

FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDINGS
February 18, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular meeting of the Forest County Board of Supervisors was held on February 18, 2025, in the County Board Room at the Courthouse in Crandon, Wisconsin. Chairperson Skallerud 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: Augustin, Chaney, Decorah, Dehart, Dewing, Goode, Karl, Lukas, Piasini, Skallerud, Tallier, Weber, Wirtz

Absent: Dailey, Gretzinger, Landru, Marvin, Miller, Peterson; Vacant - Districts #7 & #14

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Weber, second by Wirtz to approve the agenda as presented. All present voting AYE (13); Absent (6); Dailey, Gretzinger, Landru, Marvin, Miller, Peterson. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 21, 2025 MEETING

Motion by Chaney, second by Piasini to approve the January 21, 2025 minutes as presented. All present voting AYE (13); Absent (6); Dailey, Gretzinger, Landru, Marvin, Miller, Peterson. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

COMMUNICATIONS ON FILE WITH THE BOARD

Motion by Goode to place all communications on file with the County Clerk's Office, second by Dehart. All present voting AYE (13); Absent (6); Dailey, Gretzinger, Landru, Marvin, Miller, Peterson. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS OR ELECTIONS

Appointment of Lloyd Fulcer – County Supervisory District#7

Motion by Goode to approve the appointment of Lloyd Fulcer to the Supervisory District #7, second by Tallier. All present voting AYE (13); Absent (6); Dailey, Gretzinger, Landru, Marvin, Miller, Peterson. Motion carried.

Appointment of Andrea Brugger – Human Services Committee

Motion by Weber to appoint Andrea Brugger to the Human Services Committee, second by Karl. All present voting AYE (14); Absent (6); Dailey, Gretzinger, Landru, Marvin, Miller, Peterson. Motion carried.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES

Chairperson Report:

Chris Shafer – Visit Forest County CEO

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The BEAD has a lot going on and Bug Tussel put out updates on projects in Forest County and throughout the State, which were distributed to board members before the meeting. The BEAD project is moving forward with about 70-80 million in funding for the Sokaogon Chippewa Community, there was an issue with the 25% match but, they requested a waiver for that from the Governor. In the mean time they are continuing work to meet the deadline of February 25th. Without the waiver the project will be “dead in the water.”

Shafer will not be available for the next County Board meeting because he will be at a Freedom Town meeting to talk about the room tax and them joining, he said they are the only town in Forest County that does not participate in the room tax.

Augustin – The Human Services is going well and with the first meeting done and into the second meeting they are working on contracts. This is the largest committee in the County with the Aging and ADRC also part of it.

Chaney – Forestry is going well with two active timber sales and one closing. There will be 7 new timber sales going out in the spring. They have the new truck ordered. Reservations are coming in for the park, GNA is coming in and the snowmobile trails are open.

Karl- Zoning is going well.

Chrisman – The highway is down three employees right now. They have applied for a grant for County Road S with the Potawatomi.

Lukas – The building projects are getting there. There is a delay in getting the security doors for the third floor; looking at a 13 to 14 week wait. The Entrance bids should be going on in the middle of March, after that the S. Annex, Old Jail/Sheriff residence.

Finance – The Finance and Personnel re-organized into one committee. The reasoning was because these two committees work together on almost all issues and the passing from one committee to another delays a lot of items that need to get done. With the new committee they have created several work groups to curb the long meetings. They created these work groups – Bug Tussel, Interview, Finance/Budget, Union Negotiations, HR Issues and Employee and Administrative Handbook.

Lukas asked if it was possible to write a letter to congratulate Sean Duffy on getting appointed to the Secretary of Transportation because of him being from Wisconsin. The thought that this is a very high appointment that has not been seen before. It was a consensus with the board to have Skallerud send a congratulatory letter to him.

