

League of Women Voters of Ashland and Bayfield Counties
Annual Report 2023-2024



“If there’s one thing I’ve learned in life, it’s the
power of using your voice.”

— **Michelle Obama**

April 2024

CONTENTS

LWV/ABC ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA MAY 13,2024	Page 3
LWV/ABC REFLECTIONS 2023-2024	Page 4
PROPOSED BYLAWS REVISIONS	Page 6
VOTER SERVICES REPORT Committee Chair Alison Lutterman	Page 7
MEMBERSHIP REPORT Committee Chair Diane Koosed	Page 9
NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT Committee Chair Joan Elias	Page 10
DEI Report Committee Chair Anne Chartier	Page 14
PROPOSED PROGRAMMING FOR 2024-2025	Page 16
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES May 17,2023	Page 17
TREASURER'S REPORT FY 2023-2024	Page 18
LWV-ABC PROPOSED SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR 2023-2024	Page 20
NATIONAL AND STATE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CONTACT INFORMATION	Page 21
PATHS TO POWER	Page 22
Treasurer's Reports Appendix	Page 23

LWV/ABC Annual Meeting Agenda – May 2024

May 13, 2024 5:30-8:00 p.m.

**UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
ASHLAND, WISCONSIN**

EVENING AGENDA

5:30-6:00 Social

6:00-7:00 Business Meeting

- Welcome – Kate Miller
- Treasurer’s Report and Proposed Budget – Roger Aiken
- Nomination Slate – Linda Jorgenson
- Proposed Programs – Kate Miller
- Other Business – Board Members
- Business Meeting Adjournment – Kate Miller

7:00-8:00 **Guest Speaker:**

Delany Zimmer, Voter Services Coordinator, LWV of Wisconsin.

Topic - Mis and Dis-Information; how it's detrimental to our democracy, especially during this upcoming election cycle, and how we as league members can identify it and be involved to quash it!

LWV/ABC REFLECTIONS 2023-2024

Board President's Reflections

In truth, this year has been a bit of a learning curve, with a number of Board members stepping into new roles. Diane embraced Membership just as big changes begin rolling out from National. Anne embraced DEI launching periodic book studies to expand awareness of our rich diversity and need for inclusion while across the national landscape there is pushback. Alison embraced Voter Services as we embark on a National Election year in turbulent times. As a first-year board member I said yes to being President not aware of what a Yes fully entailed. Thankfully, there has also been steadfast support of long-time Directors, League Members and the community. The Natural Resources Committee continues its strong engagement with varied local partners to expand awareness through community action and amplifying the voice for protecting the land, water, and all species that inhabit our precious and bountiful part of the world.

The LWV of Ashland Bayfield Counties has been focusing on engagement within our communities. Washburn/ South shore "Unit" met regularly all year and looking forward to Bayfield and Ashland units reactivating, all under the new names of LWV Cafés. There were many events that our chapter sponsored, co-sponsored, or supported over the past year. Here are some highlights from the year so far:

June 2023

- Stop Line 5 demonstration at Memorial Park in Ashland
- Participant in Bayfield County Social Connections Workgroup

July 2023

- Tabling at Ashland Farmers Market
- Bottom Line article by Jan Pen -Living in hope the world can be as one.

August 2021

- Community Paddle and Rally in Ashland - Defend the Sacred: Paddle for the Water (Flotilla) in collaboration with Communities United by Water
- Tabling at 55+ Wellness Day in Ashland – Civic's Quiz
- Bottom Line article by Kate Miller - Fostering Information Disorder Immunity

September 2023

- Community Education Forum in a collaboration with PFLAG Washburn-Chequamegon Bay - Demystifying Transgender Healthcare
- Tabling at Northland College Pow Wow – Civics Quiz
- National Voter Registration Day Tabling during lunch hour at Ashland High School – Civics Quiz and South Shore High School Civics Class Conversation on Voting and Voter Registration
- Fall Meeting – Presentation by Former Senator Janet Bewley on Finding Hope in the Worst of Times.
- Tabling at Regional Non-Profit Fair in Ashland – Civics Quiz

- Initial Collaborative meeting with newly formed Gogebic Range Unit
- Bottom Line article by Alison Lutterman - Gerrymandering

