

**IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Meeting Minutes for February 25, 2025**  
**Approved**

**1. Meeting called to order:**

Youngs called the meeting to order at 6:00pm in the Iron County Courthouse.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance:**

The Pledge was recited

**3. Roll Call:**

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

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

The clerk certified the meeting was properly posted.

**5. Approve minutes of January 28, 2025 as presented:**

Motion to approve the minutes as presented made by Hiller, seconded by Mullard. All yes, carried.

**6. Communications:**

None.

**7. Committee and Chairman's Report:**

Boes stated that the Economic Development Committee meets tomorrow at 6pm.

Lauer noted the cost for adult placement for 2024 was \$174,125 and to date for 2025 the total cost is \$11,790.00. In 2024 youth placement was \$310,000 and 2025 year to date is \$8,487.00. There were policy revisions due to the voucher process. Rate changes for transportation and they are looking at working with BART out of Ashland to assist with the Aging Unit for seniors' transportation.

Erickson stated that stumpage is at \$124,345 down 30%. Ladwig the logger on the Forestry Committee noted that only a small number of companies are bidding right now. We have sold a few 40-acre parcels in Pence that were land locked and we could not do anything with the land.

Hanson noted that they will be placing an ad for an assistant zoning administrator, the Airport had its highest number so far and if that keeps up, they will reach the next tier.

Lutgen noted that she is attending a conference in Madison. IT met and they went through items on the help desk. There is a vender coming next week to discuss the website. She stated she has Joe from Extension looking at getting the ordinances online. LCC hired a new Conservation Specialist, and she started yesterday.

Mullard noted that the Fair Board met, and they paid down half the loan they took out, they had students attend the meeting and it was very positive they had good ideas. The 100 years of the Fair will be in 2027. Youngs noted that he would like to combine a few of the committees that do not meet very often and may be a little repetitive. This will be on another agenda for discussion. He would also like to start having meetings in other Towns so that we can tour the other areas and maybe get people to come that would not otherwise attend.

**8. Administrative Coordinator Report:**

Lutgen noted that she has been working now for 7 weeks and hearing what others do around the state she feels that this is a full time position. She thanked Youngs for putting together the monthly Department Head meetings and she thanked Wolff for all his time and hard work on getting the Counties financials in order. She also will have Sarah from the Counties Association here in March to discuss the differences between an Administrative Coordinator and a County Administrator.

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

**IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Meeting Minutes for February 25, 2025**  
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None.

**10. Aging to give Presentation of Department Overview:**

Trista Olson from the ADRC gave a presentation on what her department does and what programs they have that can assist the Seniors in the community.

**11. Discuss/Action Resolution 2025-3094 for the submittal of applications for grants to administer the Iron County Land & Water Resource Management plan for 2025:**

**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, 2025, 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.

Motion to approve Resolution 2025-3094 made by Thomas, seconded by Hanson. All yes, carried.

**12. Discuss/Action Resolution 2025-3093 Instruct County Treasurer to Cancel Outstanding General Fund Checks Over One Year Old.**

WHEREAS, Clara J. Maki, Iron County Treasurer, has been instructed 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 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the amount of outstanding checks to be cancelled for 2023 is \$509.51. The total of \$509.51 be cancelled and transferred to the General Fund . After six months, said funds remaining unclaimed will be transferred to the Unclaimed Funds account.

Motion to approve Resolution 2025-3093 made by Lauer, seconded by Mullard. All yes, carried.

**13. Discuss/Action Resolution 2025- 3095 Grant Application for WDNR:**

WHEREAS, (*applicant*) is interested in obtaining a cost-share grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the purpose of (as described in the application);

WHEREAS, the respondent attests to the validity and veracity of the statements and representations contained in the application; WHEREAS, an Agreement/Contract is required to carry out the project; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that (*applicant*) will meet the financial obligations necessary to fully and satisfactorily complete the project and hereby authorizes and empowers the following officials or employees to submit the following documents to the DNR for financial assistance that may be available:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that respondent will comply with all local, state, and federal rules, regulations, and ordinances relating to this project and the cost-share Agreement/Contract.

Motion to approve Resolution 2025-3095 made by Francis, seconded by Hiller. All yes, carried.

**14. Discuss/Action Resolution 2025- 3096 Partial Saxon Harbor Loan Principal Payment**

WHEREAS, Iron County has an outstanding loan for Saxon Harbor reconstruction in the amount of \$1,646,008.62; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2025, Iron County received a net deposit after expenses of \$746,803.19 from a sale of Carbon Credits settled in January 2025;

WHEREAS, on February 18, 2025, the Finance Committee unanimously passed a motion to apply \$500,000 from Carbon Credit revenue to pay down the Saxon Harbor Loan principal, to reserve the

**IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Meeting Minutes for February 25, 2025**  
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remaining \$246,803.19 for 60-90 days pending the County's 2024 year-end financial position and Board decisions on County administration, and to include such debt payment in the 2025 budget; and  
THEREFORE, the Finance Committee recommends that the Iron County Board approve this resolution to apply \$500,000 from Carbon Credit revenue to pay down the Saxon Harbor Loan principal, to reserve the remaining \$246,803.19 for 60-90 days pending the County's 2024 year-end financial position and Board decisions on County administration, and to include such debt payment in the 2025 budget.  
Motion to approve Resolution 2025-3096 made by Loreti, seconded by Erickson. All yes, carried.

