

MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WebEx Remote/Virtual and County Board Room of the Services Center
January 21, 2025

Pursuant to notice duly given in the manner established by the Board of Supervisors and in compliance with Sub-Chapter V of Chapter 19 of the Wisconsin Statutes, a lawfully regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marquette, Wisconsin was called to order by Chairperson Borzick at 7:00 p.m. on January 21, 2025, at Montello, Wisconsin, at the time and place established by the Board of Supervisors or in accordance with law.

The Clerk called the roll and the following members answered roll call:

District No. 1 . . Abby Swan (virtual)
District No. 2 . . Dennis Fenner
District No. 3 . . David Krentz
District No. 4 . . John Bennett
District No. 5 . . Kathy Jo Locke (virtual)
District No. 6 . . David Benson
District No. 7 . . Ken Borzick
District No. 8 . . Mike Raddatz (absent)
District No. 9 . . Gary Sorensen
District No. 10 . Mary P. Walters
District No. 11 . Lance Achterberg
District No. 12 . Chuck Bornhoeft
District No. 13 . Kathleen McGwin (virtual)
District No. 14 . Jeff Frazer (virtual)
District No. 15 . Peggy Krause
District No. 16 . Scott Kempley
District No. 17 . Judi Nigbor

A quorum of the Board of Supervisors was declared present and open meetings law compliance was established.

Also present were Administrator Ron Barger and Corporation Counsel Natalie Bussan (virtual).

A moment of silence was observed followed by the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion/second by Bennett/Bornhoeft to approve the agenda.

Motion/second by Benson/Krause to amend the agenda by removing Resolution 6-2025. Discussion followed regarding contract ratification and the committee approval process. Corporation Counsel Natalie Bussan reported that Chapter 4 Administrator Ordinance allowed Administrator Barger to bring the union contract to the board without going through the committee first. Administrator Barger noted Chairperson Borzick and Vice Chairperson Nigbor attended the negotiations. Motion failed. 13:3 (Yes: Benson, Walters, Krause)

Original motion/second by Bennett/Bornhoeft to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried. 14:2 (Noes: Benson and Krause)

Motion/second by Bennett/Walters to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2024 meeting as printed. Motion carried.

There were no citizen inquiries, introductions or employee recognitions.

The chairperson of the respective standing committees gave committee reports. Human Services Board Chairperson Walters shared that the HS Board has a current vacancy.

Motion/second by Bornhoeft/Sorensen to approve the 2025 DNR Emergency Fire Warden List. Motion carried.

Motion/second by Benson/Walters to approve the consent agenda per agenda item #8 of Resolutions 1-2025 through 3-2025. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 1-2025 ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MARQUETTE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
(Introduced by John Bennett AND Dave Benson)

The Marquette County Board of Supervisors, does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to section 59.69(3)(a) of Wisconsin Statutes, Marquette County is authorized to amend the County comprehensive plan as defined in section 66.1001(1)(a) and 66.1001(2) of Wisconsin Statutes.

Section 2. The Marquette County Planning and Zoning Committee, by a majority vote of the Committee recorded in its official minutes, has approved adoption of the Planned Land Use Map for the Town of Buffalo.

Section 3. The Planning and Zoning Committee has held at least one public hearing on this ordinance, in compliance with the requirements of Section 66.1001(4)(d) of the Wisconsin Statutes and provided opportunities for public involvement per its adopted participation strategy and procedures.

Section 4. The Marquette County Board of Supervisors, does, by enactment of this ordinance, formally adopt the attached Planned Land Use Map and Farmland Preservation Plan Map for the Town of Buffalo pursuant to section 66.1001(4)(c) of Wisconsin Statutes.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect upon passage by a majority vote of the Marquette County Board of Supervisors and publication/posting as required by law.

Resolution No. 2-2025 ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT- CHAPTER 70
(Introduced by John Bennett AND Dave Benson)

WHEREAS, Marquette County has enacted Marquette County Code of Ordinances Chapter 70 – Zoning to promote health, safety, comfort, prosperity, and general welfare of the public and to affix reasonable standards as applicable thereto, and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Planning and Zoning Committee has determined that it is desirable to recommend amendments to Chapter 70 – Zoning; and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Planning and Zoning Committee has held a duly noticed public hearing regarding said amendments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette Board of Supervisors do ordain as follows: The Marquette County Code of Ordinances Chapter 70 – Zoning is amended in the following respects:

Article II General Zoning

Section 70.195 is created to read:

CONSERVATION PROTECTION DISTRICT (CP)

