

# **FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDINGS**

**August 19, 2025**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular meeting of the Forest County Board of Supervisors was held on August 19, 2025, in the County Board Room at the Courthouse in Crandon, Wisconsin. Chair, Ron Skallerud called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present. Clerk, Nora Matuszewski, read the agenda.

## **ROLL CALL**

Present: Dailey, Decorah, Dehart (Teams), Dewing, Goode, Karl, Landru, Lukas, Marvin, Miller, Peterson, Piasini, Skallerud, Tallier, Thompson, Weber.  
Absent (3); Augustin, Fulcer, Wirtz. Vacant Seats: (2).

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Miller to approve the agenda, second by Thompson. All present voting AYE (16). Absent (3); Augustin, Fulcer, Wirtz. Motion carried.

## **APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 15, 2025 MEETING**

Motion by Miller to approve the July 15, 2025 minutes, second by Landru. All present voting AYE (16). Absent (3); Augustin, Fulcer, Wirtz. Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Michelle Gobert- 5030 Apple View Lane, Crandon, Wisconsin  
Gobert asked to address the Fairgrounds resolution. She understands why Forest County wants to cut ties with the property but, there is a concern for the taxpayers now. She asked that the County consider a "Right of Refusal" for the resolution.

Cheryl Hobbs – 108 S. Lake Ave., Crandon, Wisconsin  
Hobbs asked to address the Fairgrounds resolution. Her concern was once the land is gone and if the Ag Society dissolves does the land come back to the County. She has a non-profit "Helping Hands of Forest County" and she is looking for land for community projects. She said if the Ag Society goes back on their word, her non-profit could take the expense and use of the land for community services.

Amy Kuebler – 5923 Buck Road, Crandon, Wisconsin  
Kuebler asked to address the Fairgrounds resolution. She told the Board she is the head of the Horse and Pony 4-H. She works with children with disabilities; some have their own horses and some do not. She had a horse show that was separate from the Fair presented by the Ag Society and it was well attended and they filled the Fairgrounds. The program they have is wonderful and they help many children and in her profession she sees the bad side of children who are depressed and the program is very helpful for these children. If the land would come back to the County, could it be leased or purchased?

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## COMMUNICATIONS ON FILE WITH THE BOARD

Bug Tussel – Updates

Bug Tussel – Draw #2

Scott Feldt from Bug Tussel was present to update those in attendance where the projects are.

He updated those in attendance where they are in the projects and explained they did not apply for the BEAD, so, they received \$0.

Langlade County Comprehensive Plan

Motion by Goode to place the Langlade County Comprehensive Plan on file in the County Clerk's Office, second by Piasini. All present voting AYE (16). Absent (3); Augustin, Fulcer, Wirtz. Motion carried.

Forest Service Response – Forestry

The Forestry had approved a letter that was sent to the Forest Service and they received a letter back that they are willing to come to the table and have discussions with Forest County. Skallerud recommended a work group be formed to respond to the letter from the Forest Service. He asked for volunteers – Miller, Landru, Skallerud, Tallier, Karl and Dehart. Tallier told everyone this is the first meeting they have ever had with the Forest Service and it is very important to have a plan before responding or meeting with them. There are many ideas they have such as running campgrounds, GNA and Stewardship but, they need to meet as a work group before they meet with the Forest Service so, they have a good plan. Skallerud will respond to them by email that they want to meet.

Motion by Tallier to establish the work group to work on a plan for the meeting, second by Dehart. All present voting AYE (16). Absent (3); Augustin, Fulcer, Wirtz. Motion carried.

DOT Property Surplus – Disposal

This is right of way property and Chrisman told the Board it is not worth much.

Motion by Lukas to place the correspondence on file in the County Clerk's Office, second by Peterson. All present voting AYE (16). Absent (3); Augustin, Fulcer, Wirtz. Motion carried.

Forest Service – Chequamegon/Nicolet National Forest thinning

Motion by Weber to place the correspondence on file in the County Clerk's Office, second by Thompson. All present voting AYE (16). Absent (3); Augustin, Fulcer, Wirtz. Motion carried.

WCA – Board Rule changes

Motion by Dailey to place the correspondence on file in the County Clerk's Office, second by Thompson. All present voting AYE (16). Absent (3); Augustin, Fulcer, Wirtz. Motion carried.

November Annual Meeting – date change per statutes

Clerk just wanted the Board to know per statutes when the second Tuesday in November falls on the 11<sup>th</sup> (Veteran's Day), it is moved to the next day. The meeting in November will be set to Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

## APPOINTMENTS OR ELECTIONS

Letter of interest for District#2 – John Potters

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Potters introduced himself and gave some background of himself and his experience with County Government.

Motion by Weber to appoint John Potters to District#2, second by Goode. All present voting AYE (16). Absent (3); Augustin, Fulcer, Wirtz. Motion carried.

Resignation of District#12 board supervisor – Richard Wirtz

Motion by Peterson to accept the resignation of District#12 board supervisor, Richard Wirtz, second by Tallier. All present voting AYE (17). Absent (2); Augustin, Fulcer. Motion carried.

