

**MEETING OF THE IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AUGUST 27, 2013**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Joe Pinardi at 6:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call taken, Present: Mullard, Pinardi, Prospero, Youngs, Thomas, Koski, Smith, Innes, Nasi, Erickson, Lambert, Roberts, Thompson, Kichak and Luke. Absent: None.

Clerk Michael Saari certified that the meeting was properly called and posted.

Motion by Kichak, seconded by Mullard to approve minutes of July 30, 2013 as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

Chairman Pinardi introduced Chris Jaekels, attorney hired by Iron County to help with zoning issues related to the proposed mining project in the Town of Anderson.

Jaekels told board and audience that it is an honor and pleasure to work for Iron County and that the county is well served by its' employees. Jaekels also told board that funding sources are available to help with his legal costs in the future.

Chris Patritto, Hurley School Superintendent gave a presentation to the board on recent developments at the Hurley School. Patritto told board that the teachers at the Hurley School are fantastic and the community works arm in arm with the school to produce a better product for everyone. School is working with vocational businesses now and looking to work with Gogebic Taconite on what they will need from students in the future to secure a job at the proposed mine. Patritto told board that the school's strategic plan really ties the school and community together.

**COMMITTEE, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Innes reported that Northern Bridges and its' 5,500 members will be replaced by CCCW on January 01, 2014. Problems with agency were evident and this probably will be better.

Innes reported that Saxon Harbor had a very busy summer, boating and camping.

Thompson reported that Economic Development Committee reviewed its' advertising budget and preparing for 2014 budget requests.

Thompson reported that stumpage revenues as of today are \$1,368,890.60 while revenues were \$948,798.20 at same time last year.

Kichak reported that Zoning Department has 3 items on tonight's agenda.

Kichak reported that Highway Department has put a new truck into service and preparing County

Road FF for paving by Northwoods Paving. Highway Department has been doing shoulder work for the State of Wisconsin on Highway 51 and the county has received more state monies for work on state roads.

Luke reported that Recycling met on August 21<sup>st</sup> and an electronics collection will be held on October 5<sup>th</sup> in both the north and the south end of the county.

Luke reported that LCC held a meeting with committee reviewing current projects and looking at the 2014 budget.

Lambert reported that everything is OK at the Health Department and the county has received a check for over \$29,000 to pay for overtime at the mine site.

Lambert also reported that the county is working on an ordinance to deal with synthetic drugs and the City of Hurley will also enact an ordinance that mirrors the county ordinance.

Roberts reported that a contract with Computer Doctors is being reviewed for Finance Committee's adoption.

Roberts also reported that the Finance Committee has decided not to offer two years of paid health care coverage to retirees anymore because of financial constraints. Corporation Counsel is also putting together employee manual with changes to benefits the Finance Committee has recommended and will be forward on to full board for their consideration and action.

Roberts also told board that Human Services has hired 3 economic support specialists fully funded by the State of Wisconsin.

Roberts reported that the Housing Committee has 4 new projects in progress and 5 more preparing paperwork for future rehab projects. Forty Six percent of current rehab grant has been spent and Northwest Wisconsin now has a housing consortium set up which Iron County now belongs to for future funds.

Thomas reported that Extension's summer help is now gone back to school.

Youngs reported that Mining Impact Committee has held two meetings this month with county school superintendents telling committee what their schools are doing to prepare students for a career at the proposed mine at the first meeting and meeting with the county's attorney at the 2nd meeting today.

Mullard reported that the taxiway project work will begin on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and the airports insurance company was contacted after a lightning strike on the fence caused damage. Propane bid at the airport was awarded to Ritchie Propane with a bid price of \$1.19 per gallon for coming year.

Mullard also told board that the fly-in will be held this Saturday with free plane rides available.

Mullard reported that attendance at the fair was up this year and winter storage is just beginning in the fair grounds buildings.

Mullard reported that the Memorial Building Renovation Committee has been planning for future projects depending on available funds.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Jeff Wilson, Mercer invited the county board to attend the citizen's forum on September 5<sup>th</sup> at the Oma Town Hall to listen to information on the Bad River Watershed. He also asked the board to keep an open mind during this process.

Gary Theisen, Mercer encouraged everyone to use facts during mining discussions not fiction and asked G-Tac to give job numbers per positions, good information is needed. He also told board that he supports the NWRPC's economic report.

Supervisor Youngs told board that at the last county board meeting the county bathrooms were vandalized by unknown individuals.

