

The Florence County Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment on March 15, 2016. The meeting was called to order by the Chair. Members present were Supervisors: Bomberg, Dzekute, Kelley, Johnson, Steber, Theer, and Wenger. Excused: Supervisors Erickson, Halada, Neuens and Stratton. Absent: None.

Chairwoman Bomberg called for a moment of silence for the recently passed Jackie Halada. Ms Halada worked for the County and after her retirement served as a committee member for the Human Services and Housing Committees. All gave a moment of silence.

Moved by Supervisor Wenger seconded by Supervisor Theer to approve the Agenda. Ayes: Seven (7). Nays: None (0). Motion carried.

Moved by Supervisor Dzekute, seconded by Supervisor Steber to approve the minutes of the last meeting as read. Ayes: Seven (7). Nays: None (0). Motion carried.

Chairwoman Bomberg gave recognition to Barb Bauer, Florence County ADRC/Aging Director. Ms Bauer worked for the County for 37 years starting in 1979 at Forestry, UW Extension and Land Conservation. In 1992 she took on the role as the Aging Director and the program soared. She was always willing to take on extra duties and put in many hours to provide services for the people of Florence County. The Board thanks Ms Bauer for her service to Florence County and well wishes in her retirement.

Moved by Supervisor Kelley, seconded by Supervisor Wenger to approve the 2016 Emergency Fire Wardens for Florence County as recommended by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and in accordance with State Statute 26.12(3). Ayes: Seven (7). Nays: None (0). Motion carried.

Moved by Supervisor Johnson, seconded by Supervisor Steber approval to support the proclamation designating April as Alcohol Awareness Month in Florence County as recommended by the Board of Health. Ayes: Seven (7). Nays: None (0). Motion carried.

Moved by Supervisor Kelley, seconded by Supervisor Dzekute approval to authorize the County Board Chair to send a letter on behalf of the County Board expressing concern for the proposed nEXT Generation for Cooperative Extension as recommended by the Task Force Committee. Ayes: Seven (7). Nays: None (0). Motion carried.

Moved by Supervisor Wenger, seconded by Supervisor Kelley approval to adopt Resolution 2016-08 regarding the future direction on support of national and international initiatives that focus on understanding, preventing, and recovering from pollinator losses as recommended by Land Conservation Committee. Ayes: Seven (7). Nays: None (0). Motion carried.

RESOLUTION- 2016-08

REGARDING THE FUTURE DIRECTION IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES THAT FOCUS ON UNDERSTANDING, PREVENTING, AND RECOVERING FROM POLLINATOR LOSSES

WHEREAS, Pollinators contribute substantially to the economy of the United States and are vital to providing fruits, nuts, and vegetables in our diets and,

WHEREAS, Honey bee pollination alone adds more than \$15 billion in value to agricultural crops each year in the United States. and,

WHEREAS, Approximately 80 percent of all flowering plant species require pollination by animals, mostly insects, and they affect 35 percent of the world's crop production. and,

WHEREAS, Pollinators bring us an estimated one out of every three bites of food we consume. and,

WHEREAS, In the past few decades there has been a significant loss of pollinators, including honey and native bees, birds, bats, and butterflies, from the environment. For example, in recent years the U. S. has lost over 50% of their managed honey bee colonies and seen as much as 90% decline in the Monarch Butterfly population. and,

WHEREAS, The problem is serious and requires immediate attention to ensure the sustainability of our food production systems, avoid additional economic impact of the agricultural sector, and protect the health and functionality of the natural environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Florence County Board of Supervisors' are strongly in favor of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) support of national and international initiatives that focus on understanding, preventing, and recovering from pollinator losses including: 1) Increasing public awareness of the importance of pollinators and measures that can be taken to protect them; 2) Identification of best agricultural management practices for increasing and improving pollinator habitat and forage; 3) Development of pollinator-friendly seed mixes for restoration and reclamation projects; 4) Identification of best practices to reduce pollinator exposure to pesticides; and 5) Creating funding support for implementing pollinator best management practices and research.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to Governor Scott Walker, the DATCP Secretary Ben Brancel, Senator Tiffany, Rep Swearingen, National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), Kathy Stepp DNR, and Paul Long USFS. USDA, NRCS, Office of the Chief 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 5105-A Washington, DC 20250.

There being no further business and on a motion made, seconded, and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Trudell
County Clerk