This will be the site of Amish goods, produce, crafts, quilts, birdhouses, yard ornaments, jams and jellies, and a variety of products. Free coffee while it lasts. There will be live music by the Guthries too. Transportation between Sugar Creek Park and the Ferryville Community Center for the Tractor Pull will be available via tractor and wagon. Bring your kids along, and they can play on our beautiful new playground at the park!

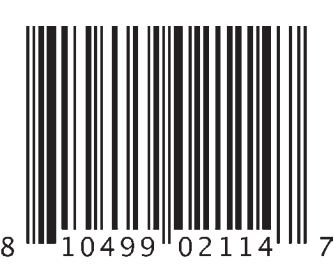
- 10 a.m.—Food! Coffee and donuts! Authentic Chicago Style Vienna Beef hotdogs and Italian Beef sandwiches will be available inside the Community Center, and are sponsored by the Freeman Lutheran Church Men's Group. Adult beverages will be sold in the Fire Station by the Ferryville Fire Department and Emergency First Responders.

- 11 a.m. sharp—The 16th Annual Rueben Knutson Antique Tractor Pull hosted and organized by the Ferryville Antique Tractor Association begins outside of the Ferryville Community Center. Rain date for the tractor pull only is Sunday, July 23. There are 27 weight classes for the pull. New antique classes have been added. To register, go to www.ferryvilletractor.com. A raffle will be held all afternoon as well with a wide variety of prizes.

- 4:30 p.m.—Activities move downtown to the restaurants with food and drink specials.
- DUSK—Fireworks will begin. They will be shot off from a barge off the river bank in the middle of the village. The BEST fireworks around will be put on by Mike and Roberta Callaway and the staff of the Cheapo Depot. These are sponsored by the Ferryville Vision and Promotion Board from donations collected in 2022 from the entire community.

Please plan to come to Ferryville on July 22, for a full day of fun, food, and fireworks. We hope to see you there!

## See you in Ferryville on July 22!



**TROUT UNLIMITED INTERNS** Maggie Dremsa and Willow Pingel take to the water to complete additional measurements of Pine Creek using the WiseH2O app developed in partnership with Trout Unlimited's National Science Team. The app allows waterbody users to evaluate water quality characteristics, take observation photos, add comments, and log roadway disturbances, such as bank erosion or the presence of trash. The app is ideal for crowdsourcing water quality monitoring, understanding the health of fisheries, responding to emergencies, and informing citizens about the quality of water they use and enjoy.

## In Crawford and Richland TU interns surveying water crossings

By GILLIAN POMPLUN

It was a beautiful summer day on Thursday, July 6, for a visit to Crawford County's Pine Creek Watershed in Eastman Township. Last seen by this reporter following the catastrophic flash flooding event in June of 2021, no signs of the ravages of that flooding remained. The stream flowed clear and cold, bountiful plant growth was bursting with life, and swallows and dragonflies darted through the air.

Two Trout Unlimited summer interns, who were born and raised in Southwest Wisconsin, were there to conduct a bridge inventory as part of a project to survey stream crossings in Crawford and Richland counties. Those interns are Maggie Dremsa of rural Boscobel, and Willow Pingel of rural Kendall.

Dremsa said one of her professors at UW-Whitewater, where she will be a junior in the fall studying environmental science, had notified her of the opportunity for summer work. Pingel had found the job through an online search for jobs in their field of study — biology, which they studied at UW-Stevens Point.

Both agreed that the job had offered them the opportunity to learn more about invasive species, an area they had known little about prior to starting the job.

### Purpose of study

According to Sara Strassman, Trout Unlimited Driftless Area Program Manager, the purpose of the project, in part funded by a Surface Water Grant from Wisconsin DNR, is to provide data for three important outcomes:

- identifying infrastructure that is vulnerable to failure, and could be redesigned to accommodate floods and fish
- evaluating habitat connectivity for streams containing trout populations to help prioritize fisheries management objectives, and
- generating necessary information to support proactive infrastructure management in rural areas.

