



RESOLUTION # 45-12/21

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM # 12-29

**BOARD ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: 25  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Abs/Excd: 2  
Vote Req: -  
Other Action: -

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: 7  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Abs/Excd: 2

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: 7  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Abs/Excd: 2

**RE: ADVISORY REFERENDUM ON CLEAN WATER**

**WHEREAS**, there are numerous indicators that the citizens of La Crosse County are concerned about groundwater and surface water issues including contamination from nitrates, PFAS, lead in drinking water, toxic algal blooms, flooding, and over pumping from high capacity wells;

**WHEREAS**, the Health and Human Service Board is directly involved in local and regional discussions focusing on surface water and groundwater issues and is statutorily charged with considering issues related to these topics; and,

**WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors has passed resolutions asking for the State of Wisconsin to pursue initiatives related to surface water and groundwater issues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors, in legal session assembled, does hereby approve that the following question be placed on the April 5, 2022 ballot as an advisory referendum:

**Question:** Shall the State of Wisconsin establish a right to clean water to protect human health, the environment, and the diverse cultural and natural heritage of Wisconsin? YES or NO

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Corporation Counsel shall prepare an explanation of a yes or no vote to be published by the La Crosse County Clerk in accordance with statutory requirements; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution and the referendum shall be filed with the La Crosse County Clerk no later than 70 days prior to the April 5, 2022 election, at which the question will appear on the ballot; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Clerk is directed to send the results of the referendum to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Counties Association, all Wisconsin County Boards, and to local members of the State Legislature.

**FISCAL NOTE:** Approximately \$5,000 for the preparation and noticing of the referendum ballot.

Date: 12/7/21

Charles A. Degg  
COMMITTEE CHAIR

Greg Buchholz  
RECORDING CLERK

Date: 12/8/21

Clarence J. Reed  
COMMITTEE CHAIR

R.T.H.  
RECORDING CLERK

	Reviewed Only	Recommended	Not Recommended
Co. Admin.	<u>SRD</u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
Fin. Director	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
Corp. Counsel	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
Board Chair	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>

Requested By: Jamie O'Neill  
Date Requested: November 10, 2021  
Drafted By: Corporation Counsel

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 16 Day of December, 2021

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of December 2021.

Ginny Dankmeyer  
Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk