

**MEETING OF THE IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SEPTEMBER 29, 2020**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Pinardi at 6:00 PM in the County Board Room.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call taken, present: Saari, Hanson, Erickson, Roberts, Thompson, McComas, Byrns, Pinardi, Youngs and Thomas. McComas and Byrns attended by phone. Absent: Snyder, Krall, Sendra, Hiller and Francis.

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

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Thompson to approve minutes of August 25, 2020 as presented. All aye.
Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Clerk told board that the budget process is in full swing and should be completed within a couple of weeks. Clerk also told board that the original health insurance quote for 2021 was a 2% increase. Clerk questioned health trust why the quote did not come from Myron Schuster, or negotiator. Clerk called Myron and told him what the health trust told me about the 2% raise on our premium. Myron called back a few days later with a 1% increase which is a savings of \$17,000 for 2021.

COMMITTEE, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Hanson reported that Zoning Department is still busy but will be slowing down with colder days ahead.

Hanson reported that the Airport budget is same as last year for now. Unused funds are a subject for discussion and are ongoing. Timber around the runways are being looked at to be cut down in the future.

Thompson reported that stumpage revenues as of today are \$1,532,007.08 and were \$1,479,466.15 at the same time last year. Thompson reported that the Forestry Committee recommends that Jim Maffesanti should be given a \$1/hour raise. This will be forwarded on to Finance Committee for the October meeting.

Roberts reported that the courthouse purchased a large slightly used shredder for \$1,600 which is half the price of a new shredder to be used by everyone in the building.

Finance looked at the contribution for health insurance for a half time employee. Regular employees pay 10% contribution. Finance decided that half time employees will pay 20% contribution.

Finance also agreed to hire a full time public health nurse to replace Liana Saari who will be retiring at the end of the year. Finance also agreed to a raise for both nurses, Sanitarian position and County Health Officer. Covid-19 funds will pay for the raises and overtime this year.

Roberts reported that several members of Finance Committee met with our auditor after the last Finance meeting to discuss the 2019 audit report. Auditor's only concern is how much and how long will it take to collect funds from FEMA for the Saxon Harbor rebuild project.

Thomas reported that bowling at the Memorial Building will be starting soon to help pay some of the expenses of the building. Clerk told board that he put \$10,000 in this year's budget to help pay utilities if need be. Scotty Pecotti raised his own rent in the building from \$400 to \$600 per month to help with the utilities.

Saari reported that the Land Conservation held a meeting to pass the 2021 budget and all is good.

Youngs reported that the garage project in Mercer is moving forward with a ground breaking to be held on October 5th. Bids came in lower than expected and most of the work will be completed by local contractors which is good. Bids for a new truck are due Thursday to be able to purchase a 2020 truck which will be at least \$2,000 cheaper than a 2021 model.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Paternoster, Chairman for the Town of Pence questioned if the county will be doing anything with the Pence school in the future. Clerk told Chairman Paternoster that if the county takes the property on a tax deed they would be responsible for any asbestos assessment and clean up before demolition. Clerk told Chairman Paternoster that the town should contact the Wisconsin DNR for a brownfield grant to help pay for demolition costs for a building in their own town. Clerk told Michael that he would find some contact information for the DNR and forward it on to him.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Hanson to sell lot in the City of Hurley at 210 Oak Street to Cory Ofstad for \$500.00. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Thomas, seconded by Opal to sell a house and lot in the Town of Knight located at 11709N Atlantic Street for \$500.00. New owner will be responsible for demolition. All aye. Motion carried.

**IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INTEGRITY AND RESPECT**

WHEREAS, Iron County is a great place to live, work and play. Iron County communities take pride in our small town values of safety, belonging, integrity and respect.

Iron County Board of Supervisors upholds the laws that protect the rights of everyone. In order to feel protected, residents and visitors need to feel safe, accepted and respected.

The Iron County Board of Supervisors recognizes that hateful behavior may take on many forms. Some behaviors are obvious and intentional, like outright aggression, direct exclusion, and use of hate speech. Some behaviors are disguised or conditioned, like microaggressions and unexplored stereotypes.

The Iron County Board of Supervisors acknowledges hateful behavior in our country's history. However, such history does not reflect the general goodwill of Iron County communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Does not tolerate any form of hate.

Encourages community members to hold themselves and their neighbors accountable for building compassionate awareness of the hateful behaviors outlined above.

Empower community members to engage in constructive and respectful conversations to acknowledge, challenge, and speak up against hate.

Commits to working with communities to co-create educational partnerships that further social inclusion and collective integrity.

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

RESOLUTION 2991
IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ENBRIDGE LINE 5 WISCONSIN SEGMENT RELOCATION PROJECT
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

WHEREAS, Line 5 has been safely transporting essential fuels across Wisconsin since 1953, providing crude oil and natural gas liquids used by consumers in Wisconsin and throughout the region,

WHEREAS, moving a segment of the pipeline off the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians Reservation to the route Enbridge has proposed will ensure uninterrupted service of this critical energy supply,

WHEREAS, Enbridge's line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project has been designed to minimize impacts on wetlands and waterbodies – nearly all of the wetland impacts are temporary and the wetlands will be restored following construction,

WHEREAS, Enbridge has developed multiple plans and procedures that detail best management practices to be used during construction to minimize impacts,

WHEREAS, the proposed route maintains service of Line 5 corridor that avoids sensitive resources that other evaluated routes would impact, including Copper Falls State Park, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, and a crossing of the Namekagon River,

WHEREAS, construction of the new pipeline would bring an estimated 700 family-sustaining jobs hired mostly from the region's union halls and provide an economic boost for Iron County and other northern Wisconsin communities,

AND, WHEREAS, Enbridge has been and will continue to be a dependable partner to Iron County, supporting important community initiatives and needs,

NOW, THEREFORE, the Iron County Board of Supervisors supports Enbridge's Line 5 Wisconsin Segment Relocation Project and urges the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to promptly process and approve the permits required to move forward.

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

Motion by Roberts, seconded by Thomas to adjourn at 6:30 PM. All aye. Motion carried.

Michael Saari
Iron County Clerk