"The connectivity of aquatic ecosystems is imperative to the viability and resiliency of aquatic organisms. Aquatic connectivity can be interrupted by human infrastructure, such as roads," Strassman explained. "Roads crossing streams require a structure, such as a culvert or bridge, to allow water, sediments, and

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## Coon Creek Group learns more about water infiltration

By GILLIAN POMPLUN

The Coon Creek Community Watershed Council (CCCWC) visited the farm of one of the founding members Marc Moilien. The Moilien's farm is located on the ridge to the north and east of Coon Valley. About 35 members enjoyed chicken salad and 'Church Lady' sandwiches before the meeting began.

As watershed council historian, Moilien shared the history of the farm with the members.

"My great, great, great grandfather came from Norway, and settled on the farm in 1858," Moilien said. "He settled down in the bottom next to his brother at first, but in 1865, they moved to the ridge."

Moilien said that in the 1880s, the brothers produced wheat on the farm, and then between 1890 and the 1960s, they also produced tobacco. With the decline in wheat growing in the region, the family turned to dairy production, and the barn was built in 1908. The family milked cows and grew corn until the early 2000s, when they sold the dairy herd and converted to rotational grazing of beef cattle.

On a tour of the farm, Moilien pointed out the farm pond that was built in the 1960s as an erosion control structure. The pond, or grade stabilization structure, as they're called these days, sat in a grassed bowl of land funneling down to a steep, wooded draw.

"The last time the ground was used to grow corn was 2001, and the land had been in strip crops since the 1940s," Moilien said. "Now, he takes hay off of it, as well as letting the herd graze it."

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**MARC MOILIEN and CCCWC President Nancy Wedwick address the watershed council members.**

## Crawford County Extension coordinators report June was very a busy month

By GILLIAN POMPLUN

Representing a beehive of positive activity, the four Crawford County UW-Extension coordinators all reported a busy month of June at the July 6 meeting of the Agriculture and Extension Committee.

The four coordinators include Agriculture Educator Carolyn Ihde, 4-H Youth Development Educator Amy Mitchell, Foodwise Staff Sheena Fuglsang and new hire Christine Myhr, and Human Development and Relationship Educator Amanda Griswold.

Mitchell kicked off the reports to the committee composed of County Board Supervisors Dave Olson, Owen Du Charme, Craig Anderson and Wayne Jerrett (Mary Kuhn was excused).

"We have an intern this summer from Southwest Tech, and that is going very well," Mitchell reported. "She helped with our 'Ag Venture' Day Camp, and her assistance was appreciated."

Mitchell said that 4-H Youth at the event held in Wauzeka had toured the feed mill, explored various careers in agriculture, toured the Mitchell farm, and learned more about the meat industry. The youth made beef jerky, butter and ice cream.

Mitchell also reported on the 4-H Summer Camp held at Upham Woods near the Wisconsin Dells. She said that 22 Crawford County youth had attended, and the weather was cool making for a comfortable outdoor experience. Youth participated in education about careers in animal science and nutrition.

Last, Mitchell reported about an Area Animal Science Day/Livestock Judging event held on June 26 at the Crawford County Fairgrounds. That event had drawn a total of 72 youth from a five-county area, with 50 of them from Crawford County.

### Ag education

Ihde was next to report on her agricultural education activities for the month of June.

"I fielded lots of calls in June, including calls about a new species of tick that is moving from the east into our area," Ihde said. "That tick is the Asian long horned tick."

On the Centers for Disease Control website, it is reported that testing has shown that this tick has the ability to carry and spread the bacteria that causes Rocky Mountain spotted fever (*Rickettsia rickettsii*).

Ihde said that during June she had answered questions about soil health, tractor safety and chicken diseases. She said she had also worked at the Prairie du Chien Correctional Facility with their orchard, and attended a field day for the North Crawford Pasture Program.

"The pasture program at North Crawford is utilizing an innovative new technology involving radio collars that are linked to a satellite," Ihde explained. "The collars are programmed to keep the sheep in a predetermined area, and this technology may be of interest to other producers."

In response to a question about sheep production in the county, Ihde said that it is growing in Wisconsin, fueled by small producers and the solar energy industry. Sheep are used to graze on land with solar installations to control weeds, and to create additional income streams for landowners.

"I have been working to develop three biosecurity videos with DATCP as well," Ihde said. "The videos are meant to help producers respond in the event a disease is found on their farm."

Last, Ihde said that she has assembled resources for producers about farming in drought conditions, and made them available in the monthly newsletter and on social media platforms.

### Foodwise report

Fuglsang reported that at a recent School Nutrition Conference held in Appleton, there was a big emphasis on scratch cooking for school nutrition programs.

"Three school Foodservice Directors in Crawford County have applied for a USDA Healthy Meals Incentive grant with my assistance," Fuglsang said. "If received, the school could be granted up to \$150,000, with the focus to bring in chefs from the 'Sustainable Kitchens' program."

She also explained that the statewide nutrition educators group she works with is advocating for free, universal school meals for all children in K-12 schools in the state.

Last, she told the committee that she had developed a brochure about farmer's markets in the county. The brochure is being distributed at farmer's markets and food pantry sites.

Christine Myhr, a new hire in the Foodwise program, said that she had been spending a lot of time in June with training and onboarding. She said she had recently completed a training in 'Trauma Informed Nutrition,' mindfulness in cooking skills, and more.

"As part of the county Healthy Roots group, I have been collecting and compiling surveys from county residents about the culture of unhealthy eating," Myhr said. "And, at the end of May, I worked with the North Crawford Summer School Program, the Soldiers Grove Public Library and Soldiers Grove Health Services to install community gardens at the nursing home facility."

### Human development

Griswold was up last, detailing the work she had accomplished in June with youth and gardens, co-parenting classes, and a childcare needs assessment.

She said that she had worked on the development of a community gardens book and story book walk, and deployed it with the Master Gardeners 'Kids in the Garden' program. The book is presented in both the English and Spanish languages.

"We had about 50 individuals attend that event," Griswold explained. "At the event, we were able to educate participants about healthy eating and healthy finances, and about the idea of giving back to the community by planting an extra row in your gardens for members of the community in need."

She said that the summer series of co-parenting classes for divorced parents was going well, but that numbers seem to be dwindling.

"The drop in numbers is likely attributable to a trend of people getting divorced who don't have children, or the trend of parents not being married," Griswold explained.

She said that she had also been utilizing funding from a 'Dream Up' grant to prepare for a childcare needs assessment, planned for the fall. She will also be involved in offering a 'Pathways to Childcare'

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# Testing reveals water infiltration can vary even within the same field

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Watershed council member and sweet corn farmer Kevin Traastad demonstrated for the group how to test the soils on their farms for water infiltration. The method involved a coffee can, with bottom and top removed to form a cylinder, plastic wrap, and a pre-measured quantity of water equivalent to an inch of rain.

"First, you pound the coffee can into the ground, with part of it above the line of soil, and then you place a sheet of plastic wrap over it to contain the water until you're ready to start timing," Traastad said. "When you have your timer ready, then you simply pull out the plastic wrap, and measure how long it takes for an inch of rain to infiltrate into your soil."

Interestingly, two measurement stations were set up next to each other in the grassed field, about five feet apart. At one location, the water infiltrated very quickly, but at the other it took over 20 minutes. When a shovel of soil from each of the two locations was dug up, the one infiltrat-

ing water quickly had lots of roots and worm tunnels. The shovel full of soil that infiltrated slowly had fewer roots and worm tunnels, and in addition had a plate structure, which Traastad said indicates that at some point in the past equipment had been driven over the field when conditions were too wet.

