

**MEETING OF THE IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AUGUST 30, 2016**

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

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call taken, present: Thomas, Saari, Smith, Krall, Hanson, Erickson, Sendra, Roberts, Thompson, Kichak, Matson, Mullard, Pinardi, Prospero and Youngs. Absent: None.

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

Motion by Mullard, seconded by Saari to recess from open session to hold public hearing on Emergency Assistance for municipalities resulting from natural disaster on July 11th. All aye. Motion carried.

Kim Gifford, NWRPC gave presentation on the assistance that is available to victims of flooding/storm damage from July 11th. Kim told audience that 40 residential clients have signed up for financial assistance so far. After all questions were answered there was a motion by Prospero, seconded by Kichak to return to open session. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Thomas to reaffirm that our regular housing committee will be used as the Citizens Participation Committee. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Kichak, seconded by Thompson to adopt the Residential Antidisplacement and Relocation Plan. All aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2901

**AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION RELATING TO THE COUNTY OF IRON'S
PARTICIPATION IN THE WISCONSIN SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT-EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, Federal monies are available under the Wisconsin State Administered Community Development Block Grant-Emergency Assistance program, administered by the State of Wisconsin, Department of Administration, Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources, for the purpose of housing public facilities and business assistance activities; and

WHEREAS, after public hearing and due consideration, the Iron County Board of Supervisors has recommended that an application be submitted to the State of Wisconsin for the following projects;

**Owner and renter occupied housing rehabilitation or replacement,
Public Infrastructure, Business Assistance; and**

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the County Board to approve the preparation and filing of an application for the County to receive funds from this program; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has reviewed the need for the proposed projects and the benefits to be gained therefrom;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board of the County of Iron does APPROVE and authorize the preparation and filing of an emergency assistance application for funds under this program in accordance with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Chairman is hereby authorized to sign all necessary documents on behalf of the County.

Motion by Roberts, seconded by Krall to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2902

COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR CDBG-EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CDBG-EAP)

This agreement entered into on the 30th day of August, 2016 by and between Iron County and the Counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Price, Sawyer, and Washburn.

WITNESSED:

WHEREAS, Iron County has (have) an identified Emergency Assistance need in the municipalit(y)(ies) resulting from a natural disaster, and

WHEREAS, Iron County contemplates submitting jointly with the Counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Price, Sawyer and Washburn an application for funds under the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant – Emergency Assistance Program (CDBG-EAP) of the Wisconsin Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources for the purpose of meeting those needs, and

WHEREAS, Iron County and the Counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Price, Sawyer and Washburn desire to and are required to, enter into a written cooperation agreement with each other to participate in such CDGB-EAP program, and

WHEREAS, Iron County and the Counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Price, Sawyer and Washburn understand the Iron County will act as the applicant and will have the ultimate responsibility to assume all obligations under the terms of the grant including assuring compliance with all applicable laws and program regulations and performance of all work in accordance with the contract; and

WHEREAS, it is understood that the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Wisconsin Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources will have access to all participants' grant records and authority to monitor all activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 66.0301, Iron County and the Counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Price, Sawyer and Washburn agree to cooperate in the submission of an application for such funds, and agree to cooperate in the implementation of the submitted CDBG-EAP program, as approved by the Department of Administration, and the Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources.

Nothing contained in this agreement shall deprive any municipality of any power or zoning, development control or other lawful authority which it presently possesses.

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

Motion by Kichak, seconded by Sendra to approve minutes of July 26, 2016 as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Chairman Pinardi told board he received a letter from Judy Petrusha with her concerns of the cost of the local match to rebuild Saxon Harbor.

COMMITTEE, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Matson reported that LCC was waging a war on weeds this summer throughout Iron County. The summer intern work is now completed for this summer and Zac Wilson is presenting a program tomorrow night at the Pines beer garden in Mercer.

Kichak reported that Highway has been busy on state highways 122 and 169. Culverts have been changed on county roads A & B. Mowing on highways in the county is almost complete with culverts being changed on Highway 51 about to begin.

Kichak reported that a water shoreland protection ordinance will be completed by Zoning this fall.

Thompson reported that stumpage revenue as of today is \$2,248,597.50 while it was \$1,516,731.58 at the same time last year.

Thompson reported that the Sheriff's Department has been working on getting the bugs out of the 911/CAD system.

Roberts reported that a Department Heads meeting was held with the Finance Committee to discuss issues with upcoming budget process. Roberts told board that it was a very good meeting and glad that it was held. Roberts also reported that discussion was held on overtime pay for department heads but a policy must be enacted with language included that this only happens if an emergency is declared.

Roberts reported that no vehicle transportation grant was submitted by Highline for the coming year. Clerk questioned why this was not done but did not receive an answer. Roberts also reported that the Aging unit will provide two shopping trips from Mercer with Aging Unit van, one going south and one going north.

Smith reported that the Health Department interviewed two candidates for Sanitarian Position. One candidate will be presented to Finance Committee on September 8th for the job. Hurley Aging Unit will have a pancake feed on September 11th as a fund raiser.

