Amend Human Resources Policies to Adopt Paid Time Off (PTO) Plan

TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

WHEREAS, Winnebago County has for many years offered its regular employees benefit programs which include, among other things, vacation, paid holidays, floating holidays, paid sick leave, and funeral leave; and

WHEREAS, the labor markets have changed nationally and locally, making it more difficult for the county to attract and retain well-qualified employees, while those seeking positions have an increased level of interest in paid

WHEREAS, the consultant hired by the county earlier this year recommended that the county evaluate and improve its paid time off benefits to be more competitive in the marketplace, and that benefits be made more consistent among different groups of employees; and

WHEREAS, by consolidating current policies regarding vacation, floating holidays, funeral leave, and sick leave into a combined paid time off (PTO) benefit, employment with the county can be made more attractive to prospective new employees, while existing employees will be encouraged to stay; and

WHEREAS, a new set of time off policies has been drafted, following extensive discussion with and feedback from department heads, managers, employees, and County Board members; and

WHEREAS, although there may be some impact on employee productivity due to increased paid time off, there is also expected to be a savings resulting from reduced employee turnover and better staffing levels.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that, effective as of the end of the day on December 31, 2023, it hereby amends Human Resources Policies 13 - Family and Medical Leave, 15 – Unpaid Leave and Other Leaves of Absence, 17 – Vacation (to be renamed Paid Time Off (PTO)), 18 – Holidays, 20 - Income Continuation Benefits, 26 - Layoffs, and 27 - Termination of Employment by replacing those policies in their entirety with the attached new policies; and that the attached Transition Document is hereby adopted as a set of temporary policies in place until they expire on December 31, 2024.

Fiscal Note: There is no budget transfer required.

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PERSONNEL AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Committee Vote: 5-0

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Vote Required for Passage: Majority of Members Present

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Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this _____ day of _______, 2023.

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Jonathan D. Doemel Winnebago County Executive

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