

The Florence County Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment on February 20, 2024. The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:00 p.m. A quorum of members was present.

County Board Supervisors present: Bomberg, Brunette, Hedmark, Johnson, Kelley, Kellstrom, Mills, Modschiedler, Neuens, Theer and Wolosyn.

Excused: Supervisors Steber

Agenda

Moved by Supervisor Brunette to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Wolosyn.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Neuens to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Johnson.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Those Wishing to Address the Board

Michelle Yuhasey, President of the American Postal Workers Union 498-499 Area Local #1189-Newberry-Ironwood-Copper Harbor-Menominee-Niagara-Pembine-Florence, presented a packet for each member of the board on the issues with the US Postal Service. She talked about positions that are being eliminated, the services they are cutting, and why the mail is slow. She asked for County Boards support to bring back overnight mail and reduce all the mail delays that we see.

Supervisor Wolosyn asked for consensus from the Board to send this issue back to the Legislative Committee and create a resolution for County Board to adopt in support.

W2 Discussion

County Clerk will bring new W4's to the April 16 meeting for the new Board to fill out.

Land Information Council Appointments

Moved by Supervisor Johnson approval to appoint Lisa Smith-Florence County Abstracting, Chris Stebbins-Stebbins Land Surveying, Scott Goodwin-Florence County Land Conservationist, and Amanda Mulvey-Florence County Emergency Management/EMS Director to the Land Information Council.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Neuens.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

2024 Emergency Fire Wardens

Moved by Supervisor Johnson to approve the 2024 Emergency Fire Wardens in Florence County in accordance with State Statute 26.12(3).

Motion seconded by Supervisor Neuens.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Bay-Lake Regional Planning Professional Services Contract

Moved by Supervisor Wolosyn to approve a Professional Services Contract between the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission and Florence County, Wisconsin-Outdoor Recreation Plan Update as approved by the Forestry & Parks Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Neuens.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Supervisor Kellstrom asked to be added to the Outdoor Recreation Plan Update Steering Committee.

Land Transfer

Moved by Supervisor Modschiedler to approve the transfer of two parcels of land to settle potential adverse possession claims.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Brunette.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Resolutions

Moved by Supervisor Johnson to adopt Resolution #2024-01 to Establish Total Annual Compensation for County Elected Officials Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 59.22 as recommended by the Personnel & Audit and Budget Committees for their term of office from 2025 – 2028 with the following list of wages: Treasurer for 2025-\$51,538.68, 2026-\$52,569.45, 2027-\$54,146.53, 2028-\$55,770.93; Register of Deeds for 2025-\$51,538.68, 2026-\$52,569.45, 2027-\$54,146.53, 2028-\$55,770.93; County Clerk for 2025-\$59,085.42, 2026-\$60,857.98, 2027-\$62,683.72, 2028-\$64,564.23

Motion seconded by Supervisor Wolosyn.

Motion carried, with all voting “Aye” on a voice vote.

County Board Resolution No. 2024-01
Establishing Total Annual Compensation For
County Elected Officials Pursuant to Wis. Stat. §59.22

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §59.22(1), the Board must establish the total annual compensation for services to be paid to county elected officials (other than supervisors and circuit judges) prior to the earliest time for filing nomination papers for the county elective office; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to establish the total annual compensation for county elected officials, which is separate and distinct from the fringe benefits offered by the County to elected officials, and which fringe benefits are subject to increase or decrease during the officer’s term at the discretion of the Board and in accordance with state and federal law; and

WHEREAS, as part of the County’s fringe benefit program, county elected officials may participate in the Wisconsin Retirement System in accordance with state law; and

WHEREAS, as part of the County’s fringe benefit program, county elected officials may elect to receive health insurance coverage 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Florence County Board of Supervisors, that the total annual compensation for county elected officers under Wis. Stat. §59.22(1) shall be as follows, effective on the first day of a term of office that begins after the date of this Resolution:

<u>Elected Official:</u>	<u>Total Annual Compensation:</u>			
	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2028</u>
Treasurer	\$51,538.68	\$52,569.45	\$54,146.53	\$55,770.93
Register of Deeds	\$51,538.68	\$52,569.45	\$54,146.53	\$55,770.93
County Clerk	\$59,085.42	\$60,857.98	\$62,683.72	\$64,564.23

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.

Moved by Supervisor Mills to approve Resolution #2024-02 for Waterways Commission Project as recommended by the Forestry Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Kelley.

Motion carried, with all voting “Aye” on a voice vote.

WATERWAYS COMMISSION PROJECT
RESOLUTION 2024-02

WHEREAS,

Florence County hereby requests assistance for the purposes of, and or, performing a feasibility study for, developing recreational boating facilities, acquiring weed harvesting equipment, dredging a channel for recreation boating, acquiring aids to navigation or regulatory markers as described in an application, acquiring trash skimming equipment, and or chemical treatment for Water Eurasian Milfoil.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That Florence County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the study, project, or acquisition and HEREBY AUTHORIZES,

Patrick J. Smith, Administrator, and/or Mary Podnar, Business Manager, and/or Mat Gummin, Recreation Coordinator of the Florence County Forestry and Parks Department, to act on behalf of Florence County to: submit an application to the Wisconsin Waterways Commission for financial assistance, sign document, and take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That Florence County will comply with state and federal rules for the programs; may perform force account work; will maintain the complete project in an attractive, inviting and safe manner, will keep the facilities open to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility; and will obtain approval in writing from the Wisconsin Waterways Commission before any change is made in the use of the project site (if applicable).

Moved by Supervisor Theer to approve Resolution #2024-03 for Outdoor Motorized Recreation Aids as recommended by the Forestry Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Neuens.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

RESOLUTION 2024-03
OUTDOOR MOTORIZED RECREATION AIDS

WHEREAS,

Florence County is interested in acquiring, insuring, maintaining, or developing lands for Public Outdoor Motorized Recreation purposes as described in the application; and

WHEREAS,

Financial aid is required to carry out the project

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That Florence County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project, and

HEREBY AUTHORIZES,

Patrick J. Smith, County Forest Administrator, and/or Mary Podnar, Business Manager, and/or Mat Gummin, Recreation Coordinator of the Florence County Forestry & Parks Department to act on behalf of Florence County to; submit an application to the State of Wisconsin, Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available; sign documents, and take necessary action to undertake, direct, and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That Florence County will comply with State rules for the programs may perform force account work; will maintain the completed project in an attractive, inviting and safe manner; will keep the facilities open to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility and will obtain from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources approval in writing before any change is made in the use of the project site.

Moved by Supervisor Mills to approve Resolution #2024-04 for the Snowmobile Trail Maintenance and Development as recommended by the Forestry Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

RESOLUTION 2024-04
SNOWMOBILE TRAIL MAINTENANCE & DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Florence County is interested in maintaining, acquiring, insuring and developing lands for public snowmobile trail use; and

WHEREAS, said public snowmobile trails are eligible for funds under S.23.09(26) Stats.;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

that Florence County apply for funds under S.32.09(26),Stats., for such eligible maintenance, acquisition, insurance and development costs and hereby authorizes Patrick J. Smith, County Forest Administrator, and/or Mary Podnar, Business Manager, and/or Mat Gummin, Recreation Coordinator of the Florence County Forestry & Parks Department to act on behalf of Florence County to:

Submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available; sign documents; and take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

Moved by Supervisor Kelley to approve Resolution #2024-05 for County Fish & Game Project as recommended by the Forestry Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Brunette.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

COUNTY FISH AND GAME PROJECT
RESOLUTION 2024-05

Whereas, the Legislature of the State of Wisconsin enacted legislation providing for allocation to the respective counties in the state on an acreage basis for the county fish and game projects on the condition that the counties match the State allocation, and

Whereas, Florence County desires to participate in county fish and game projects pursuant to provisions of section 23.09(12) of the Wisconsin Statutes;

Therefore, be it resolved:

That the Florence County Board of Supervisors does hereby appropriate a matching allocation for such projects and such appropriations shall continue as long as matching state aids are available, or
Until this resolution is modified by the Board of Supervisors of Florence County;

Be it further resolved:

That the Forestry and Parks Committee of the Florence County Board of Supervisors be and hereby Authorizes Patrick J. Smith, Administrator, and/or Mary Podnar, Business Manager and/or Mat Gummin, Recreation Coordinator of the Florence County Forestry and Parks Department, to expend the funds hereby appropriated and the funds to be received from the State of Wisconsin, for the improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, and to operate and maintain or to cause to be operated and maintained the project for its intended purpose.

Moved by Supervisor Kelley to approve Resolution #2024-06 for Outdoor Recreation Aids as recommended by the Forestry Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Theer.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

OUTDOOR RECREATION AIDS
RESOLUTION 2024-06

WHEREAS, Florence County is interested in acquiring or developing lands for public outdoor recreation purposes as described in the application and

WHEREAS, financial aid is required to carry out the project;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Florence County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project or acquisition and

HEREBY AUTHORIZES Patrick Smith, Florence County Forestry and Parks Administrator, and/or Mary Podnar, Business Manager and/or Mat Gummin, Recreation Coordinator to act on behalf of Florence County to:

Submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available;

Submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within six month of project completion date;

Submit signed documents; and

Take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Florence County will comply with state or federal rules for the programs to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility; and will obtain from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources or the National Park Service approval in writing before any change is made in the use of the project site.

Committee Reports

Buildings & Ground Chair Modschiedler, addressed the Board about the Caring House, Iron Mountain, MI. Modschiedler said office space in the Courthouse is very tight and our new Emergency Medical Staff needed one more office located on the first floor due to radio interference with 911 calls. He said the Committee sent a letter two weeks ago informing the Caring House that the County was taking back the office they are currently in and offered them a better office space in the Human Service Department. He said the space in the lower level gave the Caring House more security and confidentiality for their clients that they did not currently have on the first floor. He said there has been no contact or attempt from the Caring House to move anything out. The consensus of the committee is to send another letter that is certified with a date for them to pick up their equipment and furniture.

Supervisor Brunette spoke with Forester Pat Smith about the Pine Dam and there are no new updates.

Chairwoman Bomberg spoke saying that Amanda Mulvey, Florence County Emergency Management/Emergency Medical Director, is doing an excellent job keeping the public informed with continued articles being published in the local Mining News and Iron Mountain newspapers.

Chairwoman Bomberg spoke with Forester Smith discussing the Carbon Credits program. She said that Smith received a proposal from Climate Trust and he will send the proposal to the Wisconsin DNR and our Attorney for further review. Smith is saying he should bring the proposal to County Board soon.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned by Chair at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Trudell
County Clerk/Administrative Coordinator