

**MEETING OF THE IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
FEBRUARY 23, 2021**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Pinardi at 6PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call taken, present: Roberts, Thompson, Hiller, McComas (zoom), Byrns (phone), Pinardi, Francis, Youngs, Thomas, Saari, Snyder, Krall, Hanson, Erickson and Sendra. Absent: None.

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

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Saari to approve minutes of January 26, 2021 as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Clerk told board that money for Covid-19 is beginning to come in from the State.

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

Thompson reported that stumpage revenues as of today are \$419,653.19 while they were \$269,127.83 at the same time last year.

Roberts reported that she had car trouble between Mercer and Hurley and the Sheriff's deputies made sure their vehicle was towed to Hurley for repairs and then the deputies gave her and her husband a ride back to Mercer. She said she didn't expect such great service.

Hanson reported that all employees at the airport have received fire training and the new employee hired has begun working at the airport. Hanson also reported that the FAA has said that any report on the airplane losing a tire in Chicago before landing safely at O'Hare will take at least 6 months to be completed.

Roberts reported that the IT position has 7 applicants and interviews will be scheduled soon. Roberts also reported that a legal secretary is needed in the District Attorney's office and the board will vote on it later tonight. Roberts reported that the meal sites in Iron County hope to be reopen by fall of 2021.

Thomas reported that summer help is being sought for the Extension Department. Thomas told board that the fair board is hoping to be able to hold a fair this summer and Ashland County is exploring the idea of eliminating Extension programs to help balance their budget.

Youngs reported that the Highway building in Mercer is coming along nicely and the next highway meeting in March will be held at the new building. Hiller commented what a great job our highway employees have done with plowing and salting the county highway system.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

## **RESOLUTION 3000**

### **IRON COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE 15 YEAR LAND USE PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, Iron County has lands enrolled as County Forest pursuant to ss. 28.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, subsection 5(a) of said statute requires that a Comprehensive County Forest Land Use Plan be prepared by the County Forestry Committee on or before December 31, 2020 with said plan to encompass a 15-year period with subsequent plan revisions to be completed at fifteen-year intervals thereafter; and

**WHEREAS**, said Plan is a dynamic document to be revised as changing conditions require, and

**WHEREAS**, said Plan is required pursuant to ss. 28.11 5(a) to contain land use designations, land acquisition, forest protection, annual allowable timber harvests, recreational developments, fish and game management activities, roads, silvicultural operation, and inventory of the County Forest documented with maps, records and priorities and a listing of the involved management activities needed during said plan period; and

**WHEREAS**, this plan highlights; the incorporation of third party forest certification; the incorporation of the access management plan; re-establishment of the County Forest boundary, protection of unique natural resources; sustainable resource management; implementation of geographical information system technology; and

**WHEREAS**, the County's goal, objectives, policies and operating procedures with respect to implementation of said Plan are also enumerated in the Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, subsection 5(a) of the above referenced statute requires that said Plan be approved by the County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Natural Resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plan for the fifteen-year period encompassing 2021-2035 has been prepared by the Forestry and Parks Committee and submitted for approval of the Iron County Board of Supervisors;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Iron County Board of Supervisors, in consideration of the contents of said Plan hereby approve it, and direct the Chairman of the Forestry and Parks Committee to forward an official copy of the Plan to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for their approval.

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

## **RESOLUTION 3001**

### **APPROVING A ROAD USE PERMIT TO DAN LOVE**

**WHEREAS**, Iron County owns certain lands located in the SE ¼ NE ¼ of Section 20, T43N, R3E, Town of Mercer, Iron County, Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS**, Dan Love owns certain lands located in the SW ¼ NW ¼ of Section 21, T43N, R3E, Town of Mercer, Iron County, Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS**, Dan Love 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 roadway, for purposes of obtaining access to the land owned by Dan Love; and