October 2023

- Applefest Parade March with Water Protectors
- Book Discussion of Fire Keeper's Daughter facilitated by DEI Committee and Val Barber, Board Director and LCO Member
- Bottom Line article by Anne Chartier - D.E.I. stands for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

November 2023

- Bottom Line article by Val Barber - Wisconsin's First Citizens and Voting

December 2023

- Member Holiday Pot-luck
- Bottom Line article by George Busséy - I am Grateful for Democracy

January 2024

- Initial Collaboration with newly formed League in Superior on Opposition of Proposed NTEC Plant
- All Critter Art Build and Pot-luck in collaboration with local organizers and 350 WI a two-day event for creating critter hats and other eye-catching art for the fight against Line 5.
- Bottom Line article by Jan Penn - Building a THRIVING Community

February 2024

- Book Discussion of James Balwin's Giovanni's Room facilitated by DEI Committee
- Provide testimony in opposition to proposed NTEC power plant in Superior and support LWV of Douglas County
- Line 5 - Climate Justice March around Ashland in critter hats handing out flyers at Book Across the Bay.
- City of Bayfield Common Council Alderperson Hybrid Candidate Forum
- Bottom Line article by Kate Stolp, MD - Transgender Healthcare

March 2024

- Community Conversation – Exploring Alternative Voting Methods
- Collaborative Meeting with Gogebic Range Unit
- Letter to Superior Mayor and Planning Commission Against NTEC permits
- Bottom Line article by Kate Miller – Elections in Wisconsin

April 2024

- Book Discussion of The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store facilitated by DEI Committee
- Bottom Line article by Linda Jorgenson – Taxes

PROPOSED BYLAWS REVISIONS

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW ARTICLE VII, SECTION 2 RELATING TO THE CONDUCT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

Section 2. Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting shall be held each year in the spring, the exact date to be determined by the Board of Directors.

Fifteen percent (15%) of the Members eligible to vote, as defined in Article III, Section 1b shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business. At the Annual Meeting, the General Membership shall: a) Adopt a local program for the ensuing year b) Elect officers, directors, and members of the Nominating Committee c) Adopt an adequate budget, and d) Transact such other business as may properly come before it. e) Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

VOTER SERVICES REPORT Committee Chair Alison Lutterman

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ASHLAND & BAYFIELD COUNTIES

2024 ANNUAL REPORT VOTERS SERVICES COMMITTEE

SUMMARY

The 23-24 year has been one of transition for the Voter Services Committee. The long-serving co-chairs, Diane Koosed & Anne Chartier, stepped down and assumed the chairs of the Membership Committee (Koosed) and the DEI Committee (Chartier). Alison Lutterman agreed to step in as the new voter services chair. The year has been one of learning and experimenting. During this transitional year the committee focused on voter engagement, voter education and league marketing.

The committee meets on the 3rd Friday of the month. A check-in session begins at 9:45 a.m. and the business meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. and is scheduled for one hour. If you would like to receive the meeting notice please email Alison at alisonlutterman@gmail.com.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The committee committed to member education by participating in the monthly community conversations zooms presented by the LWVWI. Committee members attended the zooms providing reports on the conversations for the monthly committee meeting.

The committee engaged in voter education and engagement by tabling at various community events such as farmer markets, community education events and the Northland College Powwow. Committee members also contributed to the league's column in the Bottom Line News.

The committee engaged in new voter education by conducting presentations and tabling at South Shore and Ashland High Schools.

2024 is an election year and the committee researched the various election contests on the April 2nd ballots in order to identify candidate forum opportunities. Given the committee's limited volunteer capacity it identified the City of Bayfield Common Council and Mayor contests as contests that could benefit from candidate forums because the contests would have city-wide impact. The common council contest pitted five candidates vying for two positions. The committee produced a forum that was held on February 26th and was pleased that all candidates agreed to participate. The committee was unable to present a mayoral forum due to the unavailability of one of the candidates. The result was very positive and the candidates and community were appreciative of the league's efforts.

During the summer and fall campaign season leading up to the August primary and November 4, 2024 general election the committee will focus on get-out-the-vote efforts and voter engagement activities. To this end we have asked the members of the Voter Services Committee for their suggestions of community events where the league can increase its presence and engage with voters. The committee has also recognized the need to coordinate with the Superior league because northern Douglas, Bayfield and Ashland counties are now in the same Assembly District 73. Where the opportunity presents itself the committee will continue to offer candidate forums or candidate meet-and-greets if enough league members volunteer to participate in organizing and donating their time at the events.

