



Agenda
General Government Committee
Thursday, June 5, 2025 – 5:00 pm
Conference Call 1-312-626-6799
Zoom Meeting ID: 89996258699
Passcode: 163823
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89996258699>
Community Room
303 W. Chapel St
Dodgeville, Wisconsin 53533

**Iowa
County
Wisconsin**

For information regarding access for the disabled, please call 935-0399.

Any subject on this agenda may become an action item.

1	Call to order.
2	Roll Call.
3	Approve the agenda for this June 5, 2025 meeting.
4	Approve the minutes of the April 3, 2025 meeting.
5	Report from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee. No action will be taken.
6	Courthouse/Veterans Memorial Upgrade Project.
7	Resolution Creating "Celebration Task Force"
8	Resolution Creating "Business Advancement and Resilience Council"
9	Southwest Wisconsin Library System Board Update
10	Set date and time for next meeting, July 3, 2025 at 5:00 pm.
11	Adjournment.
	Posted by the County Clerks Office on 05-29-2025, Megan Currie – County Clerk



Minutes
General Government Committee
Thursday, April 3, 2025 – 5:00 pm
Community Room
303 W. Chapel St
Dodgeville, Wisconsin 53533

**Iowa
County
Wisconsin**

1	Call to order. Chair Peterson called meeting to order at 5:00pm.
2	Roll Call. <i>Members attending in person:</i> Sups. Curt Peterson, Don Gander, Mike Peterson, Tim Lease <i>Excused:</i> Joan Davis <i>Others present:</i> Larry Bierke, Megan Currie, Debi Heisner, Mel Masters, Ingmar Nelson, John Meyers (sat for Joan Davis)
3	Motion to Approve the April 3, 2025 Agenda. Sup. M Peterson moved to approve the motion. Sup. Lease seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
4	Motion to Approve the minutes of the March 6, 2025 meeting. Sup. Gander moved to approve the motion. Sup. M Peterson seconded the motion. Sup. Lease abstains, motion carried.
5	Report from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee. No action will be taken. No Comments
6	Motion to move Ordinance 600.30 Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Action In Rem to County Board for approval. Debi Heisner, County Treasurer, explained the Ordinance. Discussion followed. Sup. Lease moved to approve the motion. Sup. M Peterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
7	Motion to move Amending Ordinance 600.25 Interest and Penalty for Delinquent Tax Amounts to County Board for approval. Debi Heisner explained the Ordinance updates. Sup. M Peterson moved to approve the motion. Sup. Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
8	Motion to move Amending Ordinance 600.13 Tax Deeded Lands to County Board for approval. Debi Heisner explained the Ordinance updates. Discussion followed. Sup. M Peterson moved to approve the motion.

	Sup. Lease seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
9	Motion to move Amending Policy 903 Property and Liability Insurance to County Board for approval. Megan Currie, County Clerk, explained the changes to the Policy. Discussion followed. Sup. Meyers moved to approve the motion. Sup. Gander seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
10	Motion to move consideration of a universal numbering format for drafting and amending county ordinances. Megan Currie explained the process that would be used to update current Ordinances. Discussion followed. Sup. M Peterson moved to approve the motion. Sup. Gander seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
11	Set date and time for next meeting, May 8, 2025 at 5:00 pm.
12	Motion to adjourn the April 3rd, 2025 meeting. Sup. M Peterson moved to approve the motion. Sup. Lease seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:25pm.
	Minutes by Megan Currie, County Clerk

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Title: Resolution Creating "Celebration Task Force"

☒ Original

☐ Update

TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEAD

DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM (Please provide detailed information, including deadline):

At the General Government Committee meeting, can we discuss the idea of creating a task force to plan for the 200th birthday of Iowa County? I've not completed the resolution, but I am looking to discuss it with the Committee to make sure I am on the right track.

Please take some time to review the proposal so far and think about the duties you would see this task force addressing.

RECOMMENDATIONS (IF ANY):

Staff recommends that the attached draft resolution cause the Committee to have a discussion about expectations, responsibilities, and the overall size of the event.

ANY ATTACHMENTS? (Only 1 copy is needed)

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please list below:

A draft Resolution is attached to generate conversations

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact will be decided based on the expectations of the celebration.

