

## **Florence County Legislative Advisory Committee**

Tuesday, September 4th – 9:00 a.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Courthouse, Florence, WI

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ed Kelley. Members present: Ed Kelley, Larry Neuens, Ken Davis, and Holly Stratton and Ron Yadro. Excused: Fred Erwin. **Approval of Agenda:** On a motion made by Larry Neuens, seconded by Ron Yadro and voted unanimous, the agenda was approved as posted. **Minutes:** It was moved by Holly Stratton and seconded by Ken Davis to approve the minutes of the July 2018 meeting as printed. Motion carried.

### **Department and Partner Agency/Organization Recommendations:**

**School Legislation:** Ben Niehaus School Superintendent was unable to attend the meeting due to the start of school. He sent an e-mail discussing school funding and school choice. This will be put on the agenda for the October meeting with discussion on possible minimum levels or floors which schools will not go below as funding School of Choice. Ron Yadro will talk to Mr. Niehaus about sending a letter inviting Mr. Evers to attend a future meeting to discuss funding formula.

**Town Concerns/Recommendations:** No discussion

**PILT Payments:** PILT Payments go to the Townships based on qualifying Federal Forest Lands. Townships in Florence County received a total of \$145,340 on 54796 acres in 2017. This money goes directly to the Townships.

**Forestry Mill Tax:** Ed Kelley read information he had from the Mill Tax Audit. The Forestry Mill tax was eliminated effective Jan. 1, 2107. He discussed the importance of this fund to things like the Gunnelson property purchase. After discussion it was moved by Holly Stratton and seconded by Larry Neuens to have Barb Bauer send an e-mail to County Forest Administrator Pat Smith referring this matter to Forestry & Parks as an agenda item. Motion carried.

**A.N.S.W.E.R.S. Meeting/Agenda:** Discussion was held on the next A.N.S.W.E.R.S meeting. The date will be Oct. 24, 2018 the fourth Wednesday of the month. Letters will be sent to County Board Chairs in adjoining Counties to try to generate a renewed interest in the group.

**Committee Concerns For Future Agenda Items:** Items identified were: School Funding/School of Choice, agenda for ANSWERS meeting and Gunnelson property purchase if new information available.

**Next Meeting Date/Adjournment:** The next meeting date will be set at the discretion of the Chairperson. It was moved by Larry Neuens and seconded by Ron Yadro to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edwin Kelley, Chairperson