"This test indicates that even if you think you're doing everything right, and keeping it all in sod, there

can still be variability," Moilien said

Moilien asked Brad Robson, newly hired as the Monroe County Conservation Agronomist, what suggestions he had for improving the forage and rate of water infiltration in his fields.

"It doesn't look like you have many legumes in your pasture mix," Robson said. "I'd suggest sowing some red clover every few years."

Moilien said that the pas-

ture fields were planted into alfalfa, and then orchard grass and other plants just grew into the mix naturally.

Moilien also showed watershed council members the terrace he'd constructed below his barnyard.

"I have a cement pad in my barnyard, which makes it a lot easier for me to collect the manure," Moilien said. "However, it was also leading to more runoff and erosion, so I built the terrace

to make the running water walk."

### Upcoming events

CCCWC president Nancy Wedwick gave a report on upcoming watershed council events. Those events include:

- July 20: Multi-watershed council tour of the Savanna Institute's agroforestry demonstration farms in Spring Green, with vans leaving Viroqua at 9 a.m., and returning by 3 p.m. To sign up, contact your watershed council coordinator.
- August 18: water infiltration for farmers event at the Travis Klinkner farm on Highway 56
- August 19: water infiltration for the general public at the Travis Klinkner farm on Highway 56
- September: Cookout with Stanley Trimble in Genoa and 90th anniversary of original Coon Creek Watershed Project at the Gretebeck Farm - black tie event.

## Extension staff busy serving the community

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workshop in September for individuals thinking of entering the childcare profession.

"I also reached out to area banks about key financial issues facing seniors in our community," Griswold said. "Members of the financial community have pinpointed scams as a major financial issue facing seniors."

In September, Griswold said she would partner with ADRC on a 'Scams' presentation on the Hoffman Hall meal site.

Last, as canning season is coming up, Griswold encouraged county residents to utilize her team's pressure canner gauge testing services.

## Muscoda Lions plan a Ribfest

The Avoca-Blue River-Muscoda Lions Club will hold the First Annual Ribfest on Sunday, July 16, as a fundraiser for the new Muscoda Fire Department Rescue Boat.

The event will take place at the Lions Shelter in Victoria Riverside Park from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. or until sold out. For a cost of only \$15, patrons will enjoy a healthy slab of ribs accompanied by potato salad, cole slaw, beans, bun and watermelon.

The ribs will be prepared by Soggy Bottom BBQ of Lancaster, who have established a reputation throughout southwestern Wisconsin for their quality product.

In addition to the great food, the new rescue boat will be on display, as will Flo the Paddlefish, the famous mascot of the Friends of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway (FLOW). Children of all ages will enjoy having their pictures taken with Flo, and kids can climb all over the large, sculpted paddlefish.

Bean bag boards will be set up, raffles and other fun activities will keep folks entertained. The Lions Shelter is located adjacent to the recently renovated playground, so parents and grandparents can take it easy in the shade while the kids run around and play!

## Kickapoo Pantry plans distribution

The Kickapoo Area Food Pantry will hold their July food distributions on Saturday, July 22, from 9-11 a.m., and Monday, July 24, from 4-6 p.m. This is a change from the normal schedule of the third weekend of the month necessitated by delivery of foods from the providers.

The Viola Municipal Building will be the usual site at 106 W. Wisconsin Street. Registration is inside, and food will be delivered to your vehicle. For more information call 608-627-1910.

### CRAWFORD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

June 27, 2023

The Crawford County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at the Crawford County Administration Building in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin on June 27, 2023.

The Board was called to order by Chairman Tom Cornford. Roll was called with all members present, except Gerry Krachey and Gari Lorenz who were excused by the chair.

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

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

Chairman Cornford advised that he would like to appoint Ron Schneider to the Board of Adjustment as an alternate for a term of three years.