LEGAL REVIEW PERFORMED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PUBLICATION REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

STAFF PRESENTATION?:

☐ Yes

☒ No

How much time is needed? _____

COMPLETED BY: Larry Bierke

DEPT: County Administrator

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

TO BE COMPLETED BY COMMITTEE CHAIR

MEETING DATE:

AGENDA ITEM #

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Resolution No. _____

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A
“CELEBRATION TASK FORCE”
TO PLAN FOR IOWA COUNTY’S 200TH YEAR CELEBRATION**

WHEREAS, In 1829, an act by the legislative authority of the Territory of Michigan was adopted to organize the county of Iowa; and

WHEREAS, Samuel W. Beals and Lewis Grignon of the county of Brown, and Jospeh M. Street of the county of Crawford were appointed commissioners to fix the seat of justice of said county of Iowa beginning the first day of January next ensuing; and

WHEREAS, Iowa County has evolved in many ways since the beginning, and

WHEREAS, it is time to celebrate the advancements, the people, and the ??? that has helped Iowa County become what it is today.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa County Board of Supervisors hereby creates a Celebration Task Force to begin discussing and planning events for the 200th year celebration. The Celebration Task Force shall:

1. Educate themselves on the history of Iowa County.
2. Prepare a year of events in celebration of the 200th year and establish a marketing plan for said events.
3. Develop community group partnerships to help manage and plan for county-wide events.
4. Establish a budget, including fundraising and grant opportunities to address expenses that may arise in planning and/or celebration activities.
5. Determine a location and budget for a commemorative stone or sculpture to honor the accomplishment of our sustained good governance.

NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Celebration Task Force shall be comprised of fifteen members who shall serve two-year terms each:

- a. Four Iowa County Supervisors
- b. Two Mayors or Village Presidents.
- c. Two representatives from Historical Society or similar organizations.
- d. Seven Citizen Members representing various geographical areas of Iowa County.

Respectfully submitted by the General Government Committee.

Adopted this _____ day of June, 2025

2029 YEAR OF EVENTS:

April – Dodgeville Grilled Cheese Championship

June 8 – memorial park re-opened in 2025 in Barneveld

July – Mineral Point Jammin' on the Porch

August – Dodgeville "Dodgefest"

August – Mineral Point Street Dance

October – Fall Art Tour in Mineral Point

Biking, Golf Courses, Hiking Trails, State Parks, FLW Visitor Center, Parades, Library Events, Trivia Night, Camping, Fundraisers for local events, birthdays of all the cities/villages?, Cinco de Mayo Celebrations, 45th annual bike-a-thon, Easter Egg Hunts, Music Festivals, Jammin' on the Porch,

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Title: Resolution Creating the "Business Advancement and Resilience Council"

☒ Original

☐ Update

TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEAD

DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM (Please provide detailed information, including deadline):

Iowa County Economic Development has been awarded a grant for \$125,000 to provide to businesses in Iowa County. The County Administrator has taken the trainings needed to complete grant reporting. There needs to be a committee of business officials who can evaluate the grant applications as noted on our application.

Please take some time to review the proposal.

RECOMMENDATIONS (IF ANY):

Staff recommends recommending the adoption of the attached Resolution to form the BARC to begin processing grant applications.

ANY ATTACHMENTS? (Only 1 copy is needed)

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please list below:

A draft Resolution is attached.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Iowa County plans to distribute the funds to area businesses based on the terms of our grant application.

LEGAL REVIEW PERFORMED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PUBLICATION REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

STAFF PRESENTATION?:

☐ Yes

☒ No

How much time is needed? _____

COMPLETED BY: Larry Bierke

DEPT: County Administrator

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

TO BE COMPLETED BY COMMITTEE CHAIR

MEETING DATE:

AGENDA ITEM #

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Resolution No. _____

**RESOLUTION _____ ESTABLISHING THE
BUSINESS ADVANCEMENT AND RESILIENCE COUNCIL (BARC)**

WHEREAS, Iowa County applied for a Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation: Small Business Development Grant in 2024 and was awarded the grant in 2025; and

WHEREAS, Iowa County is committed to working with partner organizations and creating the Business Advancement and Resilience Council (BARC) identified in the grant application; and

WHEREAS, The Iowa County Board has assigned the General Government Committee with the responsibility of Economic Development oversight and reporting.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the General Government Committee hereby creates the "Business Advancement and Resilience Council" subcommittee with the following specific duties:

- A. Recommend grant awards to the General Government Committee and the Iowa County Board and distribute, track, and manage all funds awarded.
- B. Implement the terms of the 2024 grant application when appropriating grant amounts to targeted business types and populations.
- C. Ensure that all proprietary information submitted by businesses applying for funding stays appropriately confidential, while also posting meetings and completing minutes as required by Wisconsin's Open Meetings Law.
- D. Ensure grant reporting to WEDC is completed as required.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Advancement and Resilience Council subcommittee include the following members:

1. A member from the General Government Committee, who shall be tasked with quarterly reporting to the General Government Committee.
2. Two members representing different Cities or Villages in Iowa County.
3. The Executive Director of the Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission or their representative.
4. The Iowa County Economic Development Director or their representative.
5. The Iowa County Board Chair or their representative.
6. Two Community members at large from anywhere in Iowa County.

