

FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDINGS

May 19, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The Special meeting of the Forest County Board of Supervisors was held on May 19, 2020, in the County Board Room at the Courthouse in Crandon, Wisconsin. Chairperson Gretzinger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. the Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present. Clerk, Nora Matuszewski, read the agenda.

ROLL CALL

Present: Berg, Black, Burl, Campbell, Chaney, Collins, Dehart, Goode, Gretzinger, Houle, Karl, Laabs, Lukas, Matuszewski, Pethers(Phone), Stamper & Tauer (17). Absent (1), Miller; Vacant seats: (3).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Stamper, second by Laabs to approve the agenda as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 21, 2020 MEETING

Motion by Chaney to approve the April 21, 2020 minutes as presented, second by Berg. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant seats (3). Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS ON FILE WITH THE BOARD

Motion by Collins to place all communications on file with the County Clerk Office, second by Berg. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant seats (3). Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS OR ELECTIONS

ITBEC & TOURISM- 2 YEAR TERM: Gretzinger, Chaney & Collins

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT: Casey Sponable

HUMAN SERVICE BOARD- 2-YEAR TERM: Gretzinger & Collins

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT – 2 YEAR TERM: Harry Thurin

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT – Gretzinger & Karl

Motion by Chaney to approve the appointments, second by Dehart. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried.

COVID-19 COMMITTEE UPDATE – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Shepard updated the Board on what has been happening with COVID-19, telling the Board that there has not been much for guidance for the Public Health Department. The Director has authority under state statutes 252.03, but she would need an ordinance to back up anything that is put into place, which cannot be criminal. She told the committee the Northern Region is working on trying to get guidance that is consistent, and explained her department is working hard on contact tracing. The department is receiving many calls everyday from businesses as well as residents.

Theune updated the Board on personal protective equipment and reimbursements for work that is being done to combat COVID-19.

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PERSONAL APPEARANCES

CHAIRWOMAN REPORT - Gretzinger spoke to the audience about this being her first month as chair of the county board and the support and good work that is being done to move forward. She feels all employees should return to work on the 26th because of everything that has been put into place to keep everyone safe, as well as mentioning consideration for people with underlying health conditions. She felt there have been projects that have been on hold for quite some time that need to get done to maintain this building, that it is time to move forward and get things done.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY INTRODUCTION – ALEX SEIFERT – Alex was not available.

JEFF BELONGIA – FINANCIAL ADVISOR – Jeff brought in a sheet for everyone's review and explained interest rates are at an incredible low for borrowers right now. He explained the process for borrowing for capital projects can be done just by having a list of projects to follow. If the County has a list with estimated costs, projects can be completed as needed, just as long as the County has a plan to follow. Jeff explained he will be available throughout the duration and help with all the financing. He told the Board the County falls under a category which allows the borrowing of funds now, allowing up to three years to spend the money on projects.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 16-2020 Offered by Finance

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Board of Supervisors of Forest County, Wisconsin, that there shall be issued, pursuant to Section 67.12(12), Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation promissory notes in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 for public purposes, including paying the cost of roof replacement, an electrical generator and electrical upgrades at the Courthouse, a new boiler system for the Courthouse, improvements to the Sheriff/Jail residence and other County buildings, acquisition of a tractor, construction of an addition to and other improvements at the Law Enforcement Center and other projects included in the County's Capital Improvement Plan.

Adopted, approved and recorded May 19, 2020.

Motion by Laabs second by Stamper to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant seats (3). Motion carried.

Resolution - Offered by Building and Public Property

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that the sum of \$200,000.00 shall be allocated for maintenance, preservation and improvements to the old jail and sheriff's residence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sum of \$200,000.00 shall be taken from the General Fund.

Lukas explained the old jail/sheriff residence is included in the list for capital improvements and was discussed to fix the roof, windows and doors for now and then work little by little to improve it.

Motion by Houle to table the resolution, second by Chaney. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried.

Resolution 17-2020 Offered by Forestry and Recreation Committee

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Forest County Board of Supervisors that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources shall receive a 40% severance share of stumpage sales values on timber harvested from Forest County lands enrolled in the County Forest Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the payment authorized herein shall continue until the outstanding loan balance is less than \$2,000,000.00.

Motion by Karl, second by Chaney to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried

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Resolution 18-2020 Offered by Forestry and Recreation

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS does hereby delegate to the Forest and Recreation Committee, authority to make applications to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for funds appropriated for snowmobile trail maintenance. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forestry and Recreation Committee of the Forest County Board of Supervisors, is hereby authorized to expend the funds to be received from the State of Wisconsin for eligible maintenance and development costs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Forestry and Recreation Committee may authorize the Forestry Department Staff to apply for grants, sign the contracts and complete grant reimbursement as necessary. Motion by Stamper, second by Black to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried.

