

**IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2024**  
**Approved**

**1. Meeting called to order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm in the county board room.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance:**

Pledge was recited.

**3. Roll Call:**

Present were Youngs, Haeger, Thomas, Erickson, Lauer, Hanson, Krall, Thompson, Hiller, Wolff, Pinardi, Hewitt, Francis. Absent Snyder.

**4. Acknowledge that the meeting was properly noticed and posted:**

The clerk certified the meeting was properly posted.

**5. Approve minutes of February 27, 2024 as presented:**

Motion to approve the minutes as presented made by Thompson, seconded by Francis. All yes, Carried.

**6. Communications:**

Pinardi noted that the reorganization meeting will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup>, but we would like to move it to 3:00pm so that members can attend the town/cities annual meetings that are held the same day. Board agreed to the time.

**7. Committee, Department Heads and Chairman's Report:**

Wolff noted that Human Services met and reviewed job description, budget, and placements costs.

Thompson noted that stumpage was \$427,220.40 and last year was at \$498,983.75. Peterson from Forestry noted that he contacted Tiffany and Baldwin's offices to find out what was going on without FEMA check, he was told we should have it in 14 to 21 days.

Hanson noted that zoning is up on permits compared to last year, they are also working on some things for septic systems.

Erickson noted that finance reviewed the work study, phase 1 plan, and the elected official's salaries that are all on the agenda this evening.

Youngs noted that Kasey held off and ordering the floor sweeper as the floor drain is a higher priority. The bids for black top were awarded to Pitlik and Wick, they discussed hiring summer help as well as hiring a new mechanic. Pinardi asked if that should go to the board for approval and Youngs noted that they were their own entity, and it shouldn't have to. This will get looked into. Youngs also noted that April is work zone safety month and would like to pass a resolution for this. Francis noted that aging met, and they will no longer be supplying meals to the jail which will be a cost savings for them. They have had a rise in members in many of their locations and have many outreach programs going on around the county.

**8. Public comment pursuant to Resolution #2341:**

None

**9. Discussion/Action to approve the work study program under the direction of Karen Lauer:**

Motion to approve made by Hanson, seconded by Francis. All yes, Carried.

**10. Discussion/Action to approve Resolution 2024-3065 for the submittal of applications for grants to administer the Iron County Land & Water Resource Management plan for 2024:**

**IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2024**  
**Approved**

**AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS TO ADMINISTER THE IRON COUNTY  
LAND & WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE YEAR 2024**

**WHEREAS, Iron County** is eligible to apply for various grants from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Natural Resource Foundation, Coastal Management Program; and Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection; and

**WHEREAS,** the grant applications must include maps, designs, specifications, work plans, and financial estimates;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Iron County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the County Conservationist and County Clerk to submit applications to the above mentioned funding authorities for grants in aid to administer the Iron County Land & Water Resource Management Plan for the year, 2024, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that the Iron County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the Iron County Conservationist to seek out and apply for any and all other grants in aid to administer the Iron County Land & Water Resource Management Plan as they become available and depending on the County's eligibility.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY THE IRON COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE AT THEIR REGULAR LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON MARCH 26, 2024.

Motion to approve Resolution 2024- 3065 made by Thomas, seconded by Haeger. All yes, Carried.

**11. Discussion/Action to approve Department of Natural Resources grant resolution.**

Motion to approve the DNR resolution made by Krall, seconded by Thomas. All yes, Carried.

**12. Discussion/Approval of the Iron County Forestry and Parks annual report:**

Motion made to approve the Forestry Annual report made by Erickson, seconded by Thomas. All yes, Carried.

**13. Rezone from F-1 (Forestry) to A-1 (Agriculture) on Leducs Road in the town of Kimball, Michael Fuge owner.** Motion to approve with the change to reflect the town of Knight and Lovers Lane as the road made by Thompson, seconded by Hanson. All yes, Carried.

**14. Discussion/Action to amend Resolution 2024-3063 establishing salaries of Clerk, Treasurer and Register of Deeds:** Lauer noted in reviewing the statutes that we should have a more precise figure on the salaries on an annual basis. Most counties spell out the 4-year term each year. Recommend that we postpone to discuss further made by Lauer, seconded by Francis. All yes, Carried. A special board meeting will be held on April 9, 2024 at 6pm.

**15. Discussion/Action on Phase 1 recommendations for 2024 Budget:**

Wolff noted that he met with the department heads and there are 33 items that will be changed so far;  
*Resolution: To approve the following changes to the Iron County 2024 budget and direct the Clerk to contact each department head to determine the exact account numbers that are being changed.*

1. County Admin: Add \$50,000 revenue from tax deed sale
2. Board: Remove \$40,000 capital improvement (vehicle) from budget

**IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2024**  
**Approved**

3. Clerk: NONE
4. Treasurer: NONE
5. Courthouse:
  - a. Reduce Capital Items by \$98,000 - (windows \$47,000; tractor/truck \$28,000; kitchen remodel \$23,000).
  - b. Eliminate two part time janitor positions effective April 12.
  - c. Melinda is retiring. Post and rehire this position. The net effect of 'b' and 'c' is \$40,000 payroll savings.
6. IT: Remove \$20,000 of personal computer purchases
7. Coroner: DID NOT MEET
8. Register of Deeds: NONE
9. Communication: DID NOT MEET
10. GIS Land Fees: NONE
11. DA/Victim Witness: Add \$10,000 for increase in State aid revenue
12. Family Court/Circuit Court – NONE
13. Sheriff: NONE
14. Emergency Management: NONE
15. Project HOPE: DID NOT MEET
16. Health:
  - a. Add \$50,000 Grant Revenue missed in budget
  - b. Add \$25,000 State Aid for additional overhead charge back
  - c. Reduce payroll \$25,000: Health Program Assistant employee was .4FTE pre Covid and increased to 1.0 FTE during Covid. Funding and related work for the increased hours has expired. Reduce hours of Health Program Assistant back to .4FTE effective April 1.
17. Child Care: Add \$75,000 incentive State Aid revenue not budgeted
18. Aging/Transport: DID NOT MEET
19. Veteran Services: NONE
20. Gogebic Airport: DID NOT MEET
21. UW Extension/4H: Reduce health care benefits \$20,480 for budget adjustment
22. Fairs/Exhibits: DID NOT MEET
23. Development Zone: DID NOT MEET
24. Economic Zone: DID NOT MEET
25. Forestry ((\$194,000):
  - a. Reduce Parks capital budget \$20,000
  - b. Reduce capital budget in Forestry \$105,700 by removing gravel crushing and pick-up truck purchase
  - c. Reduced contracted Services \$15,300
  - d. Reduce payroll \$53,000 (eliminate open position created when Kasey Krall moved to Highway Commissioner)
26. Land and Water Conservation: Reduce levy by \$22,000 due to tightening up some revenue and expense line items.
27. NW Regional Planning: DID NOT MEET
28. Zoning: (\$20,000) Reduce payroll due to maturity leave and several smaller expense accounts.
29. Recycle: Reduce expenses \$8,000 due budget correction
30. Memorial Building: Reduce the County Contribution from \$10,000 to zero per Bill Thomas Chair of the Memorial Building committee. ( This will be amended back to \$5,000)
31. Human Services (\$466,000)
  - a. Identified new revenue and updated budget for some existing revenue accounts (\$306,000)

**IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2024**  
**Approved**

- b. Reduce several expense items in total (\$20,000) to remove bonus from the budget related to carbon credit revenue.
  - c. Reduced contracted services (\$140,000)
32. Highway: None at this time. Still working on and will include recommendation with Phase II.
33. Carbon Credit Revenue Line Item: Reduce from \$2,355,198 to zero.
- Motion to accept the changes in phase 1 made by Erickson, seconded by Thompson. All yes, Carried.

**16. Discussion/Action to establish a new capital fund as part of the County's financial reporting:**

Wolff noted that there should be four funds and that we should have one for capital improvements that would help us keep better track of spending and of specific purchases. Motion to start a capital fund account made by Lauer, seconded by Hanson. All Yes, Carried.

**17. Update on Work Study group progress (Karen Lauer):**

Lauer noted that we have completed all the job descriptions, and a few are left to review with the group and then she and the clerk will be working on the wage study with grades and steps. Once this is complete, they will then go to finance to discuss and review.

**18. Closed Session per WI State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) (e) (f) Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. (f) Considering financial, medical, social, or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations.**

Motion to move into closed session at 7:12pm made by Wolff, seconded by Hiller. Roll call taken, all yes. Carried.

**19. Return to open session to report any action if necessary:**

Motion to return to open session at 7:17pm made by Thomas, seconded by Thompson. Roll call taken all yes, Carried. Motion to approve the resolution agreement made by Erickson, seconded by Thomas. Roll call taken 12 yes, 0 no and Hewitt present. motion carried.

**20. Adjournment:**

Pinardi adjourned the meeting at 7:18pm.

Approved : April 16, 2024

Respectfully submitted by,  
Christan Brandt, Iron County Clerk