

**LAND RECORDS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
 January 12, 2021  
 Oneida County Courthouse  
 Second Floor – Committee Room 2  
 Rhinelander, Wisconsin 54501

Committee Members	Bill Liebert	Sonny Paszak
Mike Timmons	Greg Pence	Greg Oettinger

**Call to Order.**

Chairman Paszak called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in accordance with the Open Meeting Law noting that the meeting notice was properly posted and the location is handicap accessible. All committee members were present.

**Public comments.**

There were no comments from the public.

**Approve amended for today’s meeting.**

Liebert pointed out that the parcel identification number in item 8 for Schmitz has a typo, it should be NE-210-1. Liebert expressed his concern with getting the information for the amended agenda the day before the meeting and he was not able to open the PDF attachments.

Motion/Timmons/Oettinger to approve today’s amended agenda. The motion passed with 4 votes in favor and 1 against.

**Approve minutes of Land Records December 8, 2020 meeting.**

Motion/Pence/Timmons to approve minutes of the December 8, 2020. All ayes.

**Monthly bills, line item transfers, purchase orders, monthly budget summary, non-budgetary item requests, and vouchers.**

Franson reviewed monthly bills and expenses for the Register of Deeds.

Motion/Timmons/Oettinger to approve monthly bills, expenses and vouchers, as presented by the Register of Deeds. All ayes.

Romportl reviewed monthly bills and expenses for the Land Information Office.

Motion/Timmons/Oettinger to approve monthly bills, expenses and vouchers, as presented by the Land Information Office. All ayes.

Romportl reviewed the line item transfers for the Land Information Office.

Motion/Pence/Paszak to approve line item transfers, as presented by the Land Information Office. All ayes.

**Staff member’s attendance at land-related meetings/seminars.**

No upcoming meeting attendance for Register of Deeds. Romportl and Hilgendorf of the Land Information Office requested approval to virtually attend the Wisconsin Land Information Association (WLIA) Annual Conference at the end of January.

Motion/Liebert/Oettinger to approve Romportl and Hilgendorf to virtually attend the Annual WLIA Conference. All ayes.

**Real Property, Tax & Permit application software implementation by Transcendent Technologies status.**

Romportl reported that tax bill processing is complete. Romportl indicated with the amount of data converted into the new system, we were pleased with how well things were transferred. The majority of Town Clerks and Treasurers gave positive feedback in regards to imputing their rates, and reported their collections are going very well. The next steps will be getting settlements to the Treasurer, and the workbooks to the Assessors. The permitting application may possibly be delayed, due to illness and personal issues within the key departments who are heavily involved with the transition. We will know by the end of January if the target date of April is a possibility go live, or if the permitting implementation will have to wait until next year. Regardless of delay, or not, the fees will remain same and Transcendent Technologies will not start charging maintenance until the permitting applications have been begun.

**Update on county owned properties currently being offered for sale**

Romportl updated the committee on the condition of the Range Line Road parcel in Crescent. It is worse than previously thought. The basement walls are bowed in places, there is roof leakage, and a significant amount of debris scattered through the dwelling. If people want to view the inside, we advise them to wear protective gear and sign a waiver.

**Request by adjoining landowner(s) listed below to purchase excess county lands adjacent to road(s) and/or reconsider resolution to convey the excess lands:**

Schmitz, Northwestern Dr, Town of Newbold, Part of Parcel # NE-210-1; NE-SE, Section 21, T37N-R8E. Schmitz is a standard request for excess county lands along a road.  
Motion/Timmons/Paszak to approve the resolution as presented for Schmitz requesting land adjoining Northwestern Dr. and forward to County Board as a consent agenda. All ayes

Sulzer, River Rd, Town of Lake Tomahawk, Part of Parcel # LT-566-4; NW-SW, Section 7, T38N-R7E. Sulzer is a standard request for excess county lands along a road.  
Motion/Oettinger/Timmons to approve the resolution as presented for Sulzer requesting land adjoining River Rd. and forward to County Board as a consent agenda. All ayes

RJFS, LLC, Pine Lake Rd, Town of Pine Lake, Part of Parcel # PL-417-3; NE-NE, Section 17, T37N-R9E. RJFC, LLC is a standard request for excess county lands along a road.  
Motion/Pence/Paszak to approve the resolution as presented for RJFC, LLC requesting land adjoining Pine Lake Rd. and forward to County Board as a consent agenda. All ayes

Klopacz, Willow Rd, Town of Lynne, Part of Parcel # LY-536-7; SW-NW, Section 34, T36N-R4E. Klopacz is a standard request for excess county lands along a road.  
Motion/Oettinger/Pence to approve the resolution as presented for Klopacz requesting land adjoining Willow Rd. and forward to County Board as a consent agenda. All ayes

**Geographic Name Proposal, to request name or change the name of the following lakes, rivers or creeks:**

- Name a 2.9 acre unnamed lake to King George Lake; located in Section 31, T39N-R10E, Town of Sugar Camp, as submitted by the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council.  
Request was submitted by a resident to honor King George Sheldon, who was a Forester for the Rhinelander Paper Mill.
- Change the names of Squaw Lake & Squaw Creek to Ikwe Lake and Ikwe Creek. Squaw Lake located in Section 33, T40N-R4E and Sections 4, 8, 9, 16, 17, T39N-R4E. Squaw Creek located in Sections 36, T40N-R3E and Section 30, T39N-R4E  
Request was submitted by the Ojibwa Tribe in Lac du Flambeau. Romportl spoke with Mark Hartzheim, Chair of the Town of Minocqua, who feels that the local land owners should have a say in the renaming of Squaw Lake and Squaw Creek. This will