

PFAS UPDATE May 14, 2024 Lee Donahue, Supervisor #2 Health Education and Welfare

Today the State Senate voted to override the Governor's veto of Senate Bill 312.

The Governor vetoed SB 312 for three reasons: It fails to create a mechanism to release the \$125 million dollars set aside for PFAS remediation in the state. It fails to uphold the DNR's authority to hold polluters responsible for remediation. It forces communities like Campbell, Peshtigo and Stella to compete with commercial and industrial entities to share in the \$125 million PFAS trust fund. That hasn't changed.

I urge everyone to email members of the Joint Finance Committee and ask them to immediately release the \$125 million dollars in the PFAS Trust Fund. This funding was ***overwhelmingly approved with bipartisan support last summer***.

There is already a mechanism in the DNR to both prioritize funding and disburse funds to impacted communities (similar to the SDWL Program).

These funds have been sitting idly for nearly a year. Communities are hurting. Our community is hurting. We are taking strong and meaningful steps to develop and implement our safe long term water solution. I've secured \$4 million dollars in Federal funding. However additional access to State funding will be necessary to fully implement a long-term solution. I believe the intent of the bipartisan Legislature was to release those funds and make an immediate impact on the communities devastated by this insidious pollution.

We received soil samples from AFFF spill at the Airport on Feb. 1, 2024. Additional soil will be removed. Carol Drury from the County health department informed Margaret and I of another spill at the airport last week. It occurred in the previously used unit from the February spill. I've been informed that the City of La Crosse will provide "back up" for Airfest with a non- PFAS foam. Supervisor Larson has asked the Aviation board to take all steps necessary to insure an AFFF spill or use does not occur.

Our request for a "sentinel" well to monitor both the upper and lower aquifers for PFAS has been approved and we expect it to be drilled at the end of the month. Davy Engineering continues to work with us on developing the engineering plans for a municipal system which is required to apply for state and federal funding.

The project work plan, and budget narrative are in development. We have been approved for an initial cost share waiver for the \$1.6 million dollars. We are in the process of applying for another cost share waiver for the recent \$2 million dollar award. I will take your questions