Respectfully submitted by the General Government Subcommittee.

Adopted this _____ day of May 2025

I. Introduction

Iowa County is applying for the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) Small Business Development Grant to support and strengthen our local small business community through the Iowa County Business Boost initiative. This initiative features a tiered grant structure, offering larger awards for significant business needs such as expansion, relocation and capital improvements, while providing smaller grants for marketing, program development, and other foundational activities. Through this approach, we aim to drive economic growth and foster innovation across Iowa County's diverse business sectors.

To ensure the program's success, we are building strong partnerships with key organizations such as the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), UW Extension, in particular the Wisconsin Rural Entrepreneurial Venture (WI REV) program, Prosperity Southwest, and the Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SWWRPC). These collaborations will provide grant recipients with essential business development resources, guidance, and networking opportunities.

In addition, the RPC's Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) will serve as a valuable match funding source, expanding the financial resources available to local businesses and underscoring our commitment to sustainable economic development. Through the Iowa County Business Advancement and Resilience Council (BARC), grantees will be connected to these vital collaborators, empowering them with the tools and support necessary to achieve long-term success and contribute to the economic vitality of our region.

II. Small Business Development Grant Evaluation Criteria

The extent to which the proposed effort provides a model to maintain grant funding for long-term use in the applicant's service territory.

For the purposes of this grant program, Iowa County will establish a subcommittee within the Iowa County General Government Standing Committee, known as the **Business Advancement and Resilience Council (BARC)**. This council will be comprised of key stakeholders from various sectors across the county to oversee the grant funds. Key stakeholders will include representatives from lending institutions, an Iowa County representative, Executive Directors or Board Members from the Dodgeville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Mineral Point Area Chamber of Commerce, a real estate salesperson familiar with Iowa County, and representatives from two of our rural distressed communities.

BARC will be responsible for determining grantee eligibility and assessing project needs through a structured application process. The council will ensure that grants are allocated based on criteria such as business impact, project viability, and alignment with the county's

economic revitalization goals. This approach ensures proper oversight and maximizes the long-term benefits of the grant program.

Additionally, as part of Iowa County's match to the grant, it intends to collaborate with SWWRPC to introduce Iowa County small businesses to the RLF. The RLF serves as a sustainable funding source for business development and expansion projects across the southwest Wisconsin region. By utilizing WEDC grant funds in tandem with the RLF, Iowa County will connect local businesses to this valuable resource, providing access to loans that can fuel growth. This integration will contribute to the region's long-term economic development.

Lending institutions can further support small businesses by partnering with the RLF to offer co-lending opportunities, combining private sector loans with RLF resources to provide businesses with more substantial financial support. By sharing financial risk, lending institutions can facilitate larger projects, enabling businesses to access additional capital for expansion, infrastructure improvements, or operational growth. Furthermore, these institutions can provide valuable financial expertise and technical assistance, helping small businesses prepare their loan applications and strengthen their financial strategies. This collaborative approach will enhance the overall impact of the grant and RLF, driving sustained growth for local businesses and the broader regional economy.

To ensure long-term sustainability, Iowa County aims to encourage grant recipients to develop projects that can generate their own revenue. For instance, businesses or organizations that receive grants for projects such as fee-based services, ticketed events, or rental income from facilities will have the potential to create self-sustaining revenue streams. These revenue-generating models will not only fund operational costs but also help expand future projects, ensuring the ongoing success of the businesses and, in turn, the broader economic development goals of the county.

Furthermore, Iowa County will actively collaborate with local economic development organizations, including WEDC, SWWRPC and Prosperity Southwest, to share intelligence on available funding opportunities and best practices in grant applications. Additionally, outreach efforts will be made to foundations such as Bader Philanthropies and the Wisconsin Community Fund to explore grant opportunities that support small business growth and community revitalization. By leveraging these strategic partnerships and funding sources, Iowa County can enhance the impact of the grant program and secure additional resources to promote long-term economic sustainability.

