

Extension/Land Conservation Committee
Tuesday, November 5, 2024, 8:30 A.M.

Room 2151

335 E. Monroe Ave., Barron, WI

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Acknowledgement of Public Posting Requirements
3. Public comment
4. Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – 10/1/24
 - Edit List
 - Announcements –
5. Certificates of Compliance
 - a. Eric Fornell, Towns of Arland & Maple Grove
 - b. Denmark Dairy, Town of Dallas
6. Land & Water Board Election – action item
7. Land & Water Resource Mgt. Plan: Update Extension – information only
8. 2025-27 State Budget – discussion item
9. Staff Reports – NRCS, FSA, SWCD, and UWEX (10 minutes) information only
 - Executive Committee Report
 - Fair Board Report
10. Set date for the next meeting – December 3, 2024
11. Adjourn

***If you cannot make the meeting, PLEASE call the SWCD at 715-537-6315.

(All times are estimated)

ADA Statement for Agenda

Any person who has a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act and requires the meeting or materials at the meeting to be in an accessible format must contact the County Clerk's office at 715-537-6200 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting so that arrangements may be made to accommodate your request.

cc: Cook, Gores, Langman, Kusilek, G. Nelson, Huth, McCready, County Clerk, County Administrator, Webmaster, Public postings

EXTENSION-LCC COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

Room 2151

Members present: Gary Nelson, Kirsten Huth, Jim Gores, Randy Cook, Fran Langman and Audrey Kusilek. Staff present: Tyler Gruetzmacher, Bronson Thalacker, Pat Brown, Jeff French, Lori Baltrusis, and Kim Collins.

Absent: McCready

Cook called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and Collins confirmed proper posting of the meeting. No public comment was received.

Motion: (Kusilek/Langman) to approve the agenda; carried. **Motion: (Nelson/Gores)** to approve the minutes of September 10, 2024 meeting; carried. Collins answered edit list question; no announcements.

Item #5. Pat Brown presented the annual Barron County Lake Monitoring & Protection Network AIS Grant Application resolution for committee review. After committee questions, **motion: (Kusilek/Gores)** to approve the application; carried.

Item #6. Collins presented an FPP Certificate of Compliance for approval, stating the owners meet all standards. **Motion: (Kusilek/Nelson)** to approve the certificate; carried.

Item #7. Staff Reports –

NRCS – N/A

FSA – Huth discussed deadline dates and the progress on hiring staff.

SWCD – Gruetzmacher provided a power point highlighting 2024 conservation practices.

UWEX – Baltrusis discussed obtaining support staff and offered Extension assistance to SWCD to repair the purple loosestrife beetle-rearing nets.

Executive Committee – French stated the committee would review the 2025 Budget.

Fair Board – N/A

After discussion, the next meeting is set for November 5, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

Future agenda items:

Chair adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 9:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Russell-Collins