The committee also recognizes that forming a Lake Superior Region Coordinating Council would be an important way to maximize the resources of all of the leagues of the Lake Superior region. And has begun the conversation on that effort.

CONCLUSION

As the committee moves forward, the level of activity engaged in will be dependent upon the willingness of league members to volunteer their time and talents to committee initiatives. Answering the call for volunteers will enable the committee to increase its impact in our communities and advance the goals of the League of Women Voters.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT, Committee Chair Diane Koosed

Current Members: 109

Of these, two are lifetime members and one is a student member.

In the past year, we've gained 12 new members, one of whom is a student.

This is a time of learning about the new dues structure that National is spearheading. No date has been set for the change, but we are expecting it to occur in early 2025. Once the change is in place, all leagues will be on the same dues structure.

Memberships will be \$75 or pay-as-you-can, with a suggested floor of \$20.

Breakdown of our dues:

- 51% of our dues now goes to National. This will decrease to 33%.
- 37% of our dues now goes to State. This will increase to 47%.
- 12% of our dues now goes to Local. This will increase to 20%.

National will make the necessary changes to all local branches' websites so that renewals can occur online. Paying by check will still be possible.

Donations to local leagues, beyond membership, will need to be made separately.

Our website now has a new form for donations to be made online; or for those who wish, a form to be printed and mailed.

The membership committee took on the tasks of organizing the Fall Membership Meeting and a somewhat more spontaneous holiday potluck. For each event, 40 were in attendance. At both events, attendees seemed very pleased to be meeting in person.

- The Fall meeting occurred on September 27, 2023, at the United Presbyterian Congregational Church in Ashland, with guest speaker Janet Bewley. Her talk was entitled "Finding Hope In the Worst of Times."
- The Holiday Potluck took place on December 9, 2023, at The Club in Washburn.

In the upcoming year, we hope to:

- Continue to learn and adapt to new membership changes from ChapterSpot.
- Contact members to understand their interests; aiming for one meeting (phone or in-person) per month.
- Develop a better understanding of ways our chapter can interact effectively with the Tribes in our counties.
- Strengthen connections with Gogebic Unit and Douglas County Chapter

Submitted April 1, 2024, by Diane Koosed, Membership Chair 2023-2024
Committee Members: Kristy Jensch, Sue Niemi, Ginger Quay, Kate Siegler

NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT Committee Chair Joan Elias

In 2023, the Natural Resources Advocacy Committee (NR Committee) continued our involvement in issues affecting water resources. Activities centered around opposition to Enbridge Line 5, promoting protection of clean water in Ashland County, and participation in a new statewide LWV NR committee. Our efforts are amplified by working collaboratively with other LWV chapters, the LWVWI, statewide non-profit organizations, and our neighboring Tribes.

Opposition to Enbridge Line 5

NR Committee members are active in several working groups, in collaboration with our regional partners.

- The Cross Border Committee includes people from Canada and the US working together on pipeline issues affecting the Great Lakes.
- The Regulatory Committee consists of folks from multiple organizations around the state. The focus is on state and federal permitting and legal issues surrounding Line 5.
- The Local Organizing Committee plans and executes a variety of events to raise public awareness of the pipeline issues and get more people involved as environmental advocates.

Specific activities of our LWV NR Committee together with our partners include:

- An educational table at the Trout Unlimited Expo in Ashland.
- A high visibility “flotilla” of canoeists and kayakers on Fish Creek Slough. Participants wore “critter hats” and were cheered on by marchers holding signs. Lunch and a movie were provided afterwards. A similar event was held in Superior the following day.
- Six weeks of weekly potlucks with educational materials, art, and film at the Bohemian Club in Ashland to counter the weekly events Enbridge held at the same location in October and November.
- Three of our members were interviewed by Bad River’s Historical Preservation Officer about how the proposed rerouting of Line 5 would affect us.
- The LWVWI signed on to a letter to the Wis. Department of Natural Resources requesting the Department consider scientific developments related to the cost of greenhouse gases associated with the Line 5 proposed relocation project. The letter was drafted by the Midwest Environmental Advocates and was signed by several other organizations.
- The LWVWI supported the release of the YouTube Water Protector Music Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UOTvMRpNcuE>
- An educational piece on Line 5 written by our NR committee appeared in the LWVWI State Office Biweekly Update (<https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin/article/enbridge-line-5-what-know-2023>).
- One of our members is on the selection committee for Enbridge’s “Ecofootprint” program. The grant program provides funds for projects designed to protect and restore natural resources in Ashland, Bayfield, and Iron Counties - the counties affected by the proposed rerouting of Line 5 around the Bad River Reservation.
- A Washburn HS student has offered tech support to our committee. The work involves helping to organize our massive amount of electronic information on Line 5.

