

FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDINGS

June 21, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular meeting of the Forest County Board of Supervisors was held on June 21, 2022, in the County Board Room at the Courthouse in Crandon, Wisconsin. Chairperson Gretzinger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present. The Clerk, Nora Matuszewski, read the agenda.

ROLL CALL

Present: Anderson, Berg, Black, Campbell, Chaney, Dailey, Fulcer, Goode, Gretzinger, Karl, Landru, Lukas, Miller, Peterson, Piasini, Tallier, Weber.

Absent: Dehart

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Anderson, second by Dailey to approve the agenda as presented. All presented voting AYE (17); Absent (1); Dehart. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 17, 2022 MEETING

There were corrections that needed to be made on the minutes from the May 17, 2022 meeting, which included the motions for the annual reports and the adjournment. Clerk will make the correction.

Motion by Berg to approve the minutes with corrections, second by Chaney. All presented voting AYE (17); Absent (1); Dehart. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Brad Bessert thanked the County for getting Broadband in the area where he lives. He did not have internet before Northwoods Connect and the County worked together to get internet for Forest County residents through the first grant. He wants everyone to have internet and this broadband allows him to work from home for his job.

Patrick Voigtman wanted to also thank the County and “echo” what Bessert said.

COMMUNICATIONS ON FILE WITH THE BOARD

There were several communications on file with the Board. One in particular needed the approval of the board to send out. It was a letter in support of a grant for a Digital Navigator position in Forest County; the position would aid with the elderly learning how to use the internet for telehealth and with general and educational applications. This grant if funded is for \$300,000 for three (3) years.

Motion by Lukas to approve the letter of support from Forest County, second by Berg. All presented voting AYE (17); Absent (1); Dehart. Motion carried.

Motion by Black, to place all other communications on file with the County Clerk’s office, second by Piasini. All presented voting AYE (17); Absent (1); Dehart. Motion carried.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES

Paul Payant – Payant presented a power point on County Board roles and responsibilities.

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Chairperson Report:

Gretzinger indicated there was a lot of things going on and she would let the committee chairs share.

Highway – Campbell

Everything at the Highway is going well, the hot mix plant is done and the County Park. Bill Anderson the Commissioner is going to be going to Washington D.C. with all expenses paid by Trout's Unlimited. Campbell told everyone this is an honor to be asked. Trout's Unlimited has been working with Anderson on a project where there was a bridge put in instead of a culvert. The cost of the project is being funded by Trout's Unlimited in the amount of \$366,000 and another 10% to come from the County.

Forestry – Chaney

The department is finally in the process of opening the Park. WPS has just finished the electricity yesterday. There are tent sites without electricity and a few trees that need to be planted, but, they required a permit, so the committee decided to put it off right now, to get the park open. The committee is doing an interview for the park manager tomorrow night. There are a few new grills they want to put in yet, as well as the sign and the flagpole. He wanted to give the Forestry department credit for taking a lot of the heat while this project was underway. He also wanted to thank Jamie Flannery and note they will be recognizing him as well at a later date.

The Forestry department put out five (5) timber sales this spring, which was more than they had anticipated. They will be able to put out about 500-acres next year.

Health – Lynne Black

Covid cases are down so the department has been trying to get back to normal. They have brought healthy food for the fridge in the Courthouse, they had a wellness walk at the Otter Creek trail and had some benches put in for people to sit on. They are pretty excited to start working on programs for the County that promote healthy living again.

Zoning – Karl

Karl told everyone they are bringing some updates to their ordinances because there are contractors and landowners not following current ordinances in place. They want to hit them harder with fines to try to stop some of the issues.

Social Services/Personnel – Anderson

The committee interviewed for a CPS position, but the applicant ended up declining the position. They will re-post as they are running behind.

The Personnel approved two grant positions in the Health department and were able to hire a Maintenance worker who will be starting on July 5th. The Aging Director position was posted and will be closing to applicants on July 1st.

Building/Property/Finance/Economic Development - Lukas

The Architect (Musson) is working on the dome with Hoffman and ready for the next steps. The elevator door will be completed next Tuesday. They are working on bids for the garage doors and they have a contractor to install the windows in the old jail/residence. The committee had a

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big meeting with all contractors and insurance companies on the water damage to the building on February 5, 2022. The register has been sent in to forensics to figure who is at fault.

There are some big changes coming with the health insurance this year, hopefully the Finance knows something soon. The Sheriff department is in need of a control panel update which will cost \$550,000.

The Economic Development has put the ad out for the new director with an end date of June 30, 2022 for the applications.

Newcap – Berg

Berg explained he had broken his hind leg and was in Nuroc and he knows how important the Broadband is because he could not even make a phone call. He said Newcap was given new buildings and land and would be expanding, which was very good news.

Aging – Miller

The department is still serving meals and the position is posted.

Sheriff/Justice – Chaney

The next meeting of Sheriff & Justice the committee will be working with the Sheriff on a parking ordinance.