Administrative Secretary, Land Services

COUNTY OF BARRON
Payment Request Edit
On-Line Vouchers
LAND SERVICES DEPT

Vendor No/Name	Line#	voucher#	Account Desc	Date	Description	Amount
97098 AEGIS CORPORATION	1	C0089706	OFFICE SUPPLIES	10/10/24	LS-KRC NOTARY BOND	30.00
44423 AUTO VALUE BARRON	1	C0089707	VEHICLE EXPENSE-LAND SERVICES	10/10/24	LS-BULB-F150/LIGHT WIPES	21.24
306100 KJ'S FRESH MARKET	1	C0089708	OFFICE SUPPLIES	10/10/24	LS-COFFEE/COMMITTEE MEETINGS	13.19
302 SWANT GRABER FORD	1	C0089709	VEHICLE EXPENSE-LAND SERVICES	10/10/24	LS-OC, '14F150&'20EDGE/SIDEMIR	329.34
6645 SWANT GRABER MOTORS	1	C0089710	VEHICLE EXPENSE-LAND SERVICES	10/10/24	LS-OC, TR ROT, BRAKES - '18 SIL	915.55
163759 BROKER MIKE	1	C0089711	CONSERVATION COST SHARING	10/10/24	SWCD-COVER CROP 24BC015	1,000.00
305480 MATHEWS LUKE	1	C0089712	CONSERVATION COST SHARING	10/10/24	SWCD-COVER CROP 24BC014	760.00
241024 MININGER KARSTEN OR JULIE	1	C0089713	CONSERVATION COST SHARING	10/10/24	SWCD-COVER CROP 24BC017	1,000.00
298263 PETERSON MONTY F	1	C0089714	CONSERVATION COST SHARING	10/10/24	SWCD-COVER CROP 24BC025	1,000.00
190152 ULINE INC	1	C0089715	EDUCATIONAL	10/10/24	SWCD-CBCW SIGNS, BOAT LANDINGS	723.75
113468 US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	1	C0089716	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	10/10/24	SWCD-3RD QUARTER/WILDLIFE DAMAG	10,129.35
75965 UW SOIL TESTING LAB	1	C0089717	OFFICE SUPPLIES	10/10/24	SWCD-13 MDV SAMPLES	104.00
922 WIEHES HARDWARE HANK	1	C0089718	EDUCATIONAL	10/10/24	SWCD-LMPN SUPPLIES	21.96
426 BELL PRESS INC	1	C0089719	PUBLICATIONS	10/10/24	ZA-LUO AMEND PUB NOTICE	30.81
744 CHETEK ALERT INC	1	C0089720	PUBLICATIONS	10/10/24	ZA-VARIOUS PUB NOTICES	215.14
1015 CUMBERLAND ADVOCATE	1	C0089721	PUBLICATIONS	10/10/24	ZA-OLSON, DABRUZZI, LUO PUB NOT	105.35
289493 BUREAU OF CORRECTIONAL ENTERPRISE	1	C0089722	ADDRESS SIGNING	10/10/24	ZA-RURAL ADDRESS SIGNS	52.00
3565 DSPS FISCAL	1	C0089723	DUE TO STATE - SANITATION FEES	10/10/24	ZA-STATE SAN FEES/SEPT 2024	2,400.00
Totals:						18,851.68

MANUAL VOUCHERS/JOURNAL ENTRIES

DEPT	NAME	ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
LS	BC HIGHWAY DEPT	220-12-53400-332-000	FUEL 8/31 - 9/27/24	\$767.20

Dept Approval _____

Admin Approval _____

MANUAL VOUCHERS TOTAL:	\$767.20
GRAND TOTAL:	\$19,618.88
Land Services Total:	\$2,076.52
Land Information Total:	\$0.00
Soil & Water Conservation Total:	\$14,739.06
Zoning Administration Total:	\$2,803.30

COUNTY OF BARRON

Payment Request Edit

FPEDT01G

On-Line Vouchers

LAND SERVICES DEPT

Vendor No/Name	Line#	voucher#	Account Desc	Date	Description	Amount
167 AYRES ASSOCIATES INC	1	C0089828	ASSIGNED RES - 2023 BASE BUDG GR	10/17/24	LIO-2024 ORTHOIMAGERY, FINAL PA	16,416.00
167 AYRES ASSOCIATES INC	2	C0089828	ASSIGNED RES - 2023 STRATEGIC IN	10/17/24	LIO-2024 ORTHOIMAGERY, FINAL PA	17,404.00
74101 LEICA GEOSYSTEMS INC	1	C0089829	ASSGN RES - 2024 BASE BUDGET GR	10/17/24	LIO-GPS UPDATES	1,810.00
272426 LABLANC KENNETH F	1	C0089830	CONSERVATION COST SHARING	10/17/24	SWCD-COVER CROP 24BC023	1,000.00
274259 APG MEDIA OF WISCONSIN LLC	1	C0089831	PUBLICATIONS	10/17/24	ZA-LUSSON, WATERHSE, LUO PUB NO	146.01
289493 BUREAU OF CORRECTIONAL ENTERPRISE	1	C0089832	ADDRESS SIGNING	10/17/24	ZA-RURAL ADDRESS SIGNS	546.00
Totals:						37,322.01