Motion by Steiner, second by Heilman to approve the appointment of Ron Schneider as an alternate for a term of three years to the Board of Adjustment. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Cornford has appointed Greg Russell as Chairman of the Jail Remodel/Construction ad hoc committee. Cornford also appointed Derek Flansburgh, Brad Steiner, Carl Orr, Gary Koch, Wade Dull and Jim Rider as committee members. There will be two more appointments from the Sheriff's Department.

Motion by Gilberts, second by Heilman to approve the appointments as above to the Jail Remodel/Construction ad hoc committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Molly Bohn, Field Representative from the office of Congressman Derrick Van Orden appeared before the county board. Congressman Van Orden was appointed to serve on three committees, Agriculture, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Veterans Affairs. Van Orden serves as the Chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee Economic Opportunity.

Not long ago, the Congressman voted in favor of the Fiscal Responsibility Act, which was the largest deficit reduction bill in history. The bill cut over 2 trillion dollars in government spending while protecting seniors, veterans, farmers, and the most needed to be lifted out of poverty.

Congressman Van Orden recently introduced the Protect Military Dependents Act, TAP Promotion Act, and the National Warrior Call Day Resolution. His bills primarily support Armed Forces and National Security.

Bob Moses, PdC Tourism Council, gave the county board members an organizational overview and tourism update for Crawford County. The scope of the PdC Tourism Council's work is consistent with the Wisconsin Room Tax as set forth in the Wisconsin Stat. Sec. 66.0615.

The PdC Tourism Council meets monthly, the second Thursday at city hall. One duty of the council is to make recommendations regarding opportunities to promote the PdC Area as a tourism destination using room tax revenue. Moses described the marketing strategies for 2023.

The Prairie du Chien Travel Wisconsin Welcome Center is one of six "official" Wisconsin Welcome Centers specialized in assisting travelers and tourists seeking local, regional and statewide information. PdC Tourism Council goal is to see visitor spending in Crawford County increase to 50 million dollars by 2025.

Motion by Munson, second by Kuhn to allow the Clerk to read the following resolution in title only. Motion carried with no negative votes cast.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 13-2023

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO DECLARE OFFICIAL INTENT UNDER REIMBURSEMENT BOND REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, the Department of the Treasury has issued final regulations (Treas. Reg. Section 1.150-2) (the "Reimbursement Bond Regulations") that, for the purpose of determining whether interest on certain obligations of a state or local government is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, permit the use of the proceeds of tax-exempt obligations to reimburse capital expenditures made prior to the date such obligations are issued only if the state or local government, not later than 60 days of the date of expenditure, declares its official intent to reimburse the expenditure with proceeds of a tax-exempt borrowing;

WHEREAS, the Reimbursement Bond Regulations require that if a current expenditure is to be permanently financed by a later issue

of tax-exempt obligations a state or local government must declare its intention to reimburse itself for the expenditure from proceeds of a borrowing not later than 60 days from when the expenditure is made (the "Declaration of Official Intent");

WHEREAS, the Reimbursement Bond Regulations permit a state or local government to designate officials or employees to make Declarations of Official Intent on its behalf;

WHEREAS, the County Board of Supervisors (the "Governing Body") of Crawford County (the "Issuer") deems it to be necessary, desirable and in the best interest of the Issuer to authorize the County Treasurer to make Declarations of Official Intent on its behalf when the

Issuer reasonably expects to reimburse itself from the proceeds of a tax-exempt borrowing for certain expenditures for a specific property, project or program which the County pays for from other funds prior to the receipt of the proceeds of the borrowing; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body hereby finds and determines that designating the County Treasurer with the authority to make Declarations of Official Intent will facilitate compliance with the Reimbursement Bond Regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Issuer, pursuant to Treas. Reg. Section 1.150-2(e)(1), that:

Section 1. Authorization to Declare Official Intent. The County Treasurer is hereby authorized and designated to make Declarations of Official Intent pursuant to the above-referenced Reimbursement Bond Regulations.