Smith reported that Human Services has been looking at new software for their programs but problems have been evident with no solutions yet. Smith told board that the Human Services 2015 annual report was given to their committee and staff has been working on state reports trying to catch up.

Thomas reported that the Memorial Building Committee has been negotiating with VFW organization on use of the VFW parking lot for Memorial Building functions.

Thomas reported that the Extension Committee will interview candidates for Office Manager position on September 6th.

Youngs reported that all 72 counties will hold informational meetings on the need for additional funding solutions for Wisconsin's road system.

Mullard reported that Iron County will keep a recycling box at the end of County Road FF throughout the winter. Appliance pickup last Saturday was a success with good turnout numbers.

Mullard reported that John Sendra has resigned from Aging Unit with Betty Meinholz being chosen his replacement and Mary Mattson being chosen as Vice-Chairman. Mullard also reported that several new computers/l Pads have been purchased for Aging Unit. A Volunteer driver program is beginning and some site numbers are down this summer.

Mullard reported that the Iron County Fair numbers were very good on Friday and Saturday with attendance generally up overall. Next year's dates are August 3rd-6th. Storage rates at fair grounds has been increased from 8/ft. to 9/ft.

Mullard reported that the 2017 airport budget will be the same as this year's budget request. Mullard also reported that the 5 year airport plan was reviewed and propane bids were accepted with Krist Propane coming in at the lowest amount: \$ 0.91/gallon.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

RESOLUTION 2903

APPROVING A ROAD USE PERMIT TO MICHAEL HENNING

WHEREAS, Iron County owns certain lands located in the NE ¼ of Section 36, T46N, R1E, Town of Kimball, Iron County, Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, Michael S. Henning is purchasing certain lands located in the W ½ SE ¼ of Section 36, T46N, R1E, Town of Kimball, Iron County, Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, Michael S. Henning is desirous of obtaining a road use permit from Iron County for road right of way, upon, across, and over the above described Iron County Lands, on an already established road, for purposes of obtaining access to the land to be purchased by Michael S. Henning; and

WHEREAS, the Iron County Forestry Committee has reviewed the request, and approved the issuance of a road use permit to Michael S. Henning that is not in conflict with the Iron County Forestry Department's 15- year plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That Iron County, through its Forest Administrator, shall issue a road use permit to Michael S. Henning pursuant to which Iron County shall grant unto Michael S. Henning a temporary license over and upon the existing road in the NE ¼ of Section 36, T46N, R1E, Town of Kimball, Iron County, Wisconsin. The permit shall contain the standard provisions as approved by the Iron County Corporation Counsel. Said road shall be open to the public at all times. No gates or other means of restricting the public from access over and above said road will be allowed.

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

Motion by Thomas, seconded by Matson to purchase 400.1 acres of land from Wisconsin DNR in the Town of Anderson for \$170,000.00. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2904

APPROVING A TEMPORARY COUNTY ROAD EASEMENT WITH LOWELL & GRACE HINES

WHEREAS, the flood event of July 11-12, 2016 caused catastrophic damage to Saxon Harbor and County Highway A; and

WHEREAS, County Highway A was washed completely away isolating parts of Saxon Harbor and residents along Lake Superior; and

WHEREAS, a temporary bridge crossing will be installed spanning Oronto Creek to reopen these isolated areas; and

WHEREAS, a temporary easement for location of this new bridge crossing is desired by Iron County across a parcel of land owned by Lowell & Grace Hines, described as the North 100 feet of all that part of Government Lot 1, Section 12, Township 47 North, Range 1 West, lying south and east of Oronto Creek, and all that part of Government Lot 2, Section 12, Township 47 North, Range 1 West, lying west of County Trunk Highway "A", Town of Saxon, Iron County, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, this temporary road easement will expire upon completion of a new permanent bridge across Oronto Creek or a term of 3 years, whichever comes first;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That Iron County shall enter into a Temporary County Road Easement with Lowell & Grace Hines over and upon the land described as the North 100 feet of all that part of Government Lot 1, Section 12, Township 47 North, Range 1 West, lying south and east of Oronto Creek, and all that part of Government Lot 2, Section 12, Township 47 North, Range 1 West, lying west of County Trunk Highway "A", Town of Saxon, Iron County, Wisconsin. The easement shall contain the standard provisions as approved by the Iron County Corporation Counsel.

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

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Thomas to hire Coleman Engineering for Saxon Harbor reconstruction and County A Bridge Project. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2905

RESOLUTION OFFERED BY THE VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Iron County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statutes Section 45.80 requires each county to elect a County Veterans Service Officer who is a Wisconsin resident and who served under honorable conditions on active duty in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, County Veterans Service Officers are responsible for 95% of veterans' claims at any given time at the VA Regional Office in Milwaukee, and

WHEREAS, County Veterans Service Officers assist veterans with obtaining more than \$2.4 billion in VA benefits annually; and

WHEREAS, County Veterans Service Officers are invaluable to all veterans but especially elderly and disabled veterans in rural communities who are unable to drive and do not have public transportation options; and

WHEREAS, County Veterans Service Officers are the only veterans' advocates when dealing with the VA who serve veterans' right in their community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Iron joins other counties in the State of Wisconsin, to express their desire to the Wisconsin State Legislature adamantly opposing any efforts to make County Veterans Service Officers optional, to allow non-veterans to fill the position of County Veterans Service Officers, and/or to consolidate or regionalize County Veterans Service Offices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all Iron County's State Senators and Assembly Representatives, to the Wisconsin Counties Association, and to the President of the County Veterans Service Officers Association of Wisconsin.

