

**MEETING OF THE IRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JULY 25, 2023**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Joe Pinardi at 6:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call taken, present: Hiller, Wolff, Hewitt, Pinardi, Francis, Youngs, Thomas, Haeger, Snyder, Krall, Hanson, Erickson, Sendra, Roberts, and Thompson. Absent: None. Student Representative present: Conner Bentley.

Clerk Michael Saari certified that the meeting was properly called and posted.

Motion by Roberts, seconded by Thomas to approve minutes of June 27, 2023 as presented. All aye.
Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Clerk told board that the budget process is now beginning with new clerk beginning next Monday.

Clerk also reported that a house on 18 Indiana Avenue in Montreal that the county took on a tax deed 2 years ago has been reclaimed by owner with a check in the amount of over \$5,500. Board will cancel the tax deed at the August 29th meeting.

COMMITTEE, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Thompson reported that the Forestry Committee did the annual tour of the county parks today. Thompson also reported that stumpage revenues as of today are \$864,967.89 while they were \$794,438.70 at the same time last year.

Hanson reported that an electronics pickup will be held on August 26th in both Hurley and Mercer from 9am until 1pm.

Hanson told board that Zoning permits are up from last year.

Hanson reported that work on the land purchased at the airport is proceeding with trees being cleared.

Roberts reported that the Finance Committee heard the presentation on new software for Zoning Department that is on tonight's agenda.

Roberts also reported that the generator problem in Mercer from mice building a nest inside is also on the agenda tonight for the board's consideration.

Finance considered employee raises and bonus proposal and the Highway trailer with safety equipment and send them both on to tonight's agenda.

Thomas reported that Extension's summer camp went well with good attendance and a new cook in place. Thomas reported that one of the campers used the electric wheelchair and that another is probably needed for the future.

Youngs reported that the Highway Department has been working on US 2 this summer and Highway Department is looking at purchasing a new low boy trailer using summer state revenues to pay for it. Mike Swartz is looking for funding to work on County Road H and interviews to replace Mike Swartz who's retiring at the end of the year are being scheduled for the near future from within the department staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Discussion held on purchase of Highway safety trailer with equipment included. Motion by Youngs, seconded by Snyder to approve purchase for \$23,566.10. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion held on software for our Zoning Department which will make their jobs easier and more efficient. Motion by Snyder, seconded by Thompson to approve purchase of software for Zoning Department at a cost of \$7,500 the 1st year and \$3,500 in year 2 and 3. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

Lengthy discussion held on proposed raises for county employees and possible bonus if carbon credits come to be later on in the year. Not much opposition to the proposed \$1/hour raise on January 1st but more pushback on \$1,040 bonus if carbon credits are collected by the county.

Motion by Snyder, seconded by Roberts to approve \$1/hour raise on January 1st and a \$1,040 bonus to all county employees including road deputies and elected officials once the carbon credits collected by the county exceed \$1.75 million. Roll call. Voting yes: Hewitt, Pinardi, Thomas, Haeger, Snyder Erickson, Sendra and Roberts. Voting no: Hiller, Wolff, Francis, Krall and Hanson. Abstaining from voting: Youngs and Thompson. Student Representative Conner Bentley voted yes. Motion carried.

Discussion held on replacement of Generac emergency generator for our Mercer tower site. Mice made a nest inside of generator box and destroyed the unit. Motion by Thomas, seconded by Wolff to replace Generac generator with the same unit at a cost of \$7,659.57 from Adams Generator. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

Rezone the following:

Rezone from an RR-1 (Residential Recreation) District to an R-3 (Rural Residential) zoned District, part of the SE ¼ of the NW ¼, NW ¼ of the SE ¼, and the SW ¼ of the NE ¼ except below the elevation of 1495', Section 11, Township 45 North, Range 2 East, Town of Carey, in accordance with the Asset Based Community Development Plan. Site address is Flowage Road. Kurtis & Cally Bucknell, owners.

Motion by Youngs, seconded by Roberts to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

Rezone the following:

Rezone from an F-1 (Forestry) District to an R-3 (Rural Residential) District, the NE ¼ of the SW ¼, Section 13, Township 45 North, Range 2 East, Town of Carey, to bring the property into accordance with the future land use plan. (Site address is 11101N Kuusisto Road). Joseph Stephani, owner.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Hanson to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

Rezone from an F-1 (Forestry) District to an A-1 (Agriculture) District, the SW ¼ of the NE ¼, Section 8, Township 46 North, Range 1 West, Town of Gurney, to bring the property into accordance with the future land use plan. (Site address is Cameron Road). Derrick Lauren, owner.

Motion by Francis, seconded by Hiller to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

Rezone from an F-1 (Forestry) District to and R-3 (Rural Residential) District, part of the SE ¼ of the SE ¼, Section 29, Township 44 North, Range 4 East, Town of Oma, in accordance with future Land Use Plan. Site address is 7698N County Road G. Patrick & Linda Hickman, owners.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Sendra to adopt. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Thomas, seconded by Thompson to appoint Kathy Brauer as Administrative Coordinator as of October 06, 2023 to replace Michael Saari, his retirement date. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Snyder, seconded by Thomas to accept the resignation of Opal Roberts from the board of supervisors and wish her all the best. All aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Pinardi appointed Karen Lauer to replace Opal Roberts on the board of supervisors. Motion by Hiller, seconded by Thompson to approve appointment of Karen Lauer to the Iron County Board of Supervisors. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Hiller, seconded by Krall to move into closed session per 19.85(1) c, Wisconsin Statutes to discuss personnel issues. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION HELD:

Motion by Snyder, seconded by Thomas to return to open session. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Hanson, seconded by Hiller to approve changing the part-time child support position to a full-time position beginning on January 01, 2024. Roll call. All aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Pinardi adjourned the meeting at 7:22 PM.

Michael Saari
Iron County Clerk