- Two of our NR Committee members met with US Forest Service personnel in the Washburn District in a follow-up to our 2019 letter requesting a full Environmental Impact Statement along the Line 5 corridor across USFS lands.



Photos from the “flotilla” event On Fish Creek Slough.



Promoting Protection of Clean Water in Ashland County

In 2022 we worked with the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors on a referendum protecting clean water. The referendum appeared on the November ballot and passed overwhelmingly.

In 2023 we turned our attention to Ashland County. The Land Conservation Committee agreed to bring a resolution to the County Board of Supervisors who passed it unanimously in October. The resolution (below) was sent to Governor Evers, the Wisconsin Counties Association, Senator Quinn, and Representative Green.



RESOLUTION



Resolution Number R10-2023-1452

CLEAN WATER RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Ashland County is surrounded by abundant clean water including more than 1,250 square miles of surface waters in the form of lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands; *and*,

WHEREAS, clean water is essential to life, health, and the well-being of families, ecosystems and lands, and is the foundation of a vibrant community, economy, and high-quality life; *and*,

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin holds all navigable waters in public trust for use by all; *and*,

WHEREAS, Ashland County is a protector of water and natural resources, demonstrates water stewardship, and recognizes the importance of addressing threats to surface and ground waters that impact the health, well-being, and future of our communities; *and*,

WHEREAS, Ashland County citizens are concerned with water resource issues including, nitrates contamination, bacteria, PFAS, toxic algae blooms, flooding, and excess sediment & nutrients; *and*,

WHEREAS, the Land and Water Conservation Department is directly involved in local and regional surface and groundwater protection efforts and is statutorily charged with addressing these topics.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ashland County Board of Supervisors supports the right to clean water to protect human health, the environment, and the cultural and natural heritage of Wisconsin for the citizens of Ashland County; and

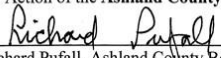
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in recognition of this right to clean water, that actions, policies, plans, and procedures of the County reflect the intent to conserve, protect, and restore clean water.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Ashland County expects that the Governor of Wisconsin and the members of the Wisconsin Legislature financially and fully support programs and staff funding to allow Ashland County to protect surface and groundwater for current and future generations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ashland County Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution, if approved, to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and to members of the State Legislature representing Ashland County.

FISCAL NOTE. There are no fiscal obligations associated with this resolution.
Dated at the City of Ashland, Wisconsin on this 9th day of October 2023.

By Action of the **Ashland County Board of Supervisors**:


Richard Pufall, Ashland County Board Chairman

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) S.S.
COUNTY OF ASHLAND)

I, Heather W. Schutte, County Clerk of Ashland County, hereby certify that the above and foregoing resolution/ordinance is a true and correct copy adopted by the Ashland County Board of Supervisors on this 9th day of October, 2023.


Heather W. Schutte, Ashland County Clerk

Statewide LWV Natural Resources Committee

The LWVWI Natural Resources Committee formed in spring. Two of our local NR Committee members participate in the monthly state NR Committee meetings. The meetings have served to connect local LWV chapters on shared natural resource issues and offer opportunities to promote water protection to the LWVWI leadership team. When specific legislative bills arise

that the committee would like the LWVWI to take a position on, committee members provide details to the Legislative Committee with reasons for the League to support or oppose the bill. More issues arise than the committee has the capacity to tackle.