- A. This district provides for the conservation and protection of natural resources. Generally, this zone includes swamps, marshland, wetlands and other lands of natural aesthetic value. Conservation Protection District is designed to preserve, protect, enhance and restore all significant woodlands, scenic areas, submarginal farmlands, archaeological sites, natural watersheds, significant landforms, wildlife habitat and other natural resources that contribute to environmental quality.
- B. Newly created lots and lots or parcels remaining after a land division shall provide a lot area of not less than forty (40) acres and have a minimum width of five hundred (500) feet at the building line.
- C. In addition to setbacks required in Sec. 70.17, all buildings shall have a minimum setback of twenty-five (25) feet from all lot lines.
- D. The following uses shall be permitted in the Conservation Protection District:
 - 1. Single family dwelling.
 - 2. The harvest of any wild crop such as marsh hay, ferns, moss, wild rice, berries, tree fruits and tree seeds.
 - 3. Forestry.
 - 4. Agricultural use consistent with the operating agency's management plan.
 - 5. Preservation of scenic, historic and scientific areas, wildlife preserves.
 - 6. Accessory buildings consistent with the operating agency's management plan.
 - 7. Hiking, biking, nature, horse or other non-motorized trails.
 - 8. Public parks or refuges.
 - 9. Governmental uses.

Definition added and Sections renumbered in the following:

Article II General Zoning – Section 70.35 Definitions.

Article III Floodplain – Section 70.46 Definitions.

Article IV Shoreland – Section 70.69 Definitions.

OPERATING AGENCY.

A government or non-profit entity that has established regulations or guidelines for acceptable and specific uses consistent with their management plan. Examples of these entities with management plans in a Conservation Protection District would be United States Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Services (USDA-NRCS), United States Forest Service, United States Department of Interior, United States National Park Service, United States Fish & Wildlife Service, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Historical Society, Marquette County Land and Water Conservation Department, Ice Age Trail Alliance, etc.

Section 70.25 is amended to read:

Agricultural-Residential Districts [AG-3(2), AG-3(4) and AG-3(5)]

- A. The Agricultural-Residential Districts are designed to provide for and encourage agricultural uses, agricultural related uses, and certain residential uses in a rural and semi-rural environment. There are three (3) Agricultural-Residential Districts: AG-3(2), AG-3(4), and AG-3(5) districts, which differ only in minimum lot size. The primary intent of having multiple AG-3 districts is to best implement the residential density policy in planned Farmland Preservation Areas, as mapped and described in the County Comprehensive Plan. Where the zoning map indicates "AG-3" zoning, with no further qualifiers, those areas shall be presumed to be zoned AG-3(2).
- B. Newly created lots and lots or parcels remaining after a land division shall provide a lot area of not less than two (2) acres in the AG-3(2) district; four (4) acres in the AG-3(4) district and five (5) acres in the AG-3(5) district. The minimum lot width for all districts shall be two hundred (200) feet at the building line.
- C. In addition to the setbacks required in Section 70.17, all buildings shall have a minimum setback of twenty (20) feet from all lot lines in the AG-3(2) and AG-3(4) districts, and twenty-five (25) feet in AG-3(5) district.

Section 70.18 is amended to read:

- B. In order to carry out the purpose and provisions of this Chapter, the following zoning districts and zones are hereby established, and may be known by the accompanying abbreviations:

RP Resource Protection District

CP Conservation Protection District

CM-B Commercial District – Business

CM-I Commercial District – Industrial

R-1 Single Family Residential District

R-2 Multi Family Residential District

REC Recreational District

AG-3(2) Agricultural Residential District (2 acre minimum)

AG-3(4) Agricultural Residential District (4 acre minimum)

AG-3(5) Agricultural Residential District (5 acre minimum)

AG-2 General Agricultural District

AO Agriculture and Open Space District

AG-1 Prime Agricultural District

FPO Farmland Preservation Overlay District

GP General Purpose District

PD Planned Development District

RC Rural Center District

CD Cluster Development Overlay District

Resolution No. 3-2025 ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT- TOWN OF BUFFALO ADOPTION OF COUNTY ZONING

(Introduced by John Bennett AND Dave Benson)

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Supervisors under the authority of State Statute 59.69(5) has enacted Marquette County Code of Ordinances Chapter 70 – Zoning, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Buffalo Town Board has petitioned the Marquette County Board of Supervisors to enact Chapter 70 in the Town of Buffalo as authorized under State Statute 60.61(3), and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Planning and Zoning Committee on due notice conducted a public hearing on the proposed Ordinance and their recommendations with the Board, and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment has been given due consideration by the Board in open session.

