

**IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MAY 28, 2019**

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

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call, present: Matson, Pinardi, Francis, Youngs, Saari, Krall, Hanson, Erickson, Roberts, Thompson and Kichak. Absent: Aijala, Thomas, Snyder and Sendra. Student Representatives, present: Stuhr, Morello, Allen-Rodriquez, Hohner and Binz. Absent: Botes.

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

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Matson to approve minutes of April 30, 2019 as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

COMMITTEE, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Matson reported that Land Conservation is very busy with 2 interns doing Invasive Species work. Tree sale went very well and the plant sale is next week.

Matson reported that measles are a worry for our Health Department but no cases have been reported in Wisconsin so far.

Kichak reported that Zoning is getting busy with building permits up 19 from last year. Zoning Administrator Erika Roeder should be back at work next week from maternity leave.

Kichak reported that the Highway Department has been doing shoulder work on throughout the county and crack sealing on Highways 47 and 77. There will be overlay blacktopping on several bridges within the county. Blacktopping will be done on certain sections of both Highway 51 and 77. New truck is built but the county may not see it until September.

Thompson reported that the used compactor container that was purchased for Hurley looks in pretty good shape and should work out.

Erickson reported that a new road deputy has been hired.

Roberts reported that auditor was concerned that we spent a lot more money in 2018 than we took in. Clerk told auditor that we did not borrow any money for Saxon Harbor when the first bills began coming in we just paid bills out of the general fund balance.

Cally Bucknell, Human Services Director explained that the dog that was purchased for a client was not an emotional support dog but a service dog that the state will reimburse the county for after the process is complete.

Roberts reported that ADRC should be in the VFW building by early fall. Grant is being sought to help

offset some of the expenses of renovating the VFW building into office space.

Roberts reported that the Library Board is looking for a 1% increase for 2020.

Hanson reported that the Airport will have a busy summer with repaving of runways. Airport will hire 2 people to replace one that will retire and then hire one part-time person.

Erickson reported that Saxon Harbor may open midsummer with prorated docking fees to be put into place. The boat lift being used at Saxon Harbor has major repair issues with the county looking at prices of a different boat lift that the county may purchase. County will assume liability issues if they purchase a lift.

Neil Klemme, Extension Department told board that the photo contest is completed with 140 cast for the finalist pictures which the winning photo won by a single vote.

Francis reported that the Memorial Building is looking at a bowling lane conditioner and a new furnace is needed in the lower level which houses the bowling alley. Roof work will be completed this summer with surface water rerouted off the building to the street and not into sewer system. Action floors will put another coat of sealer on Memorial Building floor at no cost to the county.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Supervisor Saari told the board about a meeting held at the Memorial Building in which people looked at what they would like to see happen in our community to better our community. People in attendance would like to see more elected officials participating in future meetings.

Motion by Roberts, seconded by Erickson to approve IT upgrades presented to the board in excess of \$150,000.00. Roll call. Motion failed by a vote of 9 no and 2 yes.

Motion by Saari, seconded by Matson to table proposal until a later date and after the IT Meeting to be held tomorrow night. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion held on Spillman software purchase from November 2018. Clerk explained to board that our auditor was not happy on how the purchased happened without bids being taken, no county board approval and Darrell Petrusha signing the contract with Spillman. Clerk explained to board that the reason bids were not taken is because Spillman's software was thought to be the Cadillac of software for a Sheriff's Department and employees liked what they saw following a demonstration of the software. Next the clerk told the board that the Finance meeting was held after the early November meeting of the county board to pass the budget before the Finance meeting was held. The deal on the reduced price was extended until the end of November so Finance approved the purchase instead of having a special board meeting to ok the purchase. Clerk also told board that auditor wanted Joe Pinardi or myself to sign the contract not Darrell Petrusha.

Motion by Krall, seconded by Kichak to approve the Spillman software purchase retroactively by the full county board. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Saari to approve purchase of chiller from the Jamar Company of Duluth, Minnesota for \$70,800.00 which includes a 5 year compressor warranty on parts only. Labor would be covered under our maintenance contract with Jamar. Clerk explained that Jamar is our maintenance service provider under contract so we ordered the chiller from them.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Roberts to approve purchase of 2 vehicles for employee use to reduce the amount paid to employees for mileage at the IRS rate. Clerk told board that mileage paid out to employees has been over \$40,000 each of the last 2 years. Cost of 2 Jeep SUVs was just over \$44,000. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion held on new Administrative Fee Schedule for Forestry Department. Road use permits: \$250.00 each. Land access agreements: \$250.00 each. County land withdrawal application: \$1,000.00 each. Motion by Thompson, seconded by Saari to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2968

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE GREAT NORTHERN CONSERVATION AND ACCESS EASEMENT BETWEEN KEWEENAW LAND ASSOCIATION, LIMITED AND THE STATE OF WISCONSIN LOCATED IN IRON COUNTY, WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, Iron County recognizes the significance of the proposed Great Northern Conservation and Access Easement between Keweenaw Land Association Limited and the State of Wisconsin to our county's forest products and tourism industries,

WHEREAS, forestry is one of the top 10 industries by employment and output in the State of Wisconsin, with a total output of \$24.1 billion dollars and supporting 60,480 direct jobs and an additional 104,425 indirect jobs;

WHEREAS, tourism in Iron County provides a significant economic impact to the region. In 2017, Iron County ranked 14th out of 73 counties in terms of percentage growth of direct spending from tourism, which increased by 4.76% to \$20.5 million dollars. In addition, tourism in Iron County provided for \$28.4 million in direct business sales and \$2.6 million in state and local taxes used to support our community,

WHEREAS, the Great Northern Conservation and Access Easement helps protect large blocks of traditional forestlands and protects fish and wildlife habitats while also ensuring public access for activities like hunting, skiing, trapping, fishing and hiking.

WHEREAS, the Great Northern Conservation and Access Easement will provide for a total of 16.1 miles of public road easements for licensed vehicles along with a permanent endowment fund ensuring these roads will be maintained for the benefit of the public,

WHEREAS, this timberland will remain a working forest, providing timber for the forest products industry and supporting recreation and tourism by ensuring public access to these lands,

NOW THEREFORE, the Iron County Board of Supervisors resolves to support the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Board and the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board in approving the acquisition of the Great Northern Conservation and Access Easement and encourage the Joint Finance Committee to approve said funding request so that Wisconsin can continue to be a leader in forest stewardship.

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

RESOLUTION 2969

CANCELLATION OF TAX DEED

WHEREAS, it has been determined that a Tax Deed that was taken by Iron County, Wisconsin on February 27, 2019, Document # 165559 on the 2014 Real Estate Tax on property owned by Jeffrey Levanetz Described As Tax Parcel #236 0354-0100, located in the City of Hurley, and;

WHEREAS, all taxes, interest and penalties in the amount of \$ 9,643.63 have been paid to Iron County on April 25, 2019, general receipt #6104 and on May 01, 2019 general receipt #'s 6138 and 6139 for said property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That Iron County will cancel tax deed on the Jeffrey Levanetz property in the City of Hurley, Iron County, Wisconsin.

Motion by Matson, seconded by Thompson 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 NE ¼, Section 7, Township 46 North, Range 1 East, Town of Saxon, to bring the property into zoning compliance. Bruce Shepard, owner.

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

Motion by Roberts, seconded by Hanson to adjourn at 7:15 PM. All aye. Motion carried.

Michael Saari
Iron County Clerk