MANUAL VOUCHERS/JOURNAL ENTRIES

DEPT	NAME	ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
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Dept Approval

Admin Approval

MANUAL VOUCHERS TOTAL: \$0.00

GRAND TOTAL: \$37,322.01

Land Services Total: \$0.00

Land Information Total: \$35,630.00

Soil & Water Conservation Total: \$1,000.00

Zoning Administration Total: \$692.01

Good morning,

As discussed at some area association meetings this summer, WI Land+Water is conducting state Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) elections this fall, as opposed to having held them this past March. This change is due to the timelines of our LWCB elections not aligning well with the actual term served by our LWCB representatives. As a reminder, in even-numbered years, WI Land+Water elects three Land Conservation Committee (LCC) members to serve on the State LWCB. This authority is statutorily granted to us via Wis. Stats [15.135\(4\)\(b\)2](#).

The LWCB connects local and state governments on conservation and farmland preservation issues. The board:

- Reviews county land and water plans and makes recommendations
- Recommends how the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection should allocate conservation funds to counties
- Provides a forum to discuss emerging soil and water conservation issues

Five area associations have nominated a candidate, and the election will take place via electronic voting. The election will be administered in such a way that each county is allowed one unique vote that must be submitted by the person who the ballot was sent to (the county conservationist). Upon submission of each county's ballot, a ballot receipt with a unique ID number and timestamp will be provided for record keeping.

Each candidate submitted a biography and recorded a speech which can be found on our website to view at your upcoming LCC meeting and/or at your own convenience. [You can find them here](#).

Winning LWCD candidates will be announced in December and will begin their two-year term of LWCB service in January 2025. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Chris Schlutt

Training and Events Manager

WI Land+Water

chris@wisconsinlandwater.org

wisconsinlandwater.org

(608) 441-2677 Ext. 405

Rebecca Clarke

I am pleased to have been nominated for a second term on the Land and Water Conservation Board. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first two years on the board, especially meeting and working with all the amazing professional staff on LWCB, as well as my fellow board members. Everyone was very welcoming and encouraging.

Also, it is a wonderful benefit to learn from all the amazing work being done around the state. Listening to and learning from all the counties' various land and water management plans is not only helpful to me with my county planning committee, but it is a wonderful reminder of all the hard work being done every day, on the ground, to protect WI's amazing natural resources.

I am serving my 3rd term on the Sheboygan County Board. Currently, I am chair of our Planning, Resources, Agriculture and Extension Committee. Because of my background in natural resources, I obviously enjoy the committee's work and hope to continue to serve as long as I am on the board. I have my undergraduate and master's degrees from UW-Stevens Point in Natural Resource Management and worked in Environmental Education for over 20 years with various organizations including the DNR, UWEX and the UW system.

I am also on our county's Health and Human Services Committee, which I believe is a nice combination as many issues can overlap with things like environmental health, air quality, water quality, etc.

I am also chair of the City of Sheboygan's Sustainability Task Force, I serve on the City's Marina, Parks and Forestry Commission, and I have been a long time member of Sheboygan County's Deer Advisory Council. All of these activities as well as my career

experience have given me a background to help meet the challenges facing our natural resources while keeping things non-partisan.

I know there are always going to be challenges, and not just environmental issues like water quality, PFAS, and climate change mitigation, but every county faces the challenges of funding. It can feel hard to know how to prioritize with the funding you have. I like to think the LWCB is the “shot in the arm” for county soil and conservation staff, to know they are appreciated and that we understand and advocate to correct those challenges we all face.