NOW THEREFORE, the Marquette County Board of Supervisors do ordain as follows:

Marquette County Code of Ordinances Chapter 70 – Zoning and the accompanying zoning map is hereby adopted and shall hereafter become effective in the Town of Buffalo upon approval of this resolution by the Buffalo Town Board. This resolution shall take effect upon the filing of the Buffalo Town Board's resolution of approval with the County Clerk and the publication of the resolution in the proceedings of the Marquette County Board of Supervisors.

Separate consideration of resolutions per agenda item #9.

Corporation Natalie Bussan and Economic Development & Tourism Coordinator Keri Solis reported that additional units had been added by Marquette-Adams Cooperative within Resolution 4-2025 as presented after the information had been presented to the Executive & Finance Committee. Motion/second by Sorensen/Walters to approve the addition of the additional units to the project application. Motion carried 9:7. (Noes: Swan, Locke, Borzick, Bornhoeft, McGwin, Frazer, Nigbor).

Resolution No. 4-2025 ENDORSEMENT FOR MARQUETTE-ADAMS COOPERATIVE INC. BEAD FUNDING APPLICATION

(Introduced by Lance Achterberg AND Mary Walters)

Upon roll call Resolution No. 4-2025 was adopted as follows: Ayes 14; Noes 2; Absent 1
(Noes: Borzick and Bornhoeft)

WHEREAS, Broadband, Equity, Access and Deployment program (BEAD) funding is available for unserved and underserved households and businesses, within Marquette County; and

WHEREAS, the availability of BEAD funding is crucial for supporting infrastructure projects that will enhance connectivity for underserved and unserved households and businesses in Marquette County; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of BEAD funding includes promoting economic growth, improving educational opportunities, and enhancing healthcare services through betting internet access; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (WPSC) Broadband Office has identified 1,853 unserved or underserved BEAD grant-eligible addresses in Marquette County; and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Supervisors recognizes that broadband connectivity and reliability is critical infrastructure for health, safety and quality of life for all community residents to participate in the full benefits of our society and economy, including access to telemedicine, educational and economic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Supervisors established an Ad Hoc Committee in 2021 with a primary focus on broadband; and

WHEREAS, a countywide survey of broadband needs was conducted in 2020, 2023, and 2024, demonstrating the need for reliable internet and adequate speeds for permanent and part-time residents; and

WHEREAS, we have interviewed four providers for partnership opportunities to meet our identified broadband infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, the broadband committee has defined its goal as reliable, high speed broadband internet, preferably via fiberoptic cable infrastructure, available to 100% of County households, farms, businesses, and public institutions; and

WHEREAS, Marquette County is interested in addressing the priorities identified by our broadband committee; and

WHEREAS, Marquette County has supported broadband expansion efforts of unserved and underserved County locations by conducting interviews with four ISPs, attending multiple trainings and conferences, participating in New North Broadband Expansion Access Plan and Study, participating in New North regional planning team meetings, directing Economic Development staff in the planning and coordination of broadband needs, and maintaining an open working relationship with State Broadband Office personnel; and

WHEREAS, Marquette-Adams Cooperative Inc. is interested in addressing unserved and underserved rural addresses in Marquette County; and

WHEREAS, Marquette-Adams Cooperative Inc. has existing internet service infrastructure located within Marquette County; and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Supervisors has reviewed the plans of this project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Supervisors endorses Marquette-Adams Cooperative Inc.'s application for BEAD funding for Exhibit A, Exhibit B, and Exhibit C, using fiberoptic technology. We also hereby authorize the Marquette County Board Chairperson or his/her designee, to execute an endorsement letter in support of Marquette-Adams Cooperative Inc.'s application for BEAD funding for broadband infrastructure buildout projects in Marquette County and to provide the letter and the minutes from this meeting to Marquette-Adams Cooperative Inc. to be included in their application.

Resolution No. 5-2025 ENDORSEMENT FOR BERTRAM COMMUNICATIONS LLC BEAD FUNDING
APPLICATION

(Introduced by Lance Achterberg AND Mary Walters)

Upon roll call Resolution No. 5-2025 was adopted as follows: Ayes 15; Noes 1; Absent 1
(Noes: Walters)

WHEREAS, Broadband, Equity, Access and Deployment program (BEAD) funding is available for unserved and underserved households and businesses, within Marquette County; and

WHEREAS, the availability of BEAD funding is crucial for supporting infrastructure projects that will enhance connectivity for underserved and unserved households and businesses in Marquette County; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of BEAD funding includes promoting economic growth, improving educational opportunities, and enhancing healthcare services through better internet access; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (WPSC) Broadband Office has identified 1,853 unserved or underserved BEAD grant-eligible addresses in Marquette County; and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Supervisors recognizes that broadband connectivity and reliability is critical infrastructure for health, safety and quality of life for all community residents to participate in the full benefits of our society and economy, including access to telemedicine, educational and economic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Supervisors established an Ad Hoc Committee in 2021 with a primary focus on broadband; and