Actions and positions taken by the statewide NR Committee include:

- Support of AB434/SB444, which related to an indoor air quality inspection and evaluation program for public schools. The LWVWI will collaborate with the American Society of Civil Engineers on an infrastructure report card.
- Support of AB222/SB222 requiring the Department of Military Affairs (DMA), Division of Emergency Management (DEM) to create and administer a pre-disaster flood resilience grant program and annually report to the governor and legislature the program activities and accomplishments of the previous year.
- Oppose AB312/SB312, relating to programs and requirements to address PFAS (perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances) because groundwater standards were not included and WDNR oversight of clean-ups was limited. Two webinars on PFAS, open to the public, were hosted by the statewide NR Committee this spring.
- Support sharing of a Sierra Club petition to US Army Corps of Engineers requesting a full environmental impact statement before moving forward with any permitting on Enbridge's proposed Line 5 reroute.
- Support plans to extend the Infrastructure Webinar Series focusing on challenges relating to climate resiliency.

Plans for 2024-25

The LWV-ABC Natural Resources Committee has focused on the protection of water quality and quantity, and we expect that focus to continue. We will continue to support Indigenous Treaty Rights.

Many water related issues are also climate issues, and Enbridge Line 5 is a perfect example of the linkage between climate chaos and protection of water. Our work in opposition to Line 5 is likely to increase substantially in the coming year as state and federal decisions are released.

We will keep abreast of other local and statewide natural issues, taking action as our capacity permits. Of particular attention are the permitting decision of the Nemadji Trail Energy Center project in Superior and several mining explorations and proposals in northern Wisconsin.

We will support our local chapter's efforts to establish partnerships with the new LWV chapters in Superior and Ironwood on shared issues.

LWVABC has maintained our membership with the inter-league organizations of the Lake Michigan and Upper Mississippi Regions, though our involvement has been limited. In the coming year we look forward to more collaboration with these groups on issues of common concern.

DEI Report Committee Chair Anne Chartier

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Report to the 2024 Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Ashland and Bayfield Counties (LWV/ABC)

Submitted by Anne Chartier in February, 2024

The League of Women Voters of Ashland and Bayfield Counties (LWV/ABC) Strives to welcome members and friends from a wide variety of backgrounds, and to include diverse community stakeholders in our activities and programs.

The Board of the League of Women Voters of the United States has updated the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy. We will vote to adopt it during our May Annual Meeting:

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy Updated by the LWVUS Board on January 21, 2024

Discrimination or harassment of any kind will not be accepted within the League, including but not limited to race, socio-economic status, age, ability status, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, gender identity, or marital status. The League is committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and belonging for all people. The League is an organization that respects and values the richness of our community and our members. The collective sum of our individual differences and life experiences represents not only our culture, but our reputation and the organization's mission and achievements as well.

This has been the first year with a LWV/ABC director focusing specifically on DEI. Although we don't yet have a committee per se, Board Directors, members and friends have been supportive of our DEI efforts. An opportunity for members and friends to meet in person and help guide future efforts is scheduled for April 17

Three book discussions will have been organized during 2023-2024: the first in October, the second in February and the third in April. The conversations were designed to help us expand our understanding of our rich human diversity.

The first book we talked about was *Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley. LWV/ABC director and Lac Courte Oreilles member Val Barber helped facilitate the in-person conversation at the Vaughn Library in Ashland. The second book we discussed was *Giovanni's Room* by James Baldwin. We met on Zoom and Northland College English and Indigenous Studies Professor Kyle Bladow guided our exploration of the novel. The third gathering set for April 17 will be based on *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store*, a novel by bestselling author James McBride.

Throughout the year the chair participated in the Voters Services Committee and the Natural Resources Committee, and has partnered with a Cross Border Working Group. Actions are planned for May and June at the Canadian Consulates in Detroit, Minneapolis and Chicago because Line 9 is an extension of Line 5 on Canadian soil; the Canadian government is supporting Enbridge, which owns the pipelines. This work is directly connected to the sovereignty of our Bad River brothers and sisters, the protection of our water and the health of biodiversity of the region. There has also been collaboration with the Membership Committee's ongoing work to expand and nurture the diversity among our members and friends.

The chair serves on both the LWVWI Voter Services and DEI committees. We are pleased that a DEI manager is joining the outstanding staff in Madison on March 25. Her contributions will be of great value to our LWV/ABC and all the League chapters throughout the state.