Report on social & economic data was presented to the board by John Sendra of Mercer. This report was produced to show how the proposed mine will affect Iron County. Information for report came from 5 different sources: NorthStar Economic Report, University of Wisconsin Extension Data, Gogebic Taconite, Iron County Economic Development Corporation Report and Northwest Regional Commission Report on Ladysmith mine. Sendra reported that reclamation on both Black River Falls mine and Ladysmith mine turned out great.

**REPORT OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING/LAND & ZONING COMMITTEE TO COUNTY BOARD ON HEARING OF PETITION TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE**

Rezone the following:

- 1) Rezone from an F-1 (Forestry) District to an RR-1 (Residential Recreation) District, part of the SE ¼ of the SE ¼, Section 34, Township 43 North, Range 3 East, Town of Mercer, to bring the property into zoning compliance. (Site address is at the intersection of Little Pike Lake Road and Rogers Lane). Edward and Kathryn Perko, owners.

Motion by Kichak, seconded by Youngs to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

**REPORT OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING/LAND & ZONING COMMITTEE TO COUNTY BOARD ON HEARING OF PETITION TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE**

Rezone the following:

- 1) Rezone from an F-1 (Forestry) District to an R-3 (Rural Residential) District, part of the NE ¼ of the SW ¼, Section 13, Township 45 North, Range 2 East, Town of Carey, to bring the property into zoning compliance. (Site address is Kuusisto Road). Douglas Knudtson Jr., owner.

Motion by Prospero, seconded by Thomas to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2828  
PETITION TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE

Changes to permitted uses and conditional uses under the following Sections: Section 9.4.4, Section 9.4.5, Section 9.4.6, Section 9.4.7, Section 9.4.8, Section 9.4.9, Section 9.4.10, and Section 9.4.11.

(See attached copy)

Motion by Kichak, seconded by Lambert to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2829  
PETITION TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE

Addition of two new Sections to the Land Use Ordinance: Section 9.7.14 Ferrous Metallic Mineral Mining Bulk Sampling and Section 9.7.15 Nonferrous Metallic Mineral Prospecting.

(See attached copy)

Motion by Youngs, seconded by Mullard to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S PROCLAMATION**

This Chairman's Proclamation for Iron County, Wisconsin recognizes suicide as a national health problem taking over 38,000 last year and suicide prevention as an area responsibility and designates the week of September 8<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup> as Suicide Prevention Week in Iron County.

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10<sup>th</sup> leading cause of all deaths in the United States and the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause for ages 15 to 24 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death for college students.

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10<sup>th</sup> leading cause of all deaths in Wisconsin, taking over 800 lives last year.

WHEREAS, 20% of all suicides in the United States are veterans and our active armed services are experiencing its highest suicide rates ever.

WHEREAS, in the U.S., one person completes the act of suicide every 15 minutes.

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 5 million people on the United States are survivors of suicide (lost a loved one to suicide).

WHEREAS, 51% of those who die by suicide use a firearm, and guns stored in the house are used for suicide 40 times more often than for self-protection.

WHEREAS, the overall suicide rate has increased slightly in recent years, the rates for those 49 and 65 have increased dramatically.

WHEREAS, the stigma associated with mental illness and suicide works against suicide prevention by discouraging persons at-risk from seeking life-saving help and further traumatizes survivors of suicide.

WHEREAS, statewide suicide prevention efforts should be developed and encouraged to the maximum extent possible.

WHEREAS, organizations such as the American Association of Suicidology and the Range Suicide Prevention Council and our Survivors of Suicide group are dedicated to reducing the frequency of suicide attempts and deaths, and the pain of survivor affected by suicide of loved ones, through educational programs, research projects, intervention services and bereavement services urge that we:

1. Recognize suicide as a national and state public health problem and declare suicide prevention to be a statewide priority;
2. Acknowledge that no single suicide prevention program or effort will be appropriate for populations or communities;
3. Encourage initiatives based on the goals contained in the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention by promoting;
  - a. Awareness that suicide is a public health problem that is preventable.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Joe Pinardi, Chairman of the Iron County Board of Supervisors declare that September 8<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> as "National Suicide Prevention Week in Iron County".

Motion by Lambert, seconded by Innes to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

Motion by Lambert, seconded by Roberts to adjourn at 7:12 PM. All aye. Motion carried.

Michael Saari  
Iron County Clerk