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

RESOLUTION 2906

RESOLUTION OFFERED BY THE VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Iron County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the County Veterans Service Office block grant was created in 1973 to assist counties in providing veterans' services and allowing them to utilize these funds for salary supplement of the County Veterans Officer or other costs as long as it was for the benefit of veterans and did not go to another department or into the county general fund; and

WHEREAS, the County Veterans Service Office grant was originally conceived as a block grant structure and was based upon employment of a full-time County Veterans Service Officer and the aggregate population in each county; and

WHEREAS, although there were no specific standards ever established by the State Department of Veterans Affairs as to proper usage of grant funds, grant applications were prepared annually by counties, submitted to the state, and also approved by the state each year; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Wisconsin Biennium Budget restructured this long-standing block grant payment structure to a reimbursement-only payment structure, strictly limiting what grant funds can be used for and resulting in very time-consuming, cumbersome process for not only the County Veterans Service Officer but other county departments as well.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Iron joins other counties in the State of Wisconsin to express their desire to the Wisconsin State Legislature to have the County Veterans Service Office grant reinstituted to the original 1973 intent to be used for supplementation of CVSO salary or for improving services to county veterans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all Iron County's State Senators and Assembly Representatives, to the Wisconsin Counties Association, and to the President of the County Veterans Service Officers Association of Wisconsin.

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

RESOLUTION 2907

SUPPORTING INCREASE FUNDING FOR WISCONSIN'S ROAD SYSTEM

WHEREAS, local government in Wisconsin is responsible for about 90% of the road miles in the state; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's diverse economy is dependent upon county and town roads as well as city and village streets and transit systems across the state; and

WHEREAS, according to "Filling Potholes: A New Look at Funding Local Transportation in Wisconsin," commissioned by the Local Government Institute of Wisconsin (LGI) the condition of Wisconsin's highways is now in the bottom third of the country; and

WHEREAS, state funding for local roads in Wisconsin has failed to keep up with costs over the past several decades which has adversely affected local transportation finances. According to "Filling Potholes," municipal transportation spending has declined from \$275 per capita in 2000 to \$227 in 2012; and

WHEREAS, levy limits do not allow local government to make up for the deterioration of state funding; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's over-reliance on borrowing eats away at the state's segregated funding sources – the state gas tax and vehicle registration fees – which increasingly pay debt service rather than fund transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, safety is a primary concern and responsibility of local governments across Wisconsin. Unfortunately, according to TRIP, a national non-profit transportation research group, Wisconsin has 347 non-interstate, rural road fatalities in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Iron County Board recognizes that our state highway and interstate system is the backbone of our surface transportation system and plays a vital role in the economy of Wisconsin. Both local and state roads need to be properly maintained in order for our economy to grow; and

WHEREAS, from a competitive standpoint Wisconsin motorists pay significantly less than any of our neighbors when you combine the annual cost of the state gas tax and vehicle registration fees; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Finance and Policy Commission, appointed by the Governor and Legislature clearly found that if Wisconsin does not adjust its user fees, the condition of both our state and local roads will deteriorate significantly over the next decade.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Iron County Board of Supervisors urges the Governor and Legislature to Just Fix It and agree upon a sustainable solution, one that includes a responsible level of bonding and adjusts our user fees to adequately and sustainably fund Wisconsin's transportation system. Furthermore, the County Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to our State Legislators and to the Governor Scott Walker.

Motion by Youngs, seconded Kichak 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:

Rezone from an F-1 (Forestry) District to an R-3 (Rural Residential) District, part of the NE ¼ of the NW ¼, Section 7, Township 46 North, Range 1 East, Town of Saxon, to bring the property into zoning compliance. (Site address is Upper Road). Jacob Rowe and Sarah Garrelts, owners.

Motion by Krall, seconded by Erickson to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

Rezone the following:

Rezone from an F-1 (Forestry) District to an R-3 (Rural Residential) District, part of the NE ¼ of the SE ¼, Section 20, Township 44 North, Range 2 East, Town of Carey, to bring the property into zoning compliance. (Site address is 6549W Island Lake Road). Gary Ives, owner.

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

Rezone the following:

Rezone from and R-1 (Residential) District to an R-3 (Rural Residential) District, part of the SW ¼ of the SW ¼, Section 19, Township 43 North, Range 4 East, Town of Mercer, to bring the property into zoning compliance. (Site address is 2470W Northern Trails Drive). Matthew and Lisbeth Hanson, owners.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Smith to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Kichak, seconded by Thomas to move into closed session per 19.85(1)b, Wisconsin Statutes to discuss personnel issues. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION HELD:

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Thomas to return to open session. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Matson, seconded by Mullard to adjourn at 7:42 PM. All aye. Motion carried.

Michael Saari
Iron County Clerk