Our goal for 2024-2025 is to continue to work toward ensuring the activities our organization is involved with are respectful of and sensitive to the diversity in our communities, that we continue to strive for equity and justice in our region and beyond, and that we seek to be inclusive and welcoming to all people who wish to join our efforts and with whom we collaborate to meet local needs.

PROPOSED PROGRAMMING FOR 2024-2025

We will continue to work toward ensuring that our activities are respectful of and sensitive to the diversity in our communities, striving for equity and justice in our region and beyond, and that we seek to be inclusive and welcoming to all people who wish to join our efforts and with whom we collaborate to meet local needs.

LWVABC has maintained our membership with the inter-league organizations of the Lake Michigan and Upper Mississippi Regions, though our involvement has been limited. In the coming year we look forward to more collaboration with these groups on issues of common concern. Also, strengthening our connections with the Gogebic Range Unit and Douglas County League as an important way to maximize resources as northern Douglas, Bayfield and Ashland counties are part of Assembly District 73.

The LWV-ABC Natural Resources Committee has focused on the protection of water quality and quantity, and we expect that focus to continue. We will continue to support Indigenous Treaty Rights. Many water related issues are also climate issues, and Enbridge Line 5 is a perfect example of the linkage between climate chaos and protection of water. Our work in opposition to Line 5 is likely to increase substantially in the coming year as state and federal decisions are released.

We will keep abreast of other local and statewide natural resource issues. Of particular attention are the permitting decision of the Nemadji Trail Energy Center project in Superior and several mining explorations and proposals in northern Wisconsin.

In the upcoming year we will expand our efforts to be in contact through local League Café's where members and friends gather to share knowledge, have interesting conversations on issues of concern and deepen our connection with each other and our communities.

We will continue to submit an article to the Bottom-Line Newspaper monthly focusing on civic issues.

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES May 17,2023

Annual Meeting – May 17, 2023 6 pm

Anne Chartier called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm

Treasurer's Report

Joyce Neumann motioned to accept the Treasurer's report – Val Barber seconded. No discussion. Anne thanked Roger Aiken for his hard work. Where does money come in and go out to. Greatest amount of money coming in comes from finance drive and most spent in voter services. Passed unanimously. After the vote, a member asked for clarification on was it just the past year's report or all the treasurer's reports. Anne clarified that it was all the treasurer's report. Anne asked if we needed to open the topic back up if unclear, it was decided no.

Slate of Nominees – Bev Lindell

Nomination to close nominations- Joyce Neumann motion to accept the slate as proposed by acclimation and Linda Jorgenson seconded. Passed unanimously.

Proposed programs

Motion to accept proposed programs for next year. Anne was asked to read the proposed programs. Alison Lutterman motioned and Kate Miller seconded.

Joyce Neuman said that she is concerned about book banning, as it happened in the Vaughn Library. Anne said to put together what Joyce would like to propose and bring it to the board.

Minutes from Annual Meeting from 2022

Linda Jorgenson moved adoption of the minutes from 2022 annual meeting as presented and Jan Penn seconded. One abstention as she wasn't here.

Change to By-Laws

Accept proposed by-laws changes, specifically to do with dues. Alison Lutterman moves we accept the proposal; Sharon Stewart seconded the motion. Roger Aiken asked Anne to yield the floor to him as he opposes the proposed by-law changes. He cited moral hazard. Passed unanimously.

Kate Miller was welcomed as our new president. She made us aware of the Line 5 and Assembly 245 – info sheet in the back. Act locally – issues showing up at the local school board level. Meeting Adjourned at 7:00pm

TREASURER'S REPORT FY 2023-2024

Treasurers Narrative Report

Below you will find our Annual Budget projection and a summary of our financial condition. Judging from the feedback I get every year, I am sure this is the most anticipated report of all, so I will be as brief as possible.

Budgeting

First, for those of you new to the process, a brief explanation. The LWV uses a mid-year (June 30) end date for its fiscal year, however we must formulate a budget in March to make the Annual meeting mandate in May. In creating the budget, I take the previous year's expenditures and revenues along with any remaining major expenses for the current FY and present them into the new budget for the Board to review and comment on. This results in changes that is our best bet at approximating future expenses and revenues. Since these are hard things to project there are usually some changes over the course of the year.