I hope I win the chance to serve on the LWCB for another two years. And let me also strongly encourage others to think about running for a term. The information you receive, and the connections you make are invaluable to anyone serving on your county planning and conservation committee and beyond.

Thank you.

Yogesh Chawla I am the Dane County Board Supervisor for District 6 representing the near east side of Madison, WI. During my tenure on the Dane County Board, I have chaired the Land Conservation Committee and currently chair the Environment, Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. I also serve on the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Board.

My passion through these roles is to increase resilience to climate change while directly supporting our rural and farming communities. My district has the most waterfront on the County Board and I have worked diligently to reduce phosphorous pollution while providing beneficial programs to producers. I have supported increases in funding for programs including cover crops, harvestable buffer strips, and nutrient management plans.

In 2018, Dane County had catastrophic flooding. I served on the Flooding Task Force and drafted recommendations for flood resilience including sediment removal to move water through the Yahara watershed faster. I also increased funding for a special flooding fund that focused on identifying land in the watershed for wetlands development to keep rain where it falls.

PFAS pollution is an emerging statewide issue. During my tenure as EANR chair, I worked to publish all PFAS test results to the public, remove PFAS from firefighting operations at the airport and clarified an agreement with the Air National Guard to limit the scope of indemnification clauses.

Many of the issues we face locally as municipalities are the same challenges our neighbors face across the state. My passion is to work collaboratively on the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Board to protect our environment and develop solutions that are mutually beneficially to everyone in our ecosystem.

Mike Hofberger My name is Mike Hofberger and I have accepted the nomination for the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Board from the Lake Winnebago Area Association. I believe that Land Conservation Committee (LCC) members should be fully utilized in Wisconsin's conservation efforts and my experience qualifies me to best use the knowledge of an experienced LCC member to guide our conservation efforts.

I grew up on a dairy farm, graduated from Stevens Point with a degree in Resource Management (Conservation), married Gail and raised two children. I worked for the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) for about 37 years. I also retired from the Army Reserve after about 24 years of service.

My (our) fun activities include biking, pickleball, golf, kids, dog training, traveling, and church. I also enjoy hunting, fishing, maple syrup harvesting, and gardening.

I joined the Calumet County Board after retiring because I had the time and interest in land use. I am currently involved in all things conservation with Calumet County Land and Water Conservation and Wisconsin Land+Water.

My current Board activities include chair of the Calumet County Land and Water Conservation Committee; Calumet County Planning, Zoning, and Farmland Preservation Committee; and President of the Board of Directors for Glacierland RC&D. I am on the Board of Directors for Wisconsin Land+Water as well as the Executive Committee. I am also on the Agriculture, Environment, and Land Use Committee for Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA).

The Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Board consists of 11 members, 5 of which are Governor appointed, 3 who are agency leaders, and 3 who are elected from Wisconsin Land Conservation Committees. I want to ensure that the voice of the LCCs is heard on the board.

Monte Osterman To our valued Association members,

I would like to announce my intention to seek another term as your representative on the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Board. Hearing and responding to your ideas and concerns, knowing open communication is the key to strengthening our organization, is my top priority. I appreciate your past support and take very seriously the trust you place in me. A few of my past and current relevant experiences which compliment the position are as follows:

- Past County Board Supervisor, Racine County
- Economic Development and Land Use, Planning. Zoning Committee
- Land Conservation Committee Chair; authored and passed numerous environmental related resolutions
- Public Works Committee
- County Ambassador to State Legislature, Wisconsin Counties Association appointment
- Racine Zoo Board – Operational Oversight; secured funding for major Zoo conservation projects
- Founding Chairman – Youth In Governance Committee, Racine County Youth Advocate Award
- WLWCA (Wisconsin Land+Water Conservation Association) Outstanding Supervisor of the Year
- WLWCA Legislative Committee
- WLWCA Executive Committee
- WLWCA Board of Directors Chair; leading organizational growth and strengthening financial management, Southeast Area LCC member
- Led successful effort to restore state conservation funding
- Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Board, Vice-Chair, UW Committee on Research and Education
- NACD (National Association of Conservation Districts) Wisconsin Representative, National Outreach Chair, Urban and Community Conservation and Agriculture Committee, Vice-Chairman, Coastal Resources Committee, Water and Climate