Resolution 19-2020 Offered by Forestry and Recreation

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS does hereby delegate to the Forest and Recreation Committee, authority to make applications to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for funds appropriated for ATV trail maintenance. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forestry and Recreation Committee of the Forest County Board of Supervisors, is hereby authorized to expend the funds to be received from the State of Wisconsin for eligible maintenance and development costs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Forestry and Recreation Committee may authorize the Forestry Department Staff to apply for grants, sign the contracts and complete grant reimbursement as necessary. Motion by Collins, second by Matuszewski to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried.

Resolution 20-2020 Offered by County Board Chair

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Forest County Board of Supervisors hereby appoints those individuals as Emergency Fire Wardens as indicated on the attached list.

2020 ACTIVE EFWS-FOREST COUNTY				
TOWNSHIP	NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE	ZIP CODE
ARGONNE	Kathy Deaton KATHY'S INN BAR & GRILL	7915 MAIN STREET	ARGONNE, WI	54511
LINCOLN	Brooke Bauer GAS DEPOT	600 E. PIONEER STREET	CRANDON, WI	54520
LAONA	John Aschenbrenner Jr JOHNNIE'S RESORT	6995 POTAWATOMI RD	LAONA, WI	54541
ROSS	Carol & Joe Bildings CJ'S BAR	10205 HWY 139	NEWALD, WI	54511
CRANDON	William May MAY'S BAR	11696 HWY 8 W	CRANDON, WI	54520
NASHVILLE	Tina Vanzile MOLE LAKE EPA	3051 SAND LAKE ROAD	MOLE LAKE, WI	54520

Motion by Black, second by Laabs to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried.

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Resolution 21-2020 Offered by Personnel and Finance

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that the County Clerk shall perform the duties of an Administrative Coordinator with the additional annual salary of \$5,000.00.

Motion by Stamper, second by Collins to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (15); NAY (2), Black & Pethers; Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried.

Resolution 22-2020 Offered by Social Services

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Forest County Board of Supervisors in session this 19th day of May, 2020 that we hereby approve the attached Mutual Aid Agreement between Forest, Oneida and Vilas Counties for COVID-19 emergency assistance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any assistance shall be by request of the Forest County Social Services Director after consultation with the Forest County Board Chairperson and the Forest County Social Services Committee.

Motion by Laabs, second by Dehart to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried.

Resolution 23-2020 Offered by COVID-19

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that pursuant to Wis. Stas. § 323.11 the Board finds and declares that an emergency exists within the County by reason of an imminent threat of disaster impairing medical care, health, and other critical systems of the County due to the spread of COVID-19; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that for an additional period of thirty (30) days from today's date unless sooner terminated or extended by the further Resolution of the Board the COVID-19 Virus Committee is hereby authorized and directed to continue to coordinate and administer the County's emergency management response.

Motion by Laabs, second by Lukas to approve the resolution as presented.

Discussion followed as to whether the resolution should be dropped or continued.

Motion by Dehart to amend the resolution to change to period of continuation from 60 days to 30 days, second by Collins. All present voting AYE (15); NAY (2), Berg & Pethers; Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried.

Motion by Laabs, second by Lukas to approve the amended resolution. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried.

Resolution 24-2020 Offered by Finance

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that Forest County will enter into a contract and pay the sum of \$750,000.00 to Northwoods Connect to provide high-speed internet to a majority of the residents of Forest County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the contract and payment will be contingent upon receiving a grant of \$939,200.00 from the Wisconsin Public Service Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the funds for the payment of \$750,000.00 shall be borrowed from the Board of Commissions of Public Lands and paid off over a 10-year period.

Motion by Chaney, second by Black to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried.

ORDNINANCES

Ordinance 01-2020 Offered by Health

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS as follows: that the attached ordinance entitled Restrictions on Sale or Gift of Tobacco and Nicotine Products to Minors is hereby approved in its entirety.

IT IS FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption and publication pursuant to law.

Motion by Stamper, second by Black to approve the ordinance as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Motion by Berg to adjourn, second by Dehart. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1), Miller; Vacant Seats (3). Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. These minutes are not official and are subject to change. They will be officially approved at the June 16, 2020 Forest County Board of Supervisors meeting.

Nora Matuszewski
Forest County Clerk