New This Year

Starting in January of 2025, all dues will change to \$75.00 and will be collected by the National office. They then will distribute funds back to us on a certain formula. Dues will be collected as normal for 2024 (More on this elsewhere in this report and at the annual meeting.) The one thing I want to emphasize; *Starting in January of 2025 you will need to make your donations to the Local league either by check to our PO Box or online at our website. Other donations included in your yearly membership will go to the National and State only.* You have been very generous with your donations in the past and we thank you for all you have done to keep us afloat.

Treasury Stuff

We have run deficits in the last two years, largely attributable to two major purchases. In 2022 FY we purchased an Owl device to broadcast and record our forums and meetings; and in the current fiscal year we made a large investment in our website to solicit donations online. In FY 2025 the LWV is changing the way we do business, and our website donation platform becomes more critical for above mentioned donations to our ABC Chapter.

Our bank balances remain strong although our fundraising has been falling off in the last couple of years. Deficits have reduced surplus funds in our checking account, but we have managed to preserve our savings to date. The new collection system has many unknowns, and I am not at all certain how much additional revenue it might bring to the chapter, although at least as projected it may be an additional 15%.

**League of Women Voters of Ashland & Bayfield Counties Wisconsin
Proposed Master 24-25 Budget 3-31-2024 (Condensed)
For the period from 07/01/2024 to 06/30/2025**

Income

Finance Drive	\$ 2,000.00
Membership Income	\$ 3,520.00
Programs and Events	\$ 300.00
1330 Grants from Reserve Funds	\$ 1,788.00
Total — Income	\$ 8,408.00

Less: Expenses

Committees

Communications/Administrative	\$ 1,188.00
Membership Expenses	\$ 3,990.00
Natural Resources	\$ 400.00
Voter Services	\$ 500.00
Diversity Equity Inclusion	\$ 200.00
Programs and Events	\$ 1,550.00
Other	
Presidents Expense Fund	\$ 100.00
Insurance	\$ 450.00
Bank Charges	\$ 30.00
Total — Expenses	\$ 8,408.00

Net profit (loss)

LWV/ABC PROPOSED SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR 2022-2023

Board of Directors

Term Starts May/Term Ends May

Officers

President	Kate Miller	2024	2025
President Elect	Open	2024	2025
Secretary		2024	2025
Treasurer	Roger Aiken	2024	2025

Directors

Two Year Term	Joan Elias	2024	2026
	Alison Lutterman	2024	2026
	Jan Penn	2024	2026
	Dee Sweet	2024	2026
	Kelly Westlund	2024	2026

One year Term	Val Barber	2024	2025
	Barb Bell	2024	2025
	Anne Chartier	2024	2025
	Linda Jorgenson	2024	2025
	Diane Koosed	2024	2025

Nominating Committee

Linda Barnes
 Joyce Kiel
 Sheila Mitchell
 (Board appoints liaison)

NATIONAL AND STATE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CONTACT INFORMATION

League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS)

1730 M Street Northwest, Suite 1000

Washington, DC 20036-4508

Phone: (202) 429-1965

FAX: (202) 429-0854

Web address: <http://www.lwv.org>

Contact/Feedback Form: <http://lwv.org/content/About/ContactUs.aspx>

League of Women Voters of Wisconsin (LWVWI)

612 West Main Street, Suite 200

Madison, WI 53703

Phone: (608) 256-0827

Web address: <http://www.lwvwi.org>

Contact/Feedback Form: <http://www.lwvwi.org/About/ContactUs.aspx>

Email: lwvwisconsin@lwvwi.org

PATHS TO POWER

Federal Government

President Joe Biden

Address: The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500

Phone: (202) 456-1111 Contact Form: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>

Vice President Kamala Harris

Contact Form: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>

Website: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/vice-president-harris/>

Senator Ron Johnson

Address: 328 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510

Phone: (202) 224-5323

Contact Form: <http://ronjohnson.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/email-the-senator>

Website: <http://ronjohnson.senate.gov>

Senator Tammy Baldwin

Address: 717 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510

Phone: (202) 224-5638, (800) 247-5645 (Wisconsin Only)

Contact Form: <http://baldwin.senate.gov/contact>

Website: <http://baldwin/senate.gov>

Representative Tom Tiffany

Address: 1714 Longworth House Office Building, Washington DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-3365