Committee, Secured 2025 NACD Summer meeting in Wisconsin

- Root River Watershed Restoration Plan committee; 200 sq. mile watershed initiative; 9-point EPA plan
- Led initiative to create PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) funding tool for green development, Appointed state PACE Commissioner
- Self-employed in numerous disciplines for over 30 years; created several professional training curriculums
- Land and Water Conservation Board member, carried resolution forward to support developing communities, supported efforts to include 9 key element plans, testified before Speakers task Force on Water Quality, leading bylaws change to recognize WLWCA members

My interest in environmental stewardship started over 40 years ago when I worked at a summer camp as a counselor for developmentally and physically disabled youth. Those campers and I worked together in a stream restoration effort on the grounds with that project winning a statewide conservation award. That experience motivated a passion for conservation which has lasted a lifetime. My wife Mary and I live in Racine next to Lake Michigan, raised children there, and have two beautiful grandchildren. It is my intention to leave a legacy of environmental stewardship that our family, Association and state can be proud of. I have been self-employed my entire adult life. Using those experiences to blend business concerns with environmental initiatives and my unique background around development programs I hope will help inform this Board through valuable perspective. I am proud of helping move the Land and Water Conservation Board in the direction of addressing climate resilience, urban conservation efforts, and proactive approaches to resource management. I hope to continue this work with your support. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Thank you, Monte G. Osterman Wisconsin Land + Water, Board Chair

Terry White

My name is Terry White and I am writing this as my letter of introduction as a candidate for the WI Land & Water Conservation Board. With the exception of working at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory for almost 12 years, I have lived in Douglas County my entire life. I grew up having the woodlands and shorelands of Lake Superior and the St. Louis River Estuary as my playground. I served nine years on the Douglas County Board of Supervisors; while on the Board, I sat on the Land Conservation, Forestry, and Land and Development Committees. I currently sit on the Land Conservation Committee as well as the Reserve Advisory Board for the Lake Superior National Estuarine Research Reserve as an alternate. I have just been selected to serve on the “Great lakes Water Quality Board” for the International Joint Commission (IJC) and should soon be on the Board of Directors for the St. Louis River Alliance, as I’m told that they will vote me in at their next meeting.

I’ve been a member of the Lake Superior Bi-National Forum, Wisconsin Coastal Management Council, the Wisconsin Point Committee, and the NERR’s Reserve’s Advisory Board. I’ve been a Certified Wind and Solar Site Assessor as well as a Home Energy Assessor working with Wisconsin’s Focus on Energy Program. I worked on Douglas County’s Farmland Preservation Plan and the Watershed Planning Committee. In 2017 I received the “Outstanding Achievement Award” from the Lake Superior NERR for my help in remodeling their then new Lake Superior Estuarium.

My work continues with our Land and Water locally and I am also a Beekeeper, currently working 9 hives. I work in partnership with one of our local beef ranchers, letting him hay our fields in return getting black dirt for our gardens. We are looking into expanding my apiary by putting a couple hives on his farm to help with pollination.

I am a retired Millwright working out of Virginia, Minnesota, finishing my career as an Apprenticeship Instructor for Northern Minnesota and North Dakota. I am an enrolled member of the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa and have grown up with land and water protection engrained in my lifestyle.

