

IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Meeting Minutes for October 29, 2024
APPROVED November 12, 2024

1. Meeting called to order:

Youngs called the meeting to order at 6:00pm in the County Board Room.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge was recited.

3. Roll Call:

Present were Loreti, Francis, Youngs, Thomas, Haeger, Swartz, Krall, Hanson, Erickson, Boes, Lauer, Lutgen, Hiller, Wolff. Absent Mullard.

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

The clerk certified the meeting was properly noticed.

5. Approve minutes of September 24, 2024 as presented:

Motion to approve the minutes with the one change to #16 made by Hiller, seconded by Krall. All yes, carried.

6. Communications:

None

7. Veterans Recognition:

Youngs noted that since the next Board meeting would not be until after Veterans Day, he wanted to take the time to thank them and to remind everyone to thank them while they are here.

8. Land and Zoning to give Presentation of Department Overview:

Zoning Administrator Erika Roeder gave the board a handout and presented an overview of what the department does.

9. Discuss Employee Survey Summary:

Youngs noted that they went over the survey at the department head meeting and that he felt it went over well. Most items were taken care of already and some would be cleaned up if we did a wage study. Copies would be sent to the board.

10. Committee, Department Heads and Chairman's Report:

Wolff noted that in finance they supported approval on items on this evening's agenda; Corp Counsel, Wages, POWTS and the budget. We addressed items that we wanted the clerk to address from the Audit and discussed duties for the Administrative Coordinator position. He noted that anyone interested in this should contact the Chair by November 8th.

Lutgen reported that the Memorial Building is continuing to work on becoming a nonprofit, they will be leasing out the bowling alley/Bar, they decided to continue using Brea for accounting purposes. Extension continues to get requests for the track chair, and she thanked Niel for his work on the survey.

Lauer reported that Human Services approved budget and went over contracts, the work from home agreements are good and in place. Day Care center in Ironwood and Camp Jorn closed and families are in need.

Boes noted that Economic Development met as a new group and things went well. Adam Tutt from Remax joined and they are encouraging all business owners in Iron County to attend.

Hanson noted that zoning met, and they have five items on the agenda this evening.

IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Meeting Minutes for October 29, 2024
APPROVED November 12, 2024

Swartz noted that things are quieter at the fairgrounds, stage will be completed next year. Railroad met and they are working on getting the line fixed from Park Falls to Mellen.

Krall noted that in the Sheriff's Department they had a road deputy transition to the Jail, so they are looking to fill that position, as well as a part time Female jailer, they also approved the agreement that is on the agenda tonight.

Haeger noted that IT has a process for the Help desk reporting that is currently manually done, reviewed 2024 budget, met with Computer Doctors to see if we can become more cost effective and efficient between them and our IT Department.

Erickson stated that stumpage is at \$1,388,851 and last year was at \$1,296,412. They just completed our winter timber sale bids. They increased new fees and rates for the different park uses by 5%.

Loreti noted that at the airport that had training for fuel, they are working on the purchase of a hut to store the salt/sand for the runway.

11. Public comment pursuant to Resolution #2341:

None.

12. Discuss/Action to Hire Doug Muskett as Corp Counsel for 2025:

Motion to appoint Doug Muskett as Corp Counsel for 2025 made by Lutgen, seconded by Hanson. All yes, Carried.

13. Discuss/Action to approve raises of employees:

Youngs noted that Finance approved a 2% raise across the board except for a few individuals, Jewel received the \$1 raise, Casey Levra is shop foreman and will be compensated for that with an additional .31 cents, Eric Peterson had the Harbor pay taken away and we gave him a new salary. Motion to approve the new wages made by Lauer, seconded by Wolff. All yes, Carried.

14. Discuss/Action to Amend Iron County Land Use Title 9 Section 9.4.14, to change the floor area of a residence to a minimum of 400sq. ft. for all residences in all zoning districts. To allow any dwelling space less than 400sq. ft. by a required conditional approval:

Motion to approve Title 9 Section 9.4.14 to change the floor area of a residence to a minimum of 400sq. ft. for all residences in all zoning districts. To allow any dwelling space less than 400sq. ft. by a required conditional approval made by Hiller seconded by Swartz. All yes, Carried.

15. Discuss/Action to Amend Iron County Land Use Title 9, Section 9.4.10 to allow single family dwellings and private garages and carports as a permitted use in the F-1 (Forestry) district.

Motion to approve the Iron County Land Use Title 9, Section 9.4.10 to allow single family dwellings and private garages and carports as a permitted use in the F-1 (Forestry) district made by Lutgen, seconded by Hanson. All yes, Carried.

16. Discuss/Action to Amend Title 9 to allow permitted garage size of 1800sq.ft:

Motion to approve the amendment of Title 9 to allow permitted garage size of 1800sq. ft. made by Krall, seconded by Francis. All yes, Carried.

17. Discuss/Action for Amendments and Rewrite of Iron County Land Use Ordinance Title 9, Section 9.5.9 Private Sewage Regulations.

Motion to approve the amendments and rewrite of the Iron County Land Use Ordinance Title 9, Section 9.5.9 Private Sewage Regulations made by Lauer, seconded by Boes. All yes, Carried.

IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Meeting Minutes for October 29, 2024
APPROVED November 12, 2024

18. Discuss/Action on Resolution # 2024-3074 Approving Road Use Permit to William Wilde (Forestry Committee):

WHEREAS, Iron County owns certain lands located in the N ½ and the NE ¼ SW ¼ in Section 12, T44N, R1W, Town of Anderson, Iron County, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, William Wilde owns certain lands located in the NW ¼ SW ¼ in Section 12, T44N, R1W, Town of Anderson, Iron County, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, William Wilde 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 existing forest road, for purposes of obtaining access to the land owned by William Wilde; and

WHEREAS, the Iron County Forestry Committee has reviewed the request, and approved the issuance of a road use permit to William Wilde 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 William Wilde pursuant to which Iron County shall grant unto William Wilde a temporary license over and upon the woods road in the N ½ and the NE ¼ SW ¼ in Section 12, T44N, R1W, Town of Anderson, 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 to approve made by Thomas, seconded by Erickson. All yes, Carried.

19. Discuss/Action on Resolution # 2024-3075 Authorizing the Submittal of Applications for Grants to Administer the Iron County Forest for the Year 2025.

AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS TO ADMINISTER THE IRON COUNTY FOREST FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, Iron County is eligible to apply for various grants from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Department of Commerce, Department of Economic Development, Coastal Management Program, Wisconsin Emergency Management, and the Federal Government Section 154 Corps of Engineers authority; 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 Forest Administrator and County Clerk to submit applications to the above mentioned funding authorities for grants, including Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grants for land acquisition, in aid to administer the Iron County Forest for the year, 2025, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Iron County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the Iron County Forest Administrator to seek out and apply for any and all other grants in aid to administer the Iron County Forest as they become available and depending on the County's eligibility.

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

20. Discuss/Action on Resolution # 2024-3076 Agreement between Iron County and the Iron County Deputy Sheriff's Association covering January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027:

RESOLUTION 2024-3076

Ratifying Tentative Agreement between Iron County and the Iron County Deputy Sheriff's Association Covering January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027

WHEREAS, the existing collective bargaining agreement between Iron County and the Iron County Deputy Sheriff's Association expires on December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, a Tentative Agreement has been reached that specifies changes for a successor collective bargaining agreement to cover the calendar years 2025, 2026, and 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Tentative Agreement has been ratified by the Deputies' Association; and

IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Meeting Minutes for October 29, 2024
APPROVED November 12, 2024

WHEREAS, the Tentative Agreement incorporates health insurance practices adopted for other employee groups and incorporates a weekend shift differential, such as recently adopted for Iron County dispatchers; and

WHEREAS, this Tentative Agreement takes into account recent changes in the labor market for law enforcement officers, such as recent contracts for several comparable county law enforcement bargaining units; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funds have been set aside in the 2025 budget to cover the costs associated with this Tentative Agreement;

