RESOLUTION # 1-4/23

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

RE: LA CROSSE COUNTY JOINING THE WISCONSIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLIMATE COALITION (WLGCC) TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING CARBON NEUTRALITY AND TRANSITIONING TO 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY BY 2050

WHEREAS, in 2020, the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors adopted resolution 21-8/20 entitled "Adopting Sustainability Goals of Improved Efficiency to Reduce Energy Consumption, Achieving Carbon Neutrality and Transitioning to 100% Renewable Energy by 2050"; and

WHEREAS, La Crosse County is concerned about the impact of climate change on local agriculture, business, and public infrastructure due to the increased risk of extreme weather and

WHEREAS, addressing and mitigating the major contributing factors, such as the burning of fossil fuels, is imperative to slow climate change and protect the public welfare; and

WHEREAS, La Crosse County’s Comprehensive Plan, adopted by Ordinance 199-9/22 on September 15th, 2022, identifies that sustainability is one of the County’s core values and states the County’s goals to:

1. Pursue sustainability initiatives for county facilities and operations.
2. Promote sustainability programs, policies, and actions throughout La Crosse County.

WHEREAS, Resolution 21-8/20, states the County will seek to collaborate across local governments, institutions and community organizations in pursuit of sustainability goals; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has a goal of 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050 and local governments are important actors to help achieve this goal and implement its Clean Energy Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC) is comprised of local governments from across the state working together to seek low-carbon and clean energy solutions, and members recognize that climate change poses severe risks to communities and that the worst effects of climate change cannot be avoided without effective State policy; and

WHEREAS, WLGCC supports the following:

1. Increased State and Federal funding for energy efficiency, renewable energy, electrification of transportation and buildings, and advanced technology and research development solutions.
2. State policies and laws that enable local governments and others to implement such actions to grow the clean energy workforce.
3. A State plan to retire coal plants no later than 2040.
4. Choices and universal access to clean energy to reduce cost and participation barriers.
5. Smart growth development policies and funding to reduce vehicle miles traveled and to preserve natural resources, including agricultural, forestry, and recreational lands; and

WHEREAS, there is no cost to becoming a WLGCC member and WLGCC shares the current sustainability goals of La Crosse County.
RE: LA CROSSE COUNTY JOINING THE WISCONSIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLIMATE COALITION (WLGCC) TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING CARBON NEUTRALITY AND TRANSITIONING TO 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY BY 2050

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the La Crosse County Board hereby authorizes joining the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the La Crosse County Planner is hereby authorized to represent La Crosse County and its interests in supporting sustainability initiatives, programs, policies and actions at WLGCC meetings and events; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Board Chair is hereby authorized to execute any documents necessary to join the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no fiscal impact.

Date: 4/12/23

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Date: 4-12-23

RECORDING CLERK

Reviewed Only

Co. Admin.

Recommended

Fin. Director

Not Recommended

Corp. Counsel

Requested By: Jane Klekamp

Board Chair

Date Requested: March 22, 2023

Drafted By: Corporation Counsel

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 18 Day of April, 2023

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 18th day of April 2023.

Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk