

Dodge County Register of Deeds 2022 Annual Report

Submitted by Chris Planasch, Register of Deeds

Office Purpose and Services Provided:

The mission of the Register of Deeds is to provide safe archival storage, convenient access and immediate retrieval of maintained personal vital records and all public land records in Dodge County, according to the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin, with its duties prescribed by Wisconsin Statutes, predominately Section 59.43. The real estate records maintained in the office are used to maintain tax and assessment records and create the County’s Geographic Information System (GIS).

- Record, provide access and maintain Real Estate records (deeds, land contracts, mortgages, etc).
- Record, provide access, maintain and issue certified copies of Birth, Marriage, Death, Divorce, Domestic Partnerships, and Military Discharge Records.
- To implement statutory changes, system modernization, program and procedure evaluation, and staff development to assure a high level of timely service for our citizens/customers.

2022 Changes / Accomplishments:

- Documents recorded decreased by 5,313 (3.48% decrease) from 2021
- Real Estate electronic recording percentages remained at 73.6% for 2022.
- Maintained efficient turn-around time of recorded documents.
- Worked at back indexing of real estate documents.
- Expanded older document index through LandLink and LandShark for document images from 1924 back to 1920.
- Improved a portion of plat document images from Cabinets A thru C.

2023+ Goals:

- Continue back indexing of older real estate documents prior to 1987 and tract index prior to 1998.
- Continue quality control of all historical real estate indexes and images for disaster recovery.
- Continue improving older plat document images.
- Expand older document index through LandLink and LandShark for documents prior to 1920 and back to 1877.
- Complete project to image Grantor/Grantee index books, import into LandLink and LandShark for viewing online.
- Streamline the process of returning documents, which includes an email option. Thereby reducing postage costs.

The data below shows the number of documents recorded and vital records issued.

	Total Number of Documents Recorded	Electronically Recorded Documents	Percent Electronically Recorded	Average Number Of Daily Documents	Certified Copies Vital Records Issued	Average Number Vitals Issued Daily
2018	12,427	6,750	54.3%	50	14,104	56
2019	13,163	7,779	59.1%	52	14,484	58
2020	17,305	12,173	70.4%	69	16,035	64
2021	18,442	13,581	73.6%	74	14,575	58
2022	13,132	9,665	73.6%	53	13,440	54

SUMMARY OF FEES COLLECTED

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	
State Portion of Transfer Tax	\$ 736,450	\$ 850,493	\$ 893,688	\$ 1,246,388	\$ 1,378,956	
State Child Abuse Fund	\$ 14,777	\$ 15,540	\$ 12,838	\$ 11,963	\$ 11,137	*
State Vital Records Online Revenue	\$ 44,825	\$ 46,451	\$ 47,744	\$ 39,230	\$ 36,037	#
WI DOA - Land Information Board	\$ 86,989	\$ 92,099	\$ 121,079	\$ 129,010	\$ 91,875	***
Sales Tax	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTAL STATE FUNDS COLLECTED	\$ 883,041	\$ 1,004,583	\$ 1,075,349	\$ 1,426,591	\$ 1,518,005	
County Portion of Transfer Tax	\$ 186,287	\$ 212,668	\$ 223,422	\$ 312,855	\$ 342,570	
Real Estate Recording Fees	\$ 186,230	\$ 197,480	\$ 259,630	\$ 276,700	\$ 197,125	
Certified Copies (Births, Deaths, Marriages & Misc. Documents)	\$ 55,472	\$ 57,018	\$ 62,092	\$ 55,184	\$ 51,237	
Misc. Copies of Recorded Documents	\$ 7,959	\$ 6,406	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
LandShark Copies	\$ 29,860	\$ 36,722	\$ 48,903	\$ -	\$ -	
Document Images Non-Certified Copies	\$ 34,800	\$ 37,750	\$ 36,450	\$ 61,133	\$ 41,898	x
Rental Weatherization Stipulations/Waivers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42,543	\$ 42,450	****
Credit Card Fees	\$ 2,445	\$ 3,444	\$ 4,428	\$ 8,356	0	
FAX Charges	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,688	
DEPARTMENT SUB-TOTAL	\$ 503,053	\$ 551,488	\$ 634,925	\$ 756,771	\$ 681,968	
County Land Information Office	\$ 99,416	\$ 105,256	\$ 138,376	\$ 147,440	\$ 105,000	***
TOTAL COUNTY FUNDS COLLECTED	\$ 602,469	\$ 656,744	\$ 773,301	\$ 904,211	\$ 786,968	
TOTAL REVENUE COLLECTED	\$ 1,485,510	\$ 1,661,327	\$ 1,848,650	\$2,330,802	\$2,304,973	
* \$7.00 from 1st copy of birth certificate goes to Children's Trust Fund						
# \$8.00 from 1st copy of birth certificate & \$13.00 from 1st copy of marriage & death certificates for modernization at the state vital records office						
*** Portion of each recording fee placed in separate state and county funds to be used for modernization of land records						
**** \$20.00 for each Rental Weatherization Stipulation & Waiver validated by us (Program ended 12/31/2017)						
x Sale of non-certified copies of document images through LandShark Subscription Agreement						

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
REAL ESTATE RECORDINGS	12,427	13,163	17,305	18,442	13,132
Commerical Code Filings	76	91	111	126	168
Federal Tax Liens	38	56	17	36	23
Lis Pendens	172	129	61	56	90
Sheriff Deeds	86	72	22	22	27
Military Discharges	3	2	1	0	2
Certified Survey Maps	84	92	117	110	119
Plats - Subdivision	1	1	0	1	2
- Condominium	1	1	3	4	2
- Transportation Project	2	1	1	0	2
Certified Copies of Vital Records Issued					
Birth	3,334	3,490	2,988	2,775	2,570
Death	8,653	8,827	10,189	9,118	8,218
Divorce	9	5	18	20	25
Marriage	2,108	2,162	2,840	2,662	2,627
Total Vital Record Copies Issued	14,104	14,484	16,035	14,575	13,440
BIRTH OCCURRENCES	706	614	581	577	512
DEATH OCCURRENCES	899	875	841	907	935
MARRIAGE OCCURRENCES	466	418	430	521	531
TOTAL RECORDS PROCESSED	27,896	28,940	34,611	34,445	28,038