WHEREAS, ratification of this Tentative Agreement will position the County well with respect to recruitment and retention of deputies in the Sheriff's Office, while providing fair compensation to those officers, and is in the best interests of Iron County; and

WHEREAS, ratification of this Tentative Agreement was considered in the Iron County Finance Committee on 15th day of October, 2024 with motion made by Karl Krall, seconded by Scott Erickson, all yes, motion carried;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iron County Finance Committee now respectfully submits RESOLUTION 2024-3076 to the Iron County Board for ratification;

WHEREAS, MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-3076 was considered in the Iron County Board this 29th day of October, 2024 with motion made by _____, seconded by _____, all yes, motion carried;

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED by the Iron County Board of Supervisors that it ratifies the Tentative Agreement between Iron County and the Iron County Deputy Sheriff's Association Covering January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027, and that the County Board Chair and County Clerk are authorized to execute a new collective bargaining agreement reflecting its terms.

Motion to approve made by Krall, seconded by Hiller. All yes, Carried.

21. Discuss/Action on Resolution # 2024-3077 to add \$15.00 yearly POWTS Maintenance Program Fee:

Resolution # 2024-3077

Ordinance Amendment of Land Use Ordinance Section 9.5.9 Private Sewage Systems

Resolution to add \$15.00 yearly POWTS Maintenance program fee.

Ordinance Amendment offered by the Planning and Development Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Iron County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the Planning and Development Committee, having considered the Ordinance Amendment to Section 9.5.9 of the Iron County Land Use Ordinance, which was filed September (copy attached) and having given notice thereof as provided by law and having held a public hearing thereon October 15, 2024 (notice of public hearing attached) and pursuant to Section 59.69(5), Wisconsin Statutes, and having been informed of the facts pertinent to the changes which are as follows:

WHEREAS, as part of the 2025 budget process, departments were instructed to look at expenditure reductions and revenue increases that would have a net impact of reducing levy-funded budgets and;

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Department is the "governmental unit" responsible for the administration of a Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (POWTS) ordinance pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 145.20 and;

WHEREAS, the department is required to inventory all POWTS within Iron County and adopt and enforce a POWTS maintenance program and;

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Department reviewed information from 72 counties and observed that 26 counties are charging a POWTS maintenance fee to offset costs associated with administering and enforcing a POWTS maintenance program and;

IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Meeting Minutes for October 29, 2024
APPROVED November 12, 2024

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Committee held a public hearing in which after carefully reviewing, discussing, and listening to public comment, recommends approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS: Section 1 Any existing ordinances, codes, resolutions, or portions thereof in conflict with this ordinance shall be and hereby are repealed as far as any conflict exists,

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect the day after passage and publication as required by law.

Section 3. If any claims, provisions or portions of this ordinance are adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 4. Title 9 of the Iron County Land Use Ordinance maintenance fee language amended as follows

Section 9.5.9(R)(1)(h) POWTS maintenance Program Fee. As allowed by Wisconsin Statutes

§145.20(4), each owner of a POWTS shall annually be charged a fee per POWTS for the recordkeeping attributable to the inventory and tracking of the pumping and maintenance of each POWTS. The annual fee shall be included on the property owners tax bill as a special charge.

Motion to approve made by Francis, seconded by Lutgen 12 yes 2 no (Erickson, Krall) Motion Carried.

22. Discuss/ Action on the Iron County Forestry Work Plan for 2025:

Motion to approve the Iron County Forestry Work Plan for 2025 made by Thomas, seconded by Erickson. All yes, Carried.

23. Discuss 2025 Budget:

Wolff noted that the 2025 tax levy figures come out to be \$28 less per \$100,000.00 for equalized value.

That will not be felt evenly among the towns and cities as these are set by the state every year. Last year it was \$432.00 and this year it will be \$402.00 per \$100,000 for the County levy. We still have a budget gap but will update at the next meeting.

24. Adjournment:

Youngs adjourned the meeting at 6:53pm.

Approved: November 12,2024

Respectfully submitted
Christan Brandt, County Clerk