WHEREAS, a countywide survey of broadband needs was conducted in 2020, 2023, and 2024, demonstrating the need for reliable internet and adequate speeds for permanent and part-time residents; and

WHEREAS, we have interviewed four providers for partnership opportunities to meet our identified broadband infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, the broadband committee has defined its goal as reliable, high speed broadband internet, preferably via fiberoptic cable infrastructure, available to 100% of County households, farms, businesses, and public institutions; and

WHEREAS, Marquette County is interested in addressing the priorities identified by our broadband committee; and

WHEREAS, Marquette County has supported broadband expansion efforts of unserved and underserved County locations by conducting interviews with four ISPs, attending multiple trainings and conferences, participating in New North Broadband Expansion Access Plan and Study, participating in New North regional planning team meetings, directing Economic Development staff in the planning and coordination of broadband needs, and maintaining an open working relationship with State Broadband Office personnel; and

WHEREAS, Bertram Communications LLC is interested in addressing unserved and underserved rural addresses in Marquette County; and

WHEREAS, Bertram Communications LLC has existing internet service infrastructure located within Marquette County; and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Supervisors has reviewed the plans of this project.

WHEREAS, Bertram Communications LLC is willing to enter into an agreement with Marquette County to complete various project enhancements discussed in their presentation to the Executive and Finance Committee on January 13, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Supervisors endorses Bertram Communications LLC'S application for BEAD funding for all eligible broadband serviceable locations in Marquette County, using fiberoptic technology. We also hereby authorize the Marquette County Board Chairperson or his/her designee, to execute an endorsement letter in support of Bertram Communications LLC'S application for BEAD funding for broadband infrastructure buildout projects in Marquette County and to provide the letter and the minutes from this meeting to Bertram Communications LLC to be included in their application. This endorsement is conditioned upon the agreement identified in the last WHEREAS clause above.

Resolution No. 6-2025 RESOLUTION TO RATIFY LABOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN MARQUETTE COUNTY AND THE MARQUETTE COUNTY EMS ASSOCIATION, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, AFL-CIO LOCAL 5476

(Introduced by Ken Borzick AND Judi Nigbor)

Upon roll call Resolution No. 6-2025 was adopted as follows: Ayes 14; Noes 2; Absent 1
(Noes: Benson and Krause)

WHEREAS, Marquette County and the Marquette County EMS Association, International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO Local 5476, have negotiated a three-year collective bargaining agreement for the duration of 2024-2026, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following contract modifications are agreed to:

- Modify the past salary schedule as follows.
- Effective January 1, 2024, increase hourly rates by 2%.
- Effective July 1, 2024, increase hourly rates by 2%
- Effective January 1, 2025, increase hourly rates by 2%.
- Effective January 25, 2025, provide a lump sum one-time bonus of \$2,500 to up to the top 12 most senior full-time employees.
- Effective January 25, 2025, eliminate the prior progressive steps and move those employees currently within it, not eligible for the one-time bonus, to the 100% rate.
- Effective July 1, 2025, increase hourly rates by 2%.
- Effective January 1, 2026, increase hourly rates by 2.5%.

- Add new steps after 1 year, after 3 years, after 5 years after 7 years, and after 9 years with a 1% difference between each step based on the prior 100% hourly rate. Place employees on the new schedule based upon the anniversary date of full-time service in the unit and with movement thereafter based on the anniversary date.
- Effective July 1, 2026, increase hourly rates by 2.5%
- Payouts for vacation, sick, and bereavement will be straight time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the referenced contract for 2024-2026 is hereby considered ratified and the County Board Chairperson or County Administrator and the County Clerk are authorized to sign the contract on behalf of Marquette County.

The fiscal and personnel reports, grant updates, and correspondence were reviewed as presented by Administrator Barger. Administrator Barger read correspondence from the Wisconsin Historical Society, informing the board that St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church at W3005-W3008 County Rd E., Town of Crystal Lake, Marquette County, WI is being considered by the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Review Board for nomination to the Wisconsin State Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places.

Corporation Counsel Natalie Bussan shared her January report.

Calendar planning was reviewed for the February 2025 meetings. Discussion followed. Chairperson Borzick noted the three vendors that submitted proposals for strategic planning would be invited to present at the March Executive & Finance Committee meeting. The meeting was declared adjourned subject to the call of the Chairperson. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) SS
County of Marquette)

I, Kiley Lloyd, County Clerk in and for Marquette County, Wisconsin do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the proceedings of the County Board of Supervisors of said County at their meeting held in-person and remotely by using WebEx by me as such officer.

Kiley Lloyd, County Clerk