Tallier wanted to share that sending someone to Washington D.C, was a big deal and that Bill Anderson should do a presentation for the board when he comes back.

APPOINTMENTS OR ELECTIONS

None

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 25-2022 – 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 \$1,748,000.00 to Northwoods Connect to provide high-speed internet to the residents of Forest County and said payment will be made from the American Rescue Plan Act funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the contract and payment will be contingent upon Northwoods Connect paying the sum of \$3,800,000.00 and a grant from the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin in the sum of \$2,283,772.00.

There was a long discussion on the Broadband and projects and when the process should have started and not everyone knowing what was happening with new board members and whether or not they should vote on the resolution. There was concern with the PSC grant guidelines that could possibly make the project impossible to complete if it keeps getting pushed back.

Motion by Lukas, second by Black to vote on the resolution as is. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1) Dehart. Motion carried.

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Motion by Lukas, second by Dailey to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (12); Abstain (2) Karl & Tallier; NAY (3) Anderson, Campbell & Goode; Absent (1) Dehart. Motion carried.

Resolution 26-2022 - Offered by Finance

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve a payment to the Forest County Chamber of Commerce for 2023 and 2024 for the sum of \$25,000.00 each year based upon the condition that the Chamber Executive Director dedicate approximately 50% of their time serving the Forest County Economic Development Partnership.

Motion by Dailey, second by Lukas to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); NAY (1) Karl; Absent (1) Dehart. Motion carried.

Resolution 27-2022 - Offered by Finance and Personnel

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Forest County Board of Supervisors that any department that has a checking and/or savings account shall provide the County Clerk and the County Treasurer with a reconciliation statement clearly showing all income and expenses in said account on a monthly basis.

Motion by Anderson, second by Weber to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1) Dehart. Motion carried.

Resolution 28-2022 – Offered by Rules and Regulations

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Forest County Board of Supervisors that a Broadband Committee shall be approved as identified herein and with the powers and duties as referred to above.

Motion by Peterson, second by Berg to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1) Dehart. Motion carried.

Resolution 29-2022 - Offered by Finance

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest County Board of Supervisors hereby approves a new control panel and the associated equipment for the Public Safety Building at a cost not to exceed \$550,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that payment for the above-mentioned electrical control system and associated equipment shall be made from the General Obligation Debt.

Motion by Anderson, second by Chaney to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (15); Abstain (1) Lukas; NAY (1) Fulcer; Absent (1) Dehart. Motion carried.

Resolution 30-2022 - Offered by Zoning

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the zoning change from residential to “mixed use” for tax parcel # 004-00573-001 in Forest County.

Motion by Karl, second by Dailey to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1) Dehart. Motion carried.

Resolution 31-2022 – Offered by Zoning

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- I. Page 36, Section 19.1 entitled Penalty for Violations, shall be amended to add the following:
 - i. *Except as otherwise provided, any person who violates this ordinance may be subject to a fine of \$500.00 plus costs of prosecution. A charge of \$100.00 will be added to the fine for everyday the violation continues. A second offense shall be \$1,000.00 plus \$100.00 per day the violation continues. After the second offense the county may also seek injunctive relief from the circuit court to cause the violation to be ceased, moved and/or removed.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest County Board of Supervisors does hereby adopt the amendments to the Forest County Shoreland Ordinance as set forth herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerk shall immediately publish this Resolution either in its entirety, as a class 1 notice under Wis. Stat. §985, or as a notice described in Wis. Stat. §59.14 (1m) (b).

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this ordinance immediately be made available to the public on the County's website and at the Forest County Zoning Office.

Motion by Weber, second by Black to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1) Dehart. Motion carried.

Resolution 32-2022 - Offered by Zoning

1. Page 28, Section 10.01, entitled Penalty for Violations, shall now read as follows:

A. *Except as otherwise provided, any person who violates this ordinance may be subject to a fine of \$500.00 plus \$100.00 per day a violation continues. Second offense shall be \$1,000.00 plus \$100.00 per day the violation continues. After the second offense, the County may also seek injunctive relief from the circuit court to cause violation to be ceased, moved and/or removed.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest County Board of Supervisors does hereby adopt the changes to the Forest County General Ordinance as set forth herein; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this ordinance immediately be made available to the public on the County's website and at the Forest County Zoning Office.

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

Resolution 33-2022 - Offered by Fair

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Forest County Board of Supervisors that any excess funds from the fair budget shall be placed into the Fair Reserve Account on an annual basis.

Motion by Chaney, second by Piasini to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1) Dehart. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES

None

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ANNUAL REPORTS

Highway Operations Report

Motion by Miller to place the annual report on file in the County Clerk's Office, second by Karl. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1) Dehart. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Miller, second by Goode to adjourn. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (1); Dehart. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 8:16 pm.

These minutes are not official and are subject to change. They will be officially approved at the July 19, 2022 Forest County Board of Supervisors meeting.

Nora Matuszewski
Forest County Clerk