Section 2. Form of Declaration. Any such Declaration of Official Intent shall be made in substantially the form attached hereto.

Section 3. Public Availability. Any Declaration of Official Intent shall be maintained in the files of the Issuer and shall be made available for public inspection in compliance with applicable State law governing the availability of records of official acts of the Governing Body including Subchapter II of Chapter 19, Wisconsin Statutes (the "Public Records Law").

Section 4. Further Authorizations. The County Treasurer is hereby further authorized to take such other actions as may be necessary or desirable to comply or evidence compliance with the Reimbursement Bond Regulations.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and approval.

Adopted, recorded and approved this 27th day of June 2023.

Tom Cornford, County Board Chairman

ATTEST:  
Roberta A. Fisher  
Crawford County Clerk

Motion by Koch, second by Orr to adopt the Resolution Designating Official Authorized to Declare Official Intent Under Reimbursement Bond Regulations. The motion carried with no negative votes cast.

Chairman Cornford stated we will now consider the Ordinance Amending, Repealing and Recreating Section 4.15 of the Crawford County Ordinances Relating to Paid Funeral Leave for Full Time and Regular Part Time Employees.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 248-2023

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING, REPEALING AND RECREATING SECTION 4.15 OF THE CRAWFORD COUNTY ORDINANCES RELATING TO PAID FUNERAL LEAVE FOR FULL TIME AND REGULAR PART TIME EMPLOYEES

The Crawford County Board of Supervisors do ordain as follows:

Section I: That Crawford County Ordinance Section 4.15 is hereby repealed and recreated to read as follows:

#### "4.15 FUNERAL LEAVE.

(1) Up to 3 work days of Paid Funeral Leave shall be granted to Full-Time and Regular Part-Time employees upon the death of that employee's parent (including step-parent), spouse, domestic partner, child (including step-child), grandchild (including step-grandchild), grandparent (including step-grandparent and spouse's grandparent), father-in-law or mother-in-law, brother or sister (including step-brother or step-sister), brother-in-law or sister-in-law, or son-in-law or daughter-in-law. A Full-Time employee work day will be consistent with each employee's schedule and

## Minutes Crawford County

a Regular Part-Time employee's work day will be considered a 4 hour period.

(2) One day of Paid Funeral Leave shall be granted to Full-Time and Regular Part-Time employees upon the death of that employee's foster-parent or foster-child, uncle or aunt (including the spouse of an uncle or aunt), the uncle or aunt of a spouse (including spouse of the spouse's uncle or aunt), niece or nephew (or spouse of a niece or nephew), or first cousin (or spouse of a first cousin). A Full-Time employee work day will be consistent with each employee's schedule and a Regular Part-Time employee's work day will be considered a 4 hour period.

(3) Except where staffing shortages would compromise safety or the efficient operation of County services, all employees shall be granted up to 4 hours of funeral leave to attend the funeral or memorial service of a fellow worker within the employee's department. This leave must be used to attend the funeral or memorial service and may be extended to one day if the funeral or memorial service is held outside of reasonable traveling distance.

(4) Any non-temporary, Full-Time employee shall be granted up to one-half day of paid leave when requested to be a pallbearer or to participate in a military funeral. This time shall not be in addition to any other funeral leave permitted under this section.

(5) Funeral leave taken pursuant to subsections (1) or (2) may [be] extended by using sick leave or vacation leave. All extensions under this subsection should be submitted in writing in advance and must be approved in advance by the department head.

(6) Funeral leave taken pursuant to subsections (1) or (2) must be taken on consecutive days within 5 days of the death, funeral, or memorial service for the deceased, and must include the date of the funeral or memorial service if it falls during the work week.

(7) Employees requesting leave under this §4.15 shall provide verification of the date of death and/or funeral or memorial service upon request by a department head."

#### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Brad Steiner, Chairman  
Gerald Krachey  
Wayne Jerrett  
Carl Orr  
Mark Gilberts

Passed and approved this 27th day of June, 2023

ATTEST:  
Roberta A. Fisher  
County Clerk

Tom Cornford  
County Board Chairman

Motion by Steiner, second by Gilberts to adopt the Ordinance Amending, Repealing and Recreating Section 4.15 of the Crawford County Ordinances Relating to Paid Funeral Leave for Full Time and Regular Part Time Employees. The motion carried with no negative votes cast.

Chairman Cornford stated we will now consider the Ordinance Amending, Repealing and Recreating Sections 4.03 & 4.24 of the Crawford County Ordinances Relating to Paid Holidays & Paid Vacation for new Employees.

Motion by Munson, second by Kozelka to allow the Clerk to read the following ordinance in title only. Motion carried unanimously.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 249-2023

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING, REPEALING AND RECREATING SECTIONS 4.03 & 4.24 OF THE CRAWFORD COUNTY ORDINANCES RELATING TO PAID HOLIDAYS & PAID VACATION FOR NEW EMPLOYEES

The Crawford County Board of Supervisors do ordain as follows:

Section I: That Crawford County Ordinance Section 4.03 is hereby repealed and recreated to read as follows:

#### "4.03 - INTRODUCTORY PERIOD AND BENEFITS.

(1) Starting salaries/wages shall be determined by the Personnel Committee in consultation with the Department Head. The Governing Committee may defer to the Department Head to establish a temporary wage during an Introductory Period (not to exceed the starting wage). An Introductory Period for any employee shall not exceed twelve months. A Department Head may consider previous education and credible work experience to determine if such a period is necessary. If no Introductory Period is necessary, the employee's starting wage will be at the budgeted amount. Upon completion of any required

Introductory Period - based on a Performance Evaluation AND the recommendation of the Department Head, the employee shall be classified as regular (either full or part time) and shall be entitled to applicable salary increases and benefits.

(2) All employees, including, but not limited to, introductory employees, may be disciplined or discharged at any time, either during their introductory period or afterward, for any reason consistent with these policies and applicable law, and shall have no property right to continued employment.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision herein, probationary/introductory employees shall become eligible for group health insurance and sick leave on the first day of the month which begins following the completion of 30 calendar days of employment provided, however, that part-time employees, temporary employees, or employees hired for special projects requiring less than 1,200 hours of work in the calendar year shall not be eligible or receive any fringe benefits, unless otherwise required by a collective bargaining agreement or applicable law.

(4) For purposes of life insurance coverage, new employees are covered on the first of the month following their hire date.

(5) All employees are entitled to paid holidays.

Section II: That Crawford County Ordinance Section 4.24 is hereby repealed and recreated to read as follows:

#### "4.24 - VACATIONS.

(1) Regular full-time employees shall be entitled to vacation with pay each year, and vacation entitlement shall accrue from the time of hire and be based upon continuous service according to the employee's anniversary date of employment. Vacation leaves shall be computed as follows:

(a) Zero to one year: 37.5-hour per week employees shall receive 6.25 hours for each of the first three months of employment and the balance of 56.25 hours thereafter (totaling 2 weeks) and 40-hour per week employees shall receive 6.67 hours for each of the first three months of employment and the balance of 60 hours thereafter (totaling 2 weeks).

(b) One year to anniversary date of 4 years: 75 hours per year for a 37.5-hour week employee and 80 hours per year for a 40-hour per week employee;

(c) Four years to anniversary date of 9 years: 113 hours per year for 37.5-hour per week employee and 120 hours per year for a 40-hour per week employee;

(d) Nine years and over: 151 hours per year for 37.5-hour per week employee and 160 hours per year for a 40-hour per week employee;

(e) After 20 years of service, employees shall be entitled to one additional day of vacation for each year above 20 years with the number of years capped at 25 years.

(2) Selection of vacation time shall be by seniority with department head approval.

