

**IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**JUNE 25, 2019**

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

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

A moment of silence was held in honor of Ernie Moore, owner of Iron County Miner.

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

Motion by Aijala, seconded by Kichak to approve minutes of May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Supervisor Matson wanted a correction made in minutes. "Invasive species correcting evasive species." With correction approved all aye. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

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

Matson reported that Conservation Department held a high school student seminar with 25 of the brightest kids from all over Wisconsin at Manitowish Waters Camp. Matson also reported that Heather Palmquist attended training to become a wet lands delineator.

Matson reported that the CWD Committee heard a presentation from a wildlife biologist. Conversations included fencing needs around deer farms to keep deer inside of fencing. The Bayfield CWD Committee has held meetings and will now present their findings to their county board. Iron County's committee is planning to hold 4 or 5 meetings before coming to our county board.

Kichak reported that our Zoning Administrator is now back from maternity leave and building permits are being applied for at a good pace.

Zoning has approved the building of 5 communication towers in Iron County with some being constructed on private land and some on public land.

Zoning is pushing the legal aspects of septic system compliance or fines will be imposed.

Highway Department has completed crack sealing on Highways 77 and 47. The county has applied overlay on 3 bridges in the county and culvert work is being completed on county roads. A bridge on County Road G will be closed on July 3<sup>rd</sup> for replacement. Trees have been removed along a section of Highway 51 north of Mercer for better sunlight getting to road surface so less salt can be used. Salt price has risen to \$90/ton so state wants to use less salt on our roads.

Eric Peterson told board that stumpage as of today is \$770,098 while it was \$1,325,471 at the same time last year. Peterson told board that 3 big companies that normally cut Iron County during the winter were located in other counties so that is the main reason county stumpage is so far behind last year. Spring timber sale took in \$1.22 million which is a very good amount.

County Forestry crew has been graveling county roads in the Town of Mercer and a culvert will be replaced on trail 17.

Peterson reported that the FEMA Campground plans are now in Washington for signature but Army Corp of Engineers are holding back on permit because of wetland issues. Corp wants wetlands to be disturbed to be under ½ acre, which will cost the county 2 more sites to be eliminated.

Hanson reported that blacktopping the taxiways at the airport is being worked on right now. An issue with the septic system is being addressed with old mound system built and never hooked up now being utilized. Hanson also reported that the new fire truck should be delivered by August.

Roberts reported that county vehicle policy is being worked on and options to hiring an IT person have been discussed at IT Committee and Finance Committee.

Roberts reported that board will be approving blacktopping bid tonight for VFW parking lot and around new courthouse garage from 2 bids received. Finance already awarded preliminary work for VFW lot to Ross Peterson over Angelo Luppino. Peterson's bid included replacing retaining wall to west of building where Luppino's bid just removed wall and did not replace it.

Roberts reported that Human Services is considering allowing telecommuting a couple days a week to work from home in effort to keep employees. ADRC regional office is over budget and may go back to each county running their own budget. County is losing a social worker as of Friday to another agency in Gogebic County.

Roberts reported that the IT Committee decided that all upgrades presented to board should be approved in 2019 and not put off.

Thomas reported that the new DuraLast roof at Memorial Building is now done and rain drains will now be exited to outside of building and not into sewer drains in compliance with City of Hurley order.

Thomas reported that mobile food pantry was held yesterday and was very busy.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

Discussion held on the pros and cons of opening county roads up to ATV/UTV use. Many individuals from the crowd spoke up in favor or against this new policy.

Motion by Snyder, seconded by Erickson to allow ATV/UTV use on county roads. Roll call. Voting yes: Aijala, Pinardi, Francis, Thomas, Saari, Snyder, Erickson, Sendra, Roberts, Thompson and Kichak. Voting no: Krall, Hanson and Matson. Student representatives: Voting yes: Binz. Voting no: Stuhr. Motion carried.

Discussion held on purchasing a new or used boat lift or repairing existing lift with boating club.

Motion by Matson, seconded by Saari to deny purchase of either new lift for \$251,000 or used lift for over \$100,000 and negotiate with boating club to fix their lift. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion took place on IT committee's request to purchase all upgrades in the amount of \$156,000 and amend budget at end of the year. Clerk told board that the money will come from general fund if it

is this year or next year. Motion by Erickson, seconded by Roberts to approve all IT upgrades requested and amend budget at end of 2019. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion held on 3 proposals for a new phone system for Iron County. Prices were as follows:

CenturyLink: \$42,753.87

RMM Solutions: \$59,936.41

Network Solutions: \$82,831.32

Motion by Kichak, seconded by Aijala to approve purchase of phone system from CenturyLink for \$42,753.87. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion held on 2 blacktopping bids county received for the parking lot at the VFW building and blacktopping around the courthouse garage. Prices were as follows:

Luppino: \$ 21,680.00 VFW + \$15,000.00 garage = \$36,680.00

Northwoods: \$ 28,875.00 VFW + \$18,130.00 garage = \$47,005.00

Motion by Snyder, seconded by Thomas to award blacktopping bid to Luppino for \$36,680.00. Roll call. All aye except Krall who abstained from voting. 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 SW ¼, Section 11, Township 45 North, Range 2 East, Town of Carey, to bring the property into accordance with the future land use plan. (Site address is 11422N Northwoods Road). Steve and Karen Shaner, owners.

Motion by Matson, seconded by Kichak 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 SW ¼ of the SW ¼, Section 21, Township 46 North, Range 1 West, Town of Gurney, to bring the property into accordance with the future land use plan. (Site address is private drive off of Hwy 169). Don Rice, owner.

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

Motion by Kichak, seconded by Saari to adjourn at 7:35 PM. All aye. Motion carried.

Michael Saari  
Iron County Clerk