

AGENDA

Eau Claire County

- Sustainability Advisory Committee •

Date: February 9th

Time: 5:00 P.M.

Location: Eau Claire County Court House, Room 3312

721 Oxford Avenue Eau Claire, WI 54703

via remote access **ONLY.*

**Event link below can be used to connect to meeting and interact (by the chair) from computer or through the WebEx Meeting smartphone app.*

Join WebEx Meeting: <https://eauclairecounty.webex.com>,

Meeting ID: 2596 376 7052, Password: N4CwyVAPW25

**Meeting audio can be listened to using this Audio conference dial in information.*

Audio conference: 1-415-655-0001, Access Code: 2596 376 7052

For those wishing to make public comment, you must e-mail Regan Watts at

Regan.watts@eauclairecounty.gov **at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. You will be called on during the public session to make your comments.**

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meeting Law
4. Public Comment Period
5. Committee member and staff introductions – Discussion
6. Oral presentation: Regan Watts, Member Orientation and Onboarding - Discussion
7. Review of Resolutions 19-20/003, 22-23/042, and 22-23/058 -Discussion Pages 2-6
8. Future meeting locations and times – Discussion/Action
9. April Community input forum – Discussion/Action
10. Members, Staff and Agency Updates-Discussion
 - a. Upcoming Community Events
 - b. Compost bin sale
 - c. Additional staff updates
11. Items for the Next Agenda
12. Adjourn

4 - RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH GOALS OF 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY AND
5 CARBON NEUTRALITY BY THE YEAR 2050 FOR EAU CLAIRE COUNTY AND TO
6 AMEND THE BUDGET TO MOVE \$10,000 FROM CONTINGENCY FOR INITIAL
7 PLANNING-

8 WHEREAS, the Paris Climate Agreement seeks to stabilize the global climate system by
9 “holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial
10 levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels”;
11 and,

12 WHEREAS, climate scientists have determined this upper temperature limit to be the best
13 feasible scenario in managing climate change impacts (such as extreme weather events and sea
14 level rise) that threaten public safety, infrastructure, private property and economic prosperity;
15 and,

16 WHEREAS, Wisconsin pays an estimated \$14 billion dollars to states with fossil fuel
17 resources and is last in per capita workforce in the clean energy economy compared to other
18 Midwestern states. Pursuing these goals will reduce out-of-state monetary flows, recycle dollars
19 back into the local economy, spur local economic development and create jobs; and,

20 WHEREAS, the City of Eau Claire passed a 100% Renewable Energy and Carbon
21 Neutrality Resolution in March 2018 to achieve these goals; and,

22 WHEREAS, Eau Claire County approved Resolution 09-10/102 in October 2009 to
23 support the State of Wisconsin’s goals for energy independence and to be eligible to gain access
24 to its accelerated technical and financial assistance; and,

25 WHEREAS, Eau Claire County approved Resolution 15-16/073 to join the Wisconsin
26 Department of Natural Resources in partnership with the League of Wisconsin Municipalities and
27 multiple organizations and communities in participating in the GREEN TIER LEGACY
28 COMMUNITY PROGRAM; and,

29 WHEREAS, by signing the GREEN TIER LEGACY COMMUNITY PROGRAM, the
30 County is committed to meeting the goals of the Legacy program with regards to developing a
31 sustainability Implementation and Monitoring Plan; and,

32 WHEREAS, the County envisions a climate and energy planning process that will reflect
33 community values and stakeholder participation to develop low-carbon means to reach these goals.
34 Stakeholders include all county residents, low-income and minority populations, large and small
35 businesses, local utilities, the educational community, institutions, the building and construction
36 sector, transportation providers, waste companies, Towns and municipalities within the County,
37 and many others; and,

38 WHEREAS, the County recognizes the process to achieve these ambitious goals represents
39 a journey that needs to be realistic and sensitive to unintended impacts. Careful and ongoing
40 planning is necessary to understand what is practical in the short term while ratcheting up efforts
41 in the mid and long-term target ranges, where technological advancements occur and costs decline;
42 and,
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1 WHEREAS, the Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce's position is "Economic growth and
2 environmental progress go hand in hand. Responsible stewardship of our resources can both grow
3 our economy and preserve the planet;" and,
4

5 WHEREAS, a 2017 community sustainable development survey revealed public support
6 in the County of Eau Claire for pursuing aggressive municipal and community goals, and further,
7 demonstrated a willingness to pay slightly more in making the transition; and (Ref. Clean
8 Wisconsin Survey by Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz and Associates, Dec 2017)
9

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Eau Claire
11 County, that it adopts the following sustainability goals:

- 12 1) Achieve Eau Claire County government and community carbon neutrality by 2050 with
13 incremental drawdown targets of 5% by 2020, 25% by 2030, 30% by 2040 and 40% by 2050.
- 14 2) Obtain 100% renewable energy by 2050 for the Eau Claire County government,
- 15 3) Assist the County Community in achieving the 100% renewable energy goal by 2050;
- 16 and,
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County will undertake planning and action
19 initiatives to establish baseline data and to prepare a plan to achieve the sustainability goals and to
20 engage in a periodic evaluation of progress; and,
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to collaborate with the City of Eau Claire's Sustainability
23 Advisory Committee, other governmental bodies within the County, PACE Wisconsin, UWEC,
24 CVTC, school districts, other civic entities, and encourage community participation; and,
25

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that County government will continue to evaluate and
27 incorporate new sustainable technologies and practices into future management decisions,
28 purchases and construction projects; and,
29

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to move \$10,000 from the contingency fund for initial
31 planning.
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34 _____
35 *James A. Hennings*
36 *Cadin J. Seary*
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38 *Donald D. McKie*
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41 *Steve Pagen*
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43 Committee on Finance & Budget
44 KRZ/yk

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34 *Gary Gutz*
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36 *James A. Hennings*
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38 *Joseph T. Wright*
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40 *Cadin J. Seary*
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42 _____
43 Committee on Planning & Development

44
45 ① Dated this 26th day of March, 2019.

ORDINANC/19-20/003

② *8th Day of April*
APPROVED BY
CORPORATION COUNSEL
AS TO FORM

2019

Reviewed by Finance Dept.
for Fiscal Impact

4 RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE COUNTY'S OPERATIONAL CLIMATE ACTION
5 AND RESILIENCE PLAN (CARP)

6 WHEREAS, Eau Claire County Board approved resolution 19-20/003 in March 2019 to
7 establish goals of 100% renewable energy and carbon neutrality by the year 2050 for Eau Claire
8 County; and

9
10 WHEREAS, the County has developed a Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP) for
11 county operations to provide guidance to county departments on key strategies to implement
12 within county operations and fiscal decisions to meet the County's carbon neutrality goals; and

13
14 WHEREAS, the CARP was created in collaboration with several department heads and
15 staff from planning and development, highway, facilities, parks and forest, and three county
16 board members; and

17
18 WHEREAS, the County has identified cost savings through leadership and sustainability
19 efforts that has offset operational costs through grants and other incentive programs, which have
20 demonstrated long term savings within the county's budget. This includes county fleets,
21 equipment upgrades through facilities, and implementation of best management practices; and

22
23 WHEREAS, Eau Claire County continuing to be a leader in sustainability will allow staff
24 to leverage grants and other external funding which will be an essential asset to offset the initial
25 levy investment that could be barriers to achieving the county's carbon neutrality goals; and

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27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Eau Claire
28 County, that it recognizes the operational Climate Action and Resilience Plan as a guidance
29 document to implement key strategies within county operations and fiscal decisions to meet the
30 County's carbon neutrality goals.

31
32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to collaborate with the City of Eau Claire's Sustainability
33 Advisory Committee, Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition, other governmental bodies
34 within the County, PACE Wisconsin, UWEC, CVTC, school districts, other civic entities, and
35 encourage community participation.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that County government will continue to evaluate and
2 incorporate new sustainable technologies and practices into future management decisions,
3 purchases and construction projects.
4

5
6 I hereby certify that the foregoing correctly
7 represents the action taken by the undersigned
8 Committee on July 12, 2022 by a vote of 4 for, 1
9 against.

10
11 

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13 _____
14 Robin Leary, Chair
15 Planning and Development Committee
16

17 RW/RE/yk

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19 Dated this 12th day of July, 2022.

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3 RESOLUTION TO CREATE A SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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5 WHEREAS, the Eau Claire County Board on July 19, 2022 approved Resolution 22-
6 23/042 to recognize the county’s operational Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP); and
7

8 WHEREAS, the CARP for county operations provides guidance to county departments
9 on key strategies to implement within county operations and fiscal decisions; and
10

11 WHEREAS, the CARP identifies the creation of the Sustainability Advisory Committee
12 as a key strategy to achieve the county’s sustainability goals and to develop a community CARP;
13 and
14

15 WHEREAS, the purpose of the Sustainability Advisory Committee is to provide guidance
16 to staff and oversight on the creation and implementation of the community CARP which is
17 another strategy identified in the county’s operational CARP; and
18

19 WHEREAS, the committee will be comprised of varied stakeholders who represent
20 municipalities, educational institutions, utilities, the agriculture community, and members of the
21 community.
22

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Eau Claire
24 County, that a special committee on Sustainability be created consisting of 11 persons
25 knowledgeable and interested in sustainability, climate action, and the resilience of the community
26 appointed by the chair of the county board, subject to approval of the county board, for a period
27 of up to twenty four months from the date of this resolution or until a final plan is approved.
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29 ENACTED:
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Committee on Planning & Development

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42 Dated this 27th day of September, 2022.

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44 RW/yk
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