I look forward to working with the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association if given the chance and being elected to do so. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Terry W. White

218-393-9418

twmillwhite60@gmail.com



State of Wisconsin
Governor Tony Evers

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

TO: Tyler Gruetzmacher, County Conservationist Barron County SWCD


FROM: Lisa Trumble, LWRM plan coordinator

DATE: May 13, 2024

RE: Reschedule and Extension of the Barron County land and water resource management (LWRM) plan

This document affirms your agreement to reschedule and extend the expiration date of the current Barron County Land and Water Resource Management plan. As we discussed, following successful completion of the 2024 five-year review of your LWRM plan we will schedule your county for another five-year review in 2028 followed by a full plan revision in 2033. Should the need arise to complete a plan revision prior to 2033 DATCP staff will work with the county to make any changes that are mutually agreeable.

To complete the schedule change process, we require confirmation that you have shared this information with your appropriate committee. Once you have done this please sign and date on the line below and return a copy to me.

Signature of Authorized Representative: 
Date: (6/3/2024) 6-3-2024 Randall Cook, LCC Chair

Thank you.

Wisconsin - America's Dairyland

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2025-2027 BIENNIAL BUDGET PRIORITIES



OUR TOP PRIORITY: COUNTY CONSERVATION STAFFING

Support Wisconsin farmers and landowners by allocating \$20.2 million in base funding for county land and water conservation department (LWCD) technical professionals, from the DATCP budget. **in 72 Counties**

REASONS TO INCREASE LWCD BASE FUNDING

- » LWCD staff carry out a range of the state's agricultural and resource management programs to reduce non-point pollution, preserve farmland, limit aquatic invasive species, protect waterfront property, manage forests, and reduce floods.
- » Without county staff support, vital state programs like DATCP's Farmland Preservation Program simply would not function.
- » LWCD staff assist Wisconsin's farmers in many ways, including supporting producer-led watershed groups, developing nutrient management plans, and improving profitability.
- » LWCD staff maintain relationships with landowners, building trust and partnerships that have major water quality benefits, like preventing soil erosion and protecting our drinking water.

County conservation staff are the key to unlocking dollars for Wisconsin communities.



For every **\$1** of county staffing provided in the state biennial budget, LWCDs leverage **\$2** in additional local, state, and federal funding.*

**Determined using data from DATCP*

ADDITIONAL CONSERVATION PRIORITIES

Addressing the following issues at the state level would better allow LWCDs to meet the needs of their communities.



AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE AREAS

Protect farmland by increasing the statewide Agricultural Enterprise Area cap to 3 million acres, meeting increased farmer demand for Farmland Preservation Program participation.