Skallerud talked about the Ambassador program that he and Augustin attended in Madison. At the meeting they were able to meet with their legislatures to talk about concerns or ideas they had to help the Counties. They spoke to Felzkowski about the Mental Health Issues and building a regional center because all we have near to Forest County is Winnebago. They asked about additional State funding. They spoke to Mursau about the Highway CDL issues and the impacts of the Supplemental funding for Public Safety and keeping staffing at current levels. He told Mursau that we have One fully grant funded deputy, one partially funded and four fully funded by the Potawatomi. If they decide to create their own PD, nothing obliges them to continue to

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pay for the deputies they fully fund and what would happen to the County if that scenario played out, the County would be penalized and what does that look like, no one knows. Mursau was checking into this to fix this for the County. They also discussed the financial problems Forest County is facing. Skallerud told the board it was a good discussion and hopes good things come out of it. There is another legislative meeting on February 24th and February 25th he will also be attending and he will do what he can.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution – 06-2025 Offered by Finance

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Forest County Board of Supervisors that the Sheriff's Department budget shall be amended to carry over the funds into 2025 and the Capital Outlay money will be used to purchase a water softener for the Law Enforcement Center.

Motion by Lukas second by Goode to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (14); Absent (6); Dailey, Gretzinger, Landru, Marvin, Miller, Peterson. Motion carried.

Resolution 07-2025 – Offered by Forestry and Recreation

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS does hereby delegate to the Forestry and Recreation Committee, authority to make applications to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for funds appropriated for ATV/UTV 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 Dehart second by Karl to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (14); Absent (6); Dailey, Gretzinger, Landru, Marvin, Miller, Peterson. Motion carried.

Resolution 08-2025 Offered by Forestry and Recreation

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS does hereby delegate to the Forestry 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 Weber second by Goode to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (14); Absent (6); Dailey, Gretzinger, Landru, Marvin, Miller, Peterson. Motion carried.

Resolution 09-2025 Offered by Forestry and Recreation

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest County Board of Supervisors hereby approve the use of 2% of the timber sale revenue to be allocated in an account by the Forestry and Recreation Department for Forest Stewardship projects and land acquisition expenses.

Motion by Chaney second by Piasini to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (14); Absent (6); Dailey, Gretzinger, Landru, Marvin, Miller, Peterson. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance 01-2025 Offered by Forestry and Recreation

WHEREAS, the Forestry and Recreation Committee has the obligation of regulating the occupancy and use of developed recreational sites within the County Veteran's Memorial Park which is located on Lake Metonga near Crandon, Wisconsin, and

WHEREAS, the Forestry and Recreation Committee determined that it is necessary and desirable that an ordinance be adopted regulating the use and occupancy of the County's Veteran's Memorial Park to prohibit certain activities from taking place therein, and

WHEREAS, the Forestry and Recreation Committee has determined that the passing of such an ordinance is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of those persons engaging in recreational activities as well as to protect county lands, buildings, and structures.

WHEREAS, the Forestry and Recreation Committee has the obligation of regulating the occupancy and use of developed recreational sites within the County Veteran's Memorial Park which is located on Lake Metonga near Crandon, Wisconsin, and

WHEREAS, the Forestry and Recreation Committee determined that it is necessary and desirable that an ordinance be adopted regulating the use and occupancy of the County's Veteran's Memorial Park to prohibit certain activities from taking place therein, and

WHEREAS, the Forestry and Recreation Committee has determined that the passing of such an ordinance is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of those persons engaging in recreational activities as well as to protect county lands, buildings, and structures.

Motion by Wirtz second by Tallier to approve the resolution as presented. All present voting AYE (14); Absent (6); Dailey, Gretzinger, Landru, Marvin, Miller, Peterson. Motion carried. Ordinance Adopted.

ANNUAL REPORTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Motion by Fulcer, second by Augustin to adjourn. All present voting (AYE) (14); Absent (6), Dailey, Gretzinger, Landru, Marvin, Miller, Peterson. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

These minutes are not official and are subject to change. They will be officially approved at the March 18, 2025 Forest County Board of Supervisors meeting.

Nora Matuszewski
Forest County Clerk