



IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Meeting Minutes for July 29, 2025

Approved

1. Meeting called to order:

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge was recited.

3. Roll Call:

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

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

The clerk certified that the meeting was properly noticed.

5. Approve Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda made by Francis, seconded by Mullard. All yes, carried.

6. Approve minutes of June 24, 2025 and July 9, 2025 as presented:

Motion to approve the June 24, 2025, minutes with the two noted changes made by Hiller, seconded by Swartz. All yes, carried. Motion to approve the July 9 meeting minutes made by Loreti, seconded by Thomas. All yes, carried.

7. Introduction of Jay Sween, County Manager:

Chairman Youngs introduced the new County Manager.

8. Communications:

Clerk Brandt noted that she had a meeting with the Town Clerks regarding elections.

9. Committee and Chairman's Report:

Lutgen noted that we received notice that we were awarded a \$10,000 grant from Enbridge for the new website. Extension is busy running multiple camps and preparing for the County Fair.

Boes noted that Economic Development met and have been busy getting things together and situated.

Lauer noted that Human Services reviewed the Budget, the 5-year Capital Plan, noted that placement is down in the County and that the ARDC Jeep has issues, and no one can tell us why. They continue to work with BART to get additional services for Iron County. RFP is not required for this project.

Erickson noted that Forestry met, and stumpage is at \$985,323 which is up \$105,000 from last year at this time. Approved a grant application for gravel on Camp 7 Road, also we received the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant for \$1.5 Million to assist in the acquisition.

Hanson noted that the Airport will be meeting with the head of Denver Air and that in Zoning the new employee seems to be working out well.

Swartz noted that at the Memorial building we will be some trees coming down with the help of the Highway Department. He also stated that he hoped to see everyone at the fair.

Mullard noted that each Board member was given a ticket to come to the fair.

Wolff noted that Finance met and there is a vacancy for the DA Legal Assistant, approved the temporary contract for cleaning services, reviewed the benefit study and tax deed ordinance.

Youngs noted that he is working on the Jeep issue.

10. Public comment pursuant to Resolution #2341:

None



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11. Discuss/Action Resolution 2025-4024 In support of Forecastle Timber LLC Application to the USDA Forest Legacy Program and Sale of Conservation Easement to the WDNR:

WHEREAS, Forecastle Timber, LLC, is a privately-owned working forest comprised of approximately 1,005 acres of diverse forest and wetlands enrolled in WDNR Manage Forest Land (Open) located in portions of Section 9 & 16, Township 44N, Range 4E in the Town of Oma, Iron County, Wisconsin; and **WHEREAS**, Forecastle Timber, LLC, is dedicated to managing productive forest lands for environmental and economic benefits along with public access for outdoor recreation; and

WHEREAS, Forecastle Timber, LLC, in collaboration with the WDNR, is applying to obtain a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Legacy Program permanent conservation easement; and

WHEREAS, Forest Legacy conservation easements restrict development, limit uses that impact the conservation values, and require adherence to a Multi-Resource Management to protect values such as soil and water, biodiversity, recreation access, timber and more; and

WHEREAS, Forecastle Timber, LLC is seeking a long-term solution to protect the property from future development with the sale of a conservation easement that allows traditional forest public access to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR); and

WHEREAS, the timber tract will remain in private ownership and on the tax rolls in its entirety providing a source of raw timber products and recreational opportunities in perpetuity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Iron County Board of Supervisors, and its Forestry Committee, supports the Forecastle Timber, LLC, application for a USDA Forest Legacy Program conservation easement for the parcel described in the Town of Oma, Iron County Wisconsin.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: The Board supports the purchase of conservation easements pursuant to s. 23.0917(f5)(b), Wis. Stats. by the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) that will protect the property from future development, allow active commercial forest management to continue, serve the general public with outdoor recreation opportunities, and continue to contribute to county and state tax collections.

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

12. Discuss/Action Resolution 2025-4025 Approve Road Use Permit to Stacy Pochert Rohr, Matt Rohr, Jason and Lisa Loster and Scott & Bridget Rohr.