**15. Discuss/Action Resolution 2025-3097 Highway Department Investment of CD Proceeds in Money Market:**

WHEREAS, Iron County has a Highway Department CD maturing on February 27, 2025 with a balance of approximately \$582,000; and  
WHEREAS, the Highway Department needs an investment vehicle that allows for reasonable returns with flexibility for mid-year expense withdrawals; and  
WHEREAS, on February 18, 2025, the Finance Committee unanimously passed a motion to invest the Highway Department CD proceeds into the Highway Department Money Market account to provide needed flexibility in the current interest rate environment; and  
THEREFORE, the Finance Committee recommends that the Iron County Board approve this resolution to invest the Highway Department CD proceeds into the Highway Department Money Market account to provide needed flexibility in the current interest rate environment.  
Motion to approve Resolution 2025-3097 made by Wolff, seconded by Mullard. All yes, carried.

**16. Discuss/Action Resolution 2025-3098 Highway Department Purchase of Scissor Lift:**

WHEREAS, Iron County Highway, Forestry, and Facilities departments routinely have a need for a scissor lift to safely access hard-to-reach heights and perform tasks that ordinarily require tall ladders or scaffolding; and  
WHEREAS, the Highway Department has obtained a quote for a 25-29 foot rough terrain scissor lift in the amount of \$44,444;  
WHEREAS, Iron County underspent budgeted 2024 Capital purchases by approximately \$30,000 and underspent budgeted 2024 highway equipment purchases by approximately \$60,000;  
WHEREAS, on February 18, 2025, the Finance Committee unanimously passed a motion to purchase a 25-29 foot rough terrain scissor lift in the amount of \$44,444 and to include such expense in the 2025 budget; and  
THEREFORE, the Finance Committee recommends that the Iron County Board approve this resolution to purchase a 25-29 foot rough terrain scissor lift in the amount of \$44,444 and to include such expense in the 2025 budget.  
Motion to approve Resolution 2025-3098 made by Hiller, seconded by Thomas. All yes, carried.

**17. Discuss/Action Resolution 2025-3099 Iron County Employee Handbook Modifications**

WHEREAS, Iron County previously adopted a revised Employee Handbook on December 18, 2024 with an effective date of January 1, 2025; and  
WHEREAS, the purpose of this revision is to make language updates and incorporate changes as approved by the County Board; and  
WHEREAS, the Highway and Forestry Departments required updates to Section 2.12 DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE POLICY to accommodate Department of Transportation regulations for employees with Commercial Driver's Licenses; and  
WHEREAS, Department Heads requested changes to Section 5.3 CALL-IN to clarify straight-time pay; and  
WHEREAS, Department Heads requested changes to Section 8.1 HOLIDAYS and 8.2 PERSONAL DAYS to accommodate varying shift lengths and equalize combined holiday and personal leave for employees; and

**IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Meeting Minutes for February 25, 2025**

**Approved**

WHEREAS, Department Heads requested deletion of the funeral attendance requirement for leaves of absence with pay in Section 8.5 BEREAVEMENT, given that not all deceased relatives have a funeral; and

WHEREAS, on February 18, 2025, the Finance Committee unanimously passed a motion to approve proposed Iron County Employee Handbook Modifications to Sections 2.12, 5.3, 8.1, 8.2, and 8.5 as shown in Resolution 2025-3099 Exhibit A; and

THEREFORE, the Finance Committee recommends that the Iron County Board approve proposed Iron County Employee Handbook Modifications to Sections 2.12, 5.3, 8.1, 8.2, and 8.5 as shown in Resolution 2025-3096 Exhibit A.

Motion to approve Resolution 2025-3099 made by Lauer, seconded by Hanson. All yes, carried.

**18. Discuss/Action Resolution 2025-4000 Pay Off 2024 Capital Expenditure ( Cap X) Loan**

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2024, Iron County entered into Loan with Chippewa Valley Bank in the amount of \$1,080,000 for 2024 Capital Expenditures funded by the annual debt levy as approved by the County Board and authorized under Wis. Stats. Section 67; and

WHEREAS, the Iron County 2025 budget includes repayment of this debt for 2024 Capital Expenditures; and

WHEREAS, on February 18, 2025, the Finance Committee unanimously passed a motion to pay off the full amount of the debt for 2024 Capital Expenditures; and

THEREFORE, the Finance Committee recommends that the Iron County Board approve this resolution to pay off the full amount of the debt for 2024 Capital Expenditures.

Motion to approve Resolution 2025-4000 made by Wolff, seconded by Boes. All yes, carried.

**19. Adjournment:**

Youngs adjourned the meeting at 7:05pm.

Approved: March 25, 2025

Respectfully submitted  
Christan Brandt, Iron County Clerk