

FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDINGS
December 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular meeting of the Forest County Board of Supervisors was held on December 19, 2023, 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, Black (Teams), Campbell, Chaney, Dailey, Dehart, Fulcer, Gretzinger, Karl, Lukas, Miller, Peterson, Piasini, Skallerud, Tallier, Weber
Absent: Landru, Goode – Vacant Seats, Districts #3, #12 & #20

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Anderson, second by Chaney to approve the agenda as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 14, 2023 MEETING

Motion by Campbell, second by Skallerud to approve the November 14, 2023 minutes as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

COMMUNICATIONS ON FILE WITH THE BOARD

Motion by Weber to place all communications on file in the County Clerk's Office, second by Piasini. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS OR ELECTIONS

Forest County Library Board 3-Year Appointments – January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2026
Mary LeMaster & Carol Bartlein

Motion by Miller to appoint Mary LeMaster & Carol Bartlein for the 3-year appointments from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2026, second by Dehart. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES

Buz Anwash – Half Marathon

Mary Thornton was in to speak for Anwash as he was not available. She explained they would like to host a half marathon (13.1 miles) that would end at the FCPC Community Center, where they would have a lunch for all that attend the run. They are looking at the date of September 21, 2024 as it will coincide with Art in the Square and she feels it will bring an economic boost to the County. Start time would be 8:00 a.m. and they would like to do a combined trail and highway course. They are looking to other organizations to help and understand there will be permitting of the Highway portion of the race. She told the board they are in planning stages and are just asking for support.

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Chairpersons Report:

Gretzinger told the board that there are some serious resolutions on the table for tonight and the committees are asking for direction.

Campbell – Highway department is good and they just hired a couple new employees at the last meeting.

Chaney – Forestry is doing fine, right now they are looking at the park and what they can do for this next year. They would like to upgrade the boat landing and get a flag up.

Senator Felzkowski was in last week and the committee spoke to her about any ideas of helping the County out and she could not help. Tiffany is coming to a meeting with the committee as well on Wednesday, December the 20th. Chaney had the Clerk send in a request to Tammy Baldwin as well. There is hope if the Government gave the County back 50,000 acres, they would be able to generate an additional \$1 million a year.

Karl – Zoning is all good, people are still putting in septic systems. The Potawatomi is working on a 12-apartment complex by the race track.

Anderson – Social Services is looking good. Tracy is doing a fantastic job. She is working with the other counties on the reorganization of the Human Service Center and they are having interviews soon for a few open positions.

Personnel, is always busy.

Black – Health department is meeting this Thursday to discuss a possible merger to take place because Annette's contract is up in February and there are not viable candidates.

Lukas- Building met with Musson and Ayres to look at the layout he came up with for the complex, it is hanging up in the boardroom. They still do not have numbers on the Dome project yet. The dry suppression is getting close to getting done; waiting on quotes.

Finance has brought a resolution for a referendum that will be brought to the floor later.

Miller – Aging had the 85.21 public hearing, no one attended, so it went well. The department is up to 120 stock boxes and the next meeting will be with the ADRC.

Dehart – Fair is meeting on January 22, 2024, they are still looking into properties.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 86-2023 Offered by Personnel and Finance

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, that it hereby approves increasing the County's statutory levy limit beginning in fiscal year 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a county-wide referendum to exceed the County's statutory levy limit will be conducted and shall be held at a special referendum on April 2, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the question to be submitted to a vote of the people shall be as follows:

“Under state law, the increase in the levy of Forest County for the tax to be imposed for the next fiscal year, 2025, is limited to .865%, which results in a levy of \$6,195,000. Shall Forest County be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2025, for the purpose of continuing operations as needed to run the County, by a total of

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32.284%, which results in a levy of \$8,195,000, and on an ongoing basis, include the increase of \$2,000,000 for each fiscal year going forward?"

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County is authorized to take all additional action necessary to effectuate and carry out this Resolution.