WHEREAS, Iron County owns certain lands located in the N ½ NW ¼ in Section 5, T43N, R3E, Town of Mercer, Iron County, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, Stacy Pochert-Rohr, Matt Rohr, Jason & Lisa Loster, and Scott & Bridget Rohr own certain lands located in the S ½ SW ¼ in Section 32, T44N, R3E, Town of Oma, Iron County, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, Stacy Pochert-Rohr, Matt Rohr, Jason & Lisa Loster, and Scott & Bridget Rohr are 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 Stacy Pochert-Rohr, Matt Rohr, Jason & Lisa Loster, and Scott & Bridget Rohr; and

WHEREAS, the Iron County Forestry Committee has reviewed the request, and approved the issuance of a road use permit to Stacy Pochert-Rohr, Matt Rohr, Jason & Lisa Loster, and Scott & Bridget Rohr 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 Stacy Pochert-Rohr, Matt Rohr, Jason & Lisa Loster, and Scott & Bridget Rohr pursuant to which Iron County shall grant unto Stacy Pochert-Rohr, Matt Rohr, Jason & Lisa Loster, and Scott & Bridget Rohr a temporary license over and upon the woods road in the N ½ NW ¼ in Section 5, T43N, R3E, Town of Mercer, Iron County, Wisconsin. The permit shall contain the standard provisions as approved by the



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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 Resolution 2025-4025 made by Thomas, seconded by Mullard. All yes, carried.

13. Discuss/Action on new County Logo:

Becky Holms UW Extension office manager went over and explained the new logo, the history and why we are updating it. Motion to approve made by Hiller, seconded by Swartz. All yes, carried. The Resolution will be approved at the next meeting.

14. Discussion on 2024 Audit Progress:

This is currently in draft form and will be discussed at the next Finance meeting.

15. Discussion on Finance Director Posting approved on 7/9/2025:

Youngs updated the Board that they posted the job for the Finance Director yesterday.

16. Discuss/Approve the wage for the County Manager Position:

Youngs noted that at the last meeting they did not state that what the County manager's wages where he will get \$96,000 a year and he is an at-will employee.

17. Discuss/Action on Benefit Study:

This we will wait on as we would like to get input from the employees and then it will go back to Finance.

18. Discuss/Action Child Support Contract with Bayfield County:

Jay Sween noted that Child Support is down to one person and state requires the office to be covered and have two people minimum. The agreement is to aid in assistance when she is out of the office and keep the workflow going, we would like to enter into an agreement with Bayfield County. The State Reimburses two thirds of funds. We are looking to get the agreement approved this evening and the next meeting we can approve the Resolution. Motion to approve made by Loreti, seconded by Thomas. All yes, carried.

19. Discuss the Internal Procedure of Drafting and Reviewing Resolutions and Ordinances.

Youngs stated since he has been Chair, they have been doing this is Resolution form. If it's coming out of a committee or from department head it should come from there, if assistance is needed then it can go to the clerk or County Manager and if there is any type of legality then they can send to Corp Counsel. These need to get to the clerk's office on the Wednesday before a board meeting so that it can be added to the agenda. Ordinance's is law and some can work on them if they feel comfortable doing them, but it must go to Corp Counsel. It was also noted that there are a lot of other places to find shared resolutions and ordinances. Youngs stated going forward all board items will be in Resolution form and all Ordinances will be reviewed by Corp Counsel.

20. Discuss/Action to Finalize how Funding the County Manager and Finance Director Positions for 2025.

Youngs stated that he wanted to know that budgets are coming in and committee's run the County. Look at the budgets do not just pass them, do not make the Finance Committee and I the bad guy. Look to see if this is a need or a want, ask questions and catch before it gets to Finance. As far as funding the two new positions we will find them in the budget when we go through them.

21. Future Agenda Items/Next Meeting Date.

A. August 26, 2025 @ 6:00pm

22. Adjournment: Youngs adjourned the meeting at 6:50pm.



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Approved: August 26, 2025

Christan Brandt, Iron County Clerk