The extent to which the applicant's program provides customized business advising and technical assistance follow-up to small businesses in the applicant's service territory in conjunction with business financing.

BARC will actively connect grantees with key collaborators such as the SBDC, UW Extension WI REV program, and Prosperity Southwest. These partnerships will offer grantees access to a wide range of essential resources, including workshops, one-on-one business support, and expert guidance tailored to various stages of business development. BARC will ensure that all businesses, including those not awarded funding, are well-informed about these opportunities and will actively encourage all applicants to seek the assistance they need for business success.

For example, SBDC offers free counseling to both start-ups and expanding businesses, assisting with cash flow analysis, business plan preparation, market planning, and advertising strategies. Additionally, Prosperity Southwest provides access to valuable resources and networking opportunities to help small businesses grow. Even applicants who do not receive funding will be encouraged to utilize these resources, ensuring they benefit from technical support and business development guidance that can still contribute to their growth and long-term success.

To enhance the coordination and monitoring of assistance, BARC will establish a comprehensive communication framework with its partner organizations. Regular communication will occur to align goals, share progress updates, and discuss ongoing challenges, ensuring that resources are utilized efficiently and without redundancy. Regular updates will be conducted to monitor the effectiveness of the assistance provided, allowing for timely follow-up with grantees and enabling BARC to evaluate the impact of the program. By fostering collaboration and transparency among partners, BARC will ensure that assistance is not only effectively coordinated but also responsive to the evolving needs of businesses in Iowa County.

The UW Extension WI REV program will offer targeted entrepreneurial development through a proven model designed to boost small-town economies. Grantees will have access to coaching, resources, and connections throughout the visioning and implementation process, guided by Barry Hottmann of UW Extension, who will serve as the Iowa County community coach. This effort offers a tailored approach to rural economic development and business growth, giving grantees the tools to explore and implement sustainable strategies for their ventures.

To further support grantees, BARC will host webinars and workshops, develop FAQs, and distribute educational materials to guide them through the application process and provide ongoing assistance. This structured approach will empower grantees with the knowledge,

Press Release: Gov. Evers, WEDC Announce \$3.2 million in Grants to Support Small Businesses

State of Wisconsin sent this bulletin at 04/14/2025 11:24 AM CDT



Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 14, 2025

Contact: GovPress@wisconsin.gov

Gov. Evers, WEDC Announce \$3.2 Million in Grants to Support Small Businesses Statewide

Funding will bolster local efforts to support small businesses, entrepreneurship, and economic development on Main Streets across Wisconsin

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers, together with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC), today announced that 19 organizations have received nearly \$3.2 million in Small Business Development Grants (SBDG) to uplift small business development in local communities across the state. The SBDG Program provides grants to local communities and organizations to directly invest in small businesses and small business creation, including bolstering Main Streets, supporting youth entrepreneurship, improving infrastructure, providing technical assistance, and more.

“Wisconsin’s small businesses are the hearts of our communities and are important and powerful drivers of our state’s economy,” said Gov. Evers. “Now more than ever, it is critical that we do all we can to support the success of our state’s small businesses across our state. These investments we’re announcing today send a message that, here in Wisconsin, if you have a great business idea and the willingness to work hard to make it happen, our administration is here to support you and your good work. It’s that simple.”

“Small businesses play a vital role in creating the communities we live, work, and play in,” said WEDC Secretary and CEO Missy Hughes. “But sometimes they need a little boost. With the help of our community partners, small businesses will be able to continue to thrive and contribute to our communities.”

The SBDG program builds on the success of Gov. Evers’ popular Main Street Bounceback Grant Program, which provided nearly \$95 million in grant funding to nearly 9,500 businesses to fill empty storefronts in all 72 counties throughout Wisconsin. The governor’s 2025-27 Executive Budget builds upon longstanding efforts to support small businesses across the state and includes a \$50 million investment to relaunch the successful Main Street Bounceback Grant Program, originally funded through federal relief funds, which will provide as many as 5,000 eligible businesses with grants up to \$10,000 to help afford building repairs and improvements, lease and mortgage payments, and defray other expenses that can be a barrier to growing a business.

The competitive Small Business Development Grants range from \$50,000 to \$250,000 and were awarded to local and regional economic development organizations, municipalities, and counties to support small business development and creation. The organizations will pass 100 percent of the SBDG funds on to small businesses.