**WHEREAS**, the Iron County Forestry Committee has reviewed the request and approved the issuance of a road use permit to Dan Love 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 Dan Love pursuant to which Iron County shall grant unto Dan Love a temporary license over and upon the existing road in the SE ¼ NE ¼ of Section 20, T43N, R3E, Town of Mercer, 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 Hanson, seconded by Thompson to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION 3002**

**WHEREAS**, the auditors, Joki, Makela Pollack & Ahonen, PLLC, have instructed Clara J. Maki, Iron County Treasurer, to cancel all outstanding General Fund checks that are over one (1) year old, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Iron County Board of Supervisors cancel all outstanding checks for 2019.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the amount of outstanding checks to be cancelled for 2019 is \$2,672.94. The total of \$2,672.94 be cancelled and transferred to the General Fund. After six months, said funds remaining unclaimed will be transferred to the Unclaimed Funds account.

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

#### **RESOLUTION 3003**

##### **CANCELLATION OF TAX DEED**

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that a Tax Deed that was taken by Iron County, Wisconsin on December 30, 2020, Document # 169342 on the 2016 Real Estate Tax on property owned by James Christopher Described As Tax Parcel #236 0369-0000, located in the City of Hurley and;

**WHEREAS**, all taxes, interest and penalties in the amount of \$1,681.39 have been paid to Iron County on January 29, 2021, general receipt #8442 for said property.

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

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

Property described as Tax Parcel # 012-1739-0000 and #012-1744-0000 owned by Michael J. Rozak in the Town of Mercer has a description of: East ½ of SW ¼, Section 22, Township 43 North, Range 3 East. Deed has a restriction on it from June 29, 1937 in Volume 35, Page 530 and recorded in the office of the Iron County Register of Deeds as Document #33988. Iron County is being asked to remove deed restriction on said deed.

Motion by Roberts, seconded by Sendra to cancel deed restriction on said parcel in the Town of Mercer. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion held on the hiring of a full-time legal secretary in the District Attorney's Office. Sue Herlevi was part-time but has since transferred to a full-time employee of the Health Department during the Covid-19 pandemic. Herlevi will continue to work at the Health Department once the pandemic is done as a full-time employee of Iron County.

Motion by Hiller, seconded by Thomas to authorize the county to advertise and hire a full-time legal secretary for the District Attorney's Office. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Thomas, seconded by Sendra to authorize the emergency fire warden organization list for Iron County in 2021 and return to the DNR Office in Park Falls, Wisconsin. 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 SW ¼ of the NW ¼, Section 11, Township 46 North, Range 1 East, Town of Kimball, in accordance to future Land Use Plan. Site address is Old Highway 10 Road. Shad & Michelle Cricks, owners.

Motion by Snyder, seconded by Hanson 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 A-1 (Agriculture) District to and R-3 (Rural Residential) District, part of the NW ¼ of the NW ¼, Section 11, Township 46 North, Range 2 East, Town of Kimball, in accordance to future Land Use Plan. Site address is 14044N Stateline Road. Evelyn Swetkovich & Shauna Eckwright, owners.

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

Discussion held on Iron County holding a referendum to ask our taxpayers for an increase in the tax levy of about \$1,600,000.00 to be held during the April 2022 election. Clerk explained to board and press that the county is already spending the money but have been forced to borrow the money so we can raise the levy limit. The county is spending the money now on placement costs for children and adults for our Human Services Department and the last bond payment for the courthouse expansion from 20 years ago. Clerk explained that if the referendum passes the amount would be added to the 2023 budget. The budget amount for 2023 would be about the same as the 2021 budget amount passed. Clerk explained that when the county borrows the money for one year at a time and we are paying

interest in the amount of approximately \$40,000.00. If the referendum passes the levy will be about the same as 2021 but no interest will be paid to Chippewa Valley. The levy for 2022 will be about \$525,000 less than in 2021 because we made out last bond payment for courthouse expansion in February. Clerk explained to board that the county has been spending about \$600,000.00 more than it takes in the last couple of years. This can not go on forever so the referendum is now needed to balance our budget instead of the general fund/applied funds doing it for us.

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

Michael Saari  
Iron County Clerk