

1 By Supervisors Vincent, Matinez, Coggs-Jones,
2 Capriolo, Shea, Gómez-Tom, O'Connor, Eckblad,
3 and Johnson, Jr.
4

File No. 24-486

5
6 **A RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE**
7

8 amending Chapter 1 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances to require
9 regular County Board meetings to begin at noon
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11
12 WHEREAS, Chapter 1 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances
13 (MCGO) serve as the rules of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors; and
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15 WHEREAS, Section 1.01(b) states: "Regular meetings of the county board shall
16 convene at 9:30 a.m. unless otherwise designated"; and
17

18 WHEREAS, other County Board meetings, such as the Public Hearing to listen to
19 public comments on the proposed budget is usually held in the evening, while the
20 Annual Meeting to adopt a budget typically begins earlier in the morning; and
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22 WHEREAS, the average length of a regular County Board meeting in 2022 and
23 2023 was approximately 4.5 hours, which would fill an afternoon and not disrupt the
24 entire day; and
25

26 WHEREAS, since the passage of 2013 Wisconsin Act 14, which significantly
27 reduced the pay and eliminated fringe benefits for County Board Supervisors, many
28 Supervisors now hold other jobs that often require attendance during normal working
29 hours and necessitate taking leave to attend County Board meetings; and
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31 WHEREAS, regular County Board meetings often include presentations to
32 recognize members of the public for their contributions to our community, which also
33 requires many of them to adjust their work or school commitments to attend; and
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35 WHEREAS, starting regular County Board meetings at noon would enhance the
36 ability of Supervisors and guests to balance the day with other commitments; and
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38 WHEREAS, the Committee on Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and General
39 Services, at its meeting of June 11, 2024, recommended adoption of File No. 24-486
40 (vote 4-1); now, therefore,
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42 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby supports
43 commencing regular County Board meetings at noon and amends Chapter 1 of the
44 Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances by adopting the following:

45
46 **AN ORDINANCE**
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48 The County Board of Supervisors of the County of Milwaukee does ordain as follows:
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50 **SECTION 1.** Section 1.01(b) of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances is
51 amended as follows:

52
53 1.01. - Meetings.

- 54
55 (a) *Annual meeting.* The statutory or annual meeting of the county board shall be
56 convened on the first or second Thursday in November, consistent with Wis. Stat.
57 § 59.11(1)(a), for the purpose of considering reports of the committee on finance
58 on new positions for the next fiscal year as well as recommendations for
59 amendments to the executive's budget.
60
- 61 (b) *[Regular meetings.]* Regular meetings of the county board shall convene at **9:30**
62 **a.m. noon** unless otherwise designated. In order to provide an advanced
63 schedule of regular meeting dates, a regular meeting of the county board shall be
64 scheduled generally on a Thursday within each month, except when otherwise
65 designated by the county board meeting schedule, these rules or by action of the
66 county board. August and November will not have a regularly scheduled meeting
67 of the county board, unless otherwise called for by the county board. The county
68 board chairperson shall provide to the county board, following the first meeting of
69 the board after the election of supervisors, a schedule of county board meetings
70 for the remainder of the term, including the date of the annual meeting provided in
71 § 1.01(a). The first (organizational) meeting of the term shall be held on the third
72 Monday in April of even-numbered years, which is the first day supervisors take
73 office following their election per § 59.10(2)(b), Wis. Stats. The digest (agenda) for
74 each county board meeting shall be established by the county board chairperson
75 or, in his or her absence, by the first vice chairperson or the second vice
76 chairperson.
77
- 78 (c) *Special meetings.* A special meeting shall be held only when requested by a
79 majority of the members of the county board, such request to be in writing,
80 addressed and delivered to the county clerk, who shall note the time of such
81 delivery to him/her on such request. Such request shall specify the time and place
82 of such meeting, which shall not be less than forty-eight (48) hours after the
83 delivery of such notice to the county clerk. The request shall identify the purpose
84 of such meeting and shall include reference to such other items as may be
85 required by law, ordinance or board action. Upon receiving such request, the

86 county clerk shall forthwith give notice of the time and place of such meeting by
87 mail to each member of the county board. If the request is delivered to the county
88 clerk less than seventy-two (72) hours before the time of such meeting, the county
89 clerk, in addition to the mailing hereinbefore referred to, shall telephone each
90 supervisor; if any supervisor is not contacted by telephone, the county clerk shall
91 furnish to the sheriff of the county a copy of such notice of time and place of
92 meeting for delivery to unnoticed members of the county board. The sheriff shall
93 thereafter furnish to the county clerk an affidavit of delivery of such notice. The
94 inability of the sheriff to deliver such notice to a supervisor shall not be deemed a
95 defect to the notice requirement under this subsection. Any special meeting may
96 be adjourned from time to time by a vote of a majority of all members of the
97 county board.

98 (d) *Remote meetings.* The county board shall be equipped and may convene and
99 meet to conduct business remotely via telephone conference, video conference or
100 other electronic communication provided that the meeting is live-streamed,
101 televised live or otherwise broadcast live to the public, subject to the following:

102 (1) Virtual-only county board meetings shall be reserved for an
103 emergency or other extraordinary circumstance.
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105 **SECTION 2.** The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective upon passage and
106 publication.
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108 06/11/24
109 S:\Committees\2024\June\JLEGS\Resolution\24-486 chap 1 changing cb meeting time ars.docx
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