Motion by Skallerud, second by Weber to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

Resolution 87-2023 Offered by Forestry and Recreation

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Forest County Board of Supervisors accept the recommendation of the Forestry and Recreation Committee and hereby accepts and approves the 2024 Forest County Forestry Department Annual Work Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Chapter 2000 of the 15 Year Comprehensive Land-Use Plan 2021-2035 be amended as set forth in Chapter 2000, paragraph 2100.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Forestry and Recreation Committee is directed to forward said amendment to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for their approval.

Motion by Dehart, second by Chaney to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

Resolution 88-2023 Offered by Forestry and Recreation

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we the Forest County Board of Supervisors in consideration of meeting the needs identified in our County Forest 15 Year Plan hereby request the Department of Natural Resources to provide the 2024 payment to the County under ss 28.11(8)(b)1 on the basis of 50 cents for each acre of our County Forest Lands;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerk is hereby authorized and directed to file this request with the Department of Natural Resources prior to December 31 preceding the year in which said payment is being requested to be made.

Motion by Chaney, second by Dehart to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

Resolution 89-2023 Offered by Finance

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that the initial improvements for the Courthouse project shall not exceed \$85,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above cost shall be taken from the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency fund.

Motion by Skallerud, second by Lukas to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

Resolution 90-2023 Offered by Finance

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, that new computers and accessories shall be purchased for the Highway Department at a price not to exceed the sum of \$6,155.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above cost shall be taken from the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency fund.

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Motion by Peterson, second by Piasini to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

Resolution 91-2023 Offered by Personnel

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that the Forest County Election Emergency Contingency Plan is approved in its entirety.

Motion by Skallerud, second by Chaney to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

Resolution 92-2023 Offered by Finance and Personnel

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Forest County Board of Supervisors that the total annual compensation for the County Treasurer, Register of Deeds, and County Clerk under Wis. Stat. § 59.22(1) shall be increased by 12% for 2025, 6% for 2026, 6% for 2027, and 6% for 2028.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the aforementioned county elected officials are entitled to participate in the Wisconsin Retirement System in accordance with law and the County shall pay only its share of contributions required by law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the aforementioned county elected officials are entitled to participate in the County's health insurance program subject to the terms and conditions of the program, which may be modified from time to time, under the same terms and conditions as the health insurance coverage offered to non-represented managerial county employees who are not law enforcement managerial employees or non-represented managerial employees described in Wis. Stat. § 111.70(1)(mm)2.

Motion by Lukas, second by Anderson to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

Resolution 93-2023 Offered by 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 \$20,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk's budget shall be amended to reflect the additional annual salary the County Clerk shall receive for performing Administrative Coordinator duties.

Motion by Anderson, second by Weber to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

Resolution 94-2023 Offered by Finance and Zoning

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that the new permitting software shall be purchased for the Zoning Office at a price not to exceed the sum of \$5,000.00 with the annual fee of \$7,500.00 for calendar year 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above purchase price and first annual payment shall be taken from the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency fund and thereafter the General Fund.

Motion by Karl, second by Miller to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

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Resolution 95-2023 Offered by Forestry

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Forest County Board of Supervisors that any excess tree donation funds shall be carried-over annually and placed in the Tree Donation Reserve Account.

Motion by Dehart, second by Campbell to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

Resolution 96-2023 Offered by Forestry

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Forest County Board of Supervisors that any excess playground equipment donation funds shall be carried-over annually and placed in the Playground Equipment Donation Reserve Account.

Motion by Weber, second by Skallerud to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

Resolution 97-2023 Offered by Personnel

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that an electrical design from the courthouse generator to the North Annex Building shall be completed at a fee not to exceed \$5,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above cost shall be taken from the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency fund.

Motion by Fulcer, second by Dailey to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2) Landru, Goode. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES

None

ANNUAL REPORTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Motion by Fulcer, second by Chaney to adjourn. All present voting AYE (16); Absent (2), Landru and Goode. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

These minutes are not official and are subject to change. They will be officially approved at the January 16, 2024 Forest County Board of Supervisors meeting.

Nora Matuszewski
Forest County Clerk