(a) All vacation selection or other vacation requests must be approved by the appropriate department head. Department heads may deny vacation selections or requests that are untimely, violate seniority, cause staffing problems or shortages, or on any other reasonable basis.

(b) Selection of vacation time shall be by seniority; however, employees must submit their vacation schedule by March 1 of each year. Employees who submit their vacation schedule after March 1 will be assigned vacation time on a first come, first served basis thereafter.

(c) Requests for vacation must be submitted at least 3 weeks in advance whenever feasible, and should be made in writing. In emergency situations, a request for vacation may be made orally and should be made as soon as possible after the need to take vacation becomes known.

(d) Whenever feasible, department heads will respond in writing to vacation requests within one week of receipt. In emergency situations, the department heads will respond as soon as possible and may give oral approval or denial, to be followed with written confirmation as soon as feasible.

(e) Employees are responsible for submitting vacation selections or requests on a timely basis. Employees should not finalize travel or other plans until they have received vacation approval. The County shall not be responsible for any costs incurred by an employee who does not submit his/her request for vacation suffi-

ciently in advance.

(f) Department Heads shall keep accurate records tracking employees' vacation selection, vacation requests, and use of vacation.

(3) When a holiday falls in a vacation week, employees shall receive an additional day of vacation.

(4) All vacation days must be taken within 15 months of the year after the vacation is accrued. If employees have not used the vacation with the allotted time frame, employees will forfeit the vacation. There will be no vacation buy-back. Vacation time taken by an employee will be first subtracted from any unused accumulated vacation. All employees are strongly encouraged to use their allotted vacation. Accordingly, there shall be no vacation buy-back, except in extraordinary circumstances, and only at the discretion of the County Board.

(5) Employees will be allowed to use vacation with pay in increments of not less than one-half hour upon receiving prior approval.

(6) Regular part-time employees shall receive the above vacation benefits with pay on a prorated basis.

(7) Employees shall not be eligible for the amount of weeks of vacation provided above until they have completed the required years of service on their anniversary date."

Section III: This Ordinance shall become effective from and after its passage and publication as required by law.

#### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Brad Steiner, Chairman  
Gerald Krachey  
Wayne Jerrett  
Carl Orr  
Mark Gilberts

Passed and approved this 27th day of June, 2023.

ATTEST:  
Roberta A. Fisher  
County Clerk

Tom Cornford  
County Board Chairman

Motion by Orr, second by Harrison to adopt the Ordinance Amending, Repealing, and Recreating Sections 4.03 and 4.24 of the Crawford County Ordinances Relating to Paid Holidays & Paid Vacation for New Employees. The motion carried with no negative votes cast.

Greg Russell brought the county board up to date regarding the progress of the jail remodel/construction project. The jail remodel/construction ad hoc committee will meet intermittently during the process and update the county board as often as necessary.

Jim Hackett, Emergency Management, addressed the board in regards to the County Line Country Festival. The concerts will be taking place August 3-5, 2023 in Bridgeport Township. Hackett announced that an Emergency Safety Plan was updated from last year, which covers the lines of authority, emergency functions, and emergency response actions. The county board members were able to review the plan prior to today's meeting.

Motion by Orr, second by Russell to approve the 2023 County Line Country Festival Emergency Safety Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Laura Buland, Boardable, appeared before the county board via zoom. Laura gave the county board members a very brief demonstration on the Board Management Software. Currently, all board members are utilizing county-owned iPads for their email correspondence. Included on their iPads was a Boardable app. This software application will be used to create agendas for full county board meetings, Personnel, Public Property, and Finance committee meetings. The software will reduce the cost of printing and mailing committee meeting and county board notices and packets.

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

STATE OF WISCONSIN (ss)  
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD

I, Roberta A. Fisher, 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 June 27th, 2023.

Roberta A. Fisher,  
Crawford County Clerk  
(Pub. 7/13/23)  
WNAXLP