The 19 grant recipients include:

City of Beaver Dam | \$50,000

The city of Beaver Dam will use the funds to expand their existing Downtown New Business Recruitment Grant to provide \$5,000 to brick-and-mortar businesses in the city for lease and mortgage payments, operating expenses, and building repairs and improvements.

ColorBold Business Association | \$95,000

ColorBold Business Association will use the funds to provide grants to businesses that participate in the Entrepreneur of Color Collective, a three-month business training program. Grants can be used for startup costs, expansion, marketing, materials, education, staff, and technology.

Villages of DeForest and Windsor | \$250,000

The villages of DeForest and Windsor are partnering to create a small business grant program to provide grants to businesses for repairs or upgrades to existing commercial properties.

Door County Economic Development Corporation | \$225,000

The organization will use the funds for the Door County Small Business Façade and Property Improvement Program, which offers grants to help rehabilitate and upgrade commercial buildings. The program allows business owners to enhance the appearance and functionality of their businesses.

Eagle River Revitalization Program Inc. | \$250,000

Eagle River will use the funds for the Eagle River Impact Grant, which will resolve vacancies, blight, and underused property and encourage entrepreneurship. Grants can be used for façade improvements, building and infrastructure rehabilitations, building transformations, or new commercial space development.

City of Fond du Lac | \$215,000

Funds will be used to supplement and expand the city of Fond du Lac's small business programs, including the Building Improvement Grant, Catalytic Project, Building Security Grant Program, Downtown Fond du Lac New Business Grant, and Downtown Fond du Lac Experience Generator Grant. These programs address exterior façade renovations and lighting improvements and provide startup funds.

Green County Development Corporation | \$60,000

Green County will use the funds to establish a two-pronged project to encourage entrepreneurship and create long-term small business support. The Youth Entrepreneur Program will provide workshops, mentorship, and funding opportunities to students. Funds will also be used to establish a small business revolving loan fund.

Iowa County | \$125,000

Iowa County will use the funds to support small businesses through its Business Boost Initiative, which has a tiered grant structure to assist with both large and small business expenses, including development, expansion, and physical infrastructure improvements.

Juneau County Economic Development Corporation | \$250,000

Juneau County will use the funds to create a series of five grant programs related to entrepreneurial development, leadership, patents, startup support, and profitability investments.

City of Kiel | \$60,000

The city of Kiel will use the funds to supplement its façade revolving loan fund, which will support growing local, small businesses by providing low-interest loans for building improvements and financial support.

City of Ladysmith | \$250,000

The city of Ladysmith will use the funds to expand its Business Renovation Program, which provides grants to new and existing businesses for permanent property improvements. It will also create the Down Payment/Rent Assistance Program to assist startup businesses with down payments or the first three months of rent.

Lafayette County | \$90,000

Lafayette County will use the funds to expand its existing Launch Lafayette County Grant, which is a competitive grant program that supports business building improvements and aims to enhance the visibility and prominence of Lafayette businesses.

Marquette County | \$50,000

Marquette County will use the funds to provide small businesses with grants to advertise their products and services online. The program includes technical assistance to educate businesses on how to advertise online, evaluate previous advertisements, and create a marketing plan.

City of Medford and Village of Gilman | \$120,000

The city of Medford will create the FIX-IT Grant, which will support business improvements for façade, interior, exterior, inclusiveness, and teardown. The city of Medford has partnered with the village of Gilman, and grants will be available to businesses in both municipalities.

Milwaukee County | \$200,000

Milwaukee County will use funds to create the Bridge Building Small Business Grant Program, which will provide businesses with grants to purchase or lease commercial spaces or expand operations in their current space.

Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission | \$250,000

The Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission will use the funds for a Regional Business Plan Competition Project and Regional Grant Funds, which will serve as additional gap financing and down payment assistance.

Northwest Side Community Development Corporation | \$250,000

The Northwest Side Community Development Corporation will use the funds to provide sub-grants to position businesses for expansion and increase access to capital.

City of Ripon | \$240,000

The city of Ripon will use the funds for the WRNC (Waupun, Ripon, North Fond du Lac, and Campbellsport) Business Opportunity Fund, which will promote the growth and sustainability of small businesses in these communities.

Vernon County | \$150,000

Vernon County will use the funds for the Elevate Vernon Program, which will provide technical assistance and grants of up to \$10,000. The grants can be used for marketing, branding, equipment, building improvements, signage, software, hardware, staff training, or consulting.

More information on the Small Business Development Grant Program is available on WEDC's website [here](#).

An online version of this release is available [here](#).

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