Health committee member resignation – Althea McMillion

Motion by Lukas to accept the resignation of Althea McMillion from the Health committee, second by Dewing. All present voting AYE (17). Absent (2); Augustin, Fulcer. Motion carried.

### PERSONAL APPEARANCES

Visit Forest County- CEO

Shafer started by thanking everyone that attended the golf outing. The Kentucky Days went great, the music fest put on by the Ferris' (Mark and Julie) went great and checks were handed out to the clubs to help with the bad winter they had for snowmobiling, last year. Shafer met with the Lt. Governor on August 7<sup>th</sup> and talked a lot to her about issues. Footstock just got over and Art in the Square will be held on September 20<sup>th</sup> with moving the vendors to Madison Street because of the construction on sight at the Courthouse. Next week is the Brush Run and the Labor Day parade, it will start with fly-over and there will be a Drone show at the track. Discover Wisconsin will be here for the week of September 6<sup>th</sup>. He talked about the BEAD grant and that it was sent back for a re-write and when they did that they went for the whole 72.4 million and they just found out they were awarded the full 72.4 million for the Broadband project.

Amber Rehberg – Digital Navigator Grant

Rehberg and Watson were both present to report on the NDIA grant and its success in Forest County. Their program will continue but, it will be taken over by another grant from Human IT and it will cover several counties.

Chairpersons Report

Zoning – Karl

Permits are down but, still ahead of normal years. Things have really slowed down as the season is winding down.

Forestry – The park's numbers are down but, the money is okay. There are several things that need to be updated at the park in the next budget year, one being the grass needs attention.

The department put out two (2) timber sales that they took back; none are active right now.

Sheriff & Justice – Marvin

The department is applying for a PSAP grant for about \$545,000, which is a 90/10 grant for the Dispatch Center.

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Highway – Short S is complete and Long S as well. Thank you to the Potawatomi for all the help they have given the Highway department.

Building – Lukas

There are three (3) projects being worked on right now. The security doors, West Entryway and Parking lots. The Entryway is in full swing. The Parking, he was not sure when they would be done.

ADRC/Aging – Miller

The committee is considering closing the Alvin meal site because the participation is not happening. By closing it the department can save around \$12,000 a year. The department has been having fundraisers and the recent bake sale brought in \$300, which will fund sixty (60) meals. They are planning two (2) more bake sales this year.

Human Services – Karl

Right now, they are working through some issues and trying to make some changes but, they are moving along.

Skallerud – Personnel and Finance is kicking off the 2026 budget work.

Conley (Treasurer) – The tax season went really well. They had a problem with the mail again where they had letters mailed on July 29<sup>th</sup> not received by the County until August 18<sup>th</sup>. This is a real problem and she is asking all of the Towns to do online payments.

### RESOLUTIONS/DECLARATIONS

#### **Resolution 44-2025 Offered by Personnel**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Forest hereby amends its Employee Handbook by adding language in the section entitled “D. Funeral Leave. Upon hire, in the event of the death of an immediate family member, the regular full-time employees shall be entitled to:

three (3) days, up to 21 hours of paid leave for 35-hour per week schedules

three (3) days, up to 22.5 hours of paid leave for 37.5-hour per week schedules

three (3) days, up to 24 hours of paid leave for 40-hour per week schedules

to attend the funeral or services for purposes of this policy only,” and last sentence of the paragraph to be amended to, “In the case of a family member, friend, partner, or significant other not listed about, the employee will be allowed to use:

one (1) day or up to seven (7) hours per day for 35-hour per week schedules

one (1) day or up to seven and ½ (7.5) hours per day for 37.5-hour per week schedules

one (1) day or up to eight (8) hours per day for 40-hour per week schedules

of leave for the purpose of funeral.”

Motion by Landru to approve the resolution as presented, second by Peterson. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (2) Augustin, Fulcer. Motion carried.

#### **Resolution 45-2025 Offered by Building and Public Property**

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest County Board Chairman shall sign a deed gifting and transferring the real estate commonly referred to as the Forest County Fairgrounds to the Forest County Agricultural Society, Inc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the conveyance of real estate referred to above is contingent upon Forest County being released from the restrictive covenants associated with the real estate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the money remaining in the fair reserve account after paying the real estate closing expenses and 2025 non-budgeted, under budgeted expenses shall be given to the Forest County Agricultural Society, Inc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any previous resolutions associated herewith are hereby null and void and replaced by this resolution.

Motion by Weber to approve the resolution as presented, second by Marvin. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (2) Augustin, Fulcer. Motion carried.

## ORDINANCES

None

## ANNUAL REPORTS

2023 Financial Audit

2024 Financial Audit

Motion by Weber to place the 2023 and 2024 Financial Audits on file in the County Clerk's Office, second by Marvin. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (2) Augustin, Fulcer. Motion carried.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Motion by Miller to adjourn, second by Potters. All present voting AYE (17); Absent (2) Augustin, Fulcer. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

These minutes are not official and are subject to change. They will be officially approved at the September 16, 2025 Forest County Board of Supervisors meeting.

Nora Matuszewski  
Forest County Clerk