CLEAN DRINKING WATER

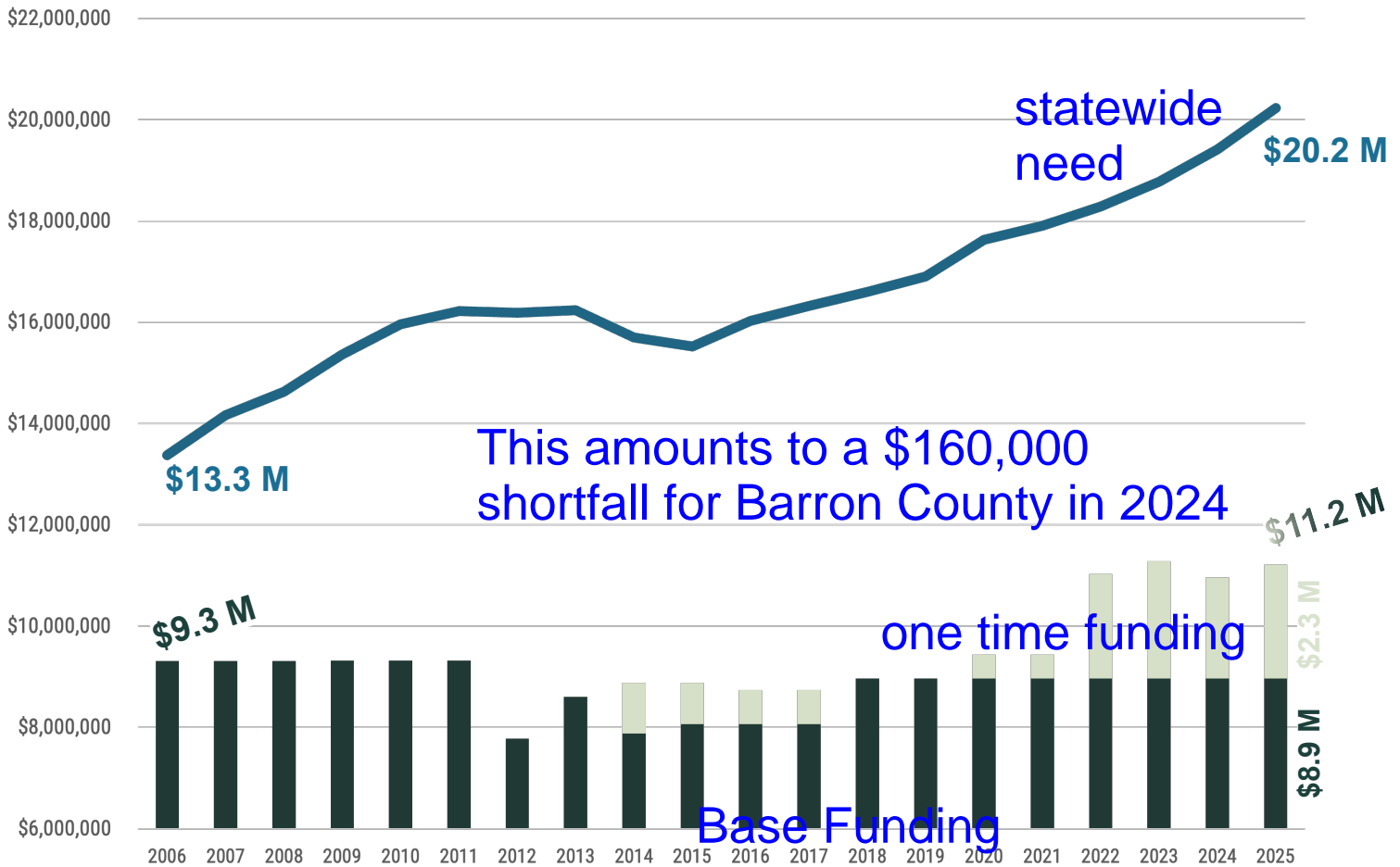
Give Wisconsin residents with contaminated wells access to safe drinking water by expanding eligibility for well replacement or whole home filtration via the Well Compensation Program.



PROTECT WATERWAYS

Develop a science-based framework that minimizes the impacts of wake boats (shoreline erosion, water quality degradation, aquatic invasive species introduction and transport) while promoting local control.

County Conservation Staffing Budget Allocation



BASE FUNDING

- » In 2006, the state allocation of \$9.3 million—all of it base funding—met 70% of the county staffing need of \$13.3 million.
- » In 2025, the base funding allocation of \$8.9 million only met 46% of the county need.
- » In the 19-year period from 2006 to 2025, base funding relative to county staffing needs decreased by 26%.
- » Base funding provides stability, allowing LWCDs to leverage external funds and build partnerships with landowners.

ONE-TIME FUNDING

- » In recognition of the important role LWCDs play, between 2020 and 2025, the total state allocation was increased above the base funding of \$8.9 million, using one-time funding.
- » One-time funding provides a temporary increase, but it lapses back to base funding at the end of the budget.
- » This does not provide LWCDs with the stability required to meet the needs of landowners and carry out conservation programs, and limits their ability to leverage additional dollars for their communities.

COUNTY NEED

- » County staffing needs are based on actual expenses, as defined in Wis. Stats 92.14(6)(b).
- » Rising landowner demand for sustainable practices and the need to protect against unpredictable weather have increased department expenses to address evolving land use challenges.
- » Fully funding the needs of LWCDs enhances financial and technical support for landowners while boosting local economies by creating jobs that support conservation projects.