Contact Form: <https://tiffany.house.gov/contact>

Website: <https://tiffany.house.gov>

State Government

Wisconsin Legislative Hotline

(800) 362-9472 or (608) 266-9960 (Madison Only)

Governor Tony Evers

Address: 115 East, State Capitol, Madison, WI 53702 PO Box 7863, Madison, WI 53707

Phone: (608) 266-1212 (Madison) (414) 227-4344 (Milwaukee)

Email: EversInfo@wisconsin.gov

Senator Roman Robert Quinn

25th Senate District

Address: Room 123 South, State Capitol, PO Box 7882, Madison, WI 53707-7882

Phone: (608) 266-3510 or (800) 469-6562

Email: sen.quinn@legis.wi.gov

Representative Angie Sapik

73rd Assembly District

Address: Room 16 West State Capitol PO Box 8953, Madison, WI 53708

Phone: (608) 237-9173 or (888) 534-0073

Email: Rep.Sapik@legis.wisconsin.gov

Representative Chanz Green

74th Assembly District

Address: Room 125 West State Capitol PO Box 8952, Madison, WI 53708

Phone: (608) 237-9174 or (888) 534-0074

Email: Rep.Green@legis.wisconsin.gov

State contacts updated March 2024 from <http://legis.wisconsin.gov>

Treasurer Appendix

League of Women Voters of Ashland & Bayfield Counties Wisconsin

Proposed Master 24-25 Budget 3-31-2024

For the period from 07/01/2024 to 06/30/2025

	FY 24-25	Subtotal
Income		
Finance Drive		
1340 Web Services	\$ -	
1310 Finance Drive	\$ 2,000	
1311 Finance Drive - Programs & Events Donations	\$ -	
1313 Finance Drive - Voter Services Bussey Donations	\$ -	
1314 Finance Drive – Donations Undesignated	\$ -	
Total — Finance Drive		\$ 2,000
Membership Income		
1211 Donations Natural Resources	\$ -	
1110 Dues	\$ 820	
1210 Donations General	\$ 100	
1212 Membership Scholarship donations -B Dunn	\$ -	
1111 Dues - New system	\$ 2,600	
Total — Membership Income		\$ 3,520
Programs and Events		
1410 Annual meeting	\$ 150	
1420 Holiday Dinner	\$ 150	
Total — Programs and Events		\$ 300
Grants/Fundraising		
1214 LWV Grants	\$ -	
1320 Fundraising	\$ 800	
Total — Grants/Fundraising		\$ 800
1330 Grants from Reserve Funds		\$ 1,788
Total — Income		\$ 8,408

Expenses

Committees

Communications/Administrative

2340 ps Postage and Supplies	\$ 200	
2340 pm Print media	\$ -	
2340T Sales Tshirts	\$ -	
2340 Web Services Web and Newsletter	\$ 600	
2341 Zoom	\$ 300	
2340 Other Communications	\$ 88	

Subtotal Total — Communications/Administrative **\$ 1,188**

Membership Expenses

2110 Membership Expenses	\$ 200	
2342 Online Fees and Expenses	\$ 100	
2120 National Dues	\$	
2130 State Dues	\$ 3,420	
2140 Member Scholarships	\$ 130	
2210 Inter-league Org. Mbrship	\$ 140	

Subtotal — Membership Expenses **\$ 3,990**

2365 Natural Resources	\$ 400	
2367 Voter Services	\$ 500	
2421 Diversity Equity Inclusion	\$ 200	

Subtotal Committees **\$ 1,100**

Grants/Fundraising

2115 Grants From Reserves	\$	
2114 LWV Grants	\$	

Total — Grants/Fundraising **\$ -**

2351 Insurance	\$ 450	
----------------	--------	--

Programs and Events

2310 Conventions/Workshops	\$ 500	
2320 Finance Drive / Fundraising	\$ 300	
2360 Programs & Events	\$ 200	
2410 Annual Meeting	\$ 400	
2420 Holiday Dinner	\$ 150	

Total — Programs and Events **\$ 2,000**

Other

2350 Presidents Expense Fund	\$ 100	
2520 Bank charges	\$ 30	

Subtotal Other **\$ 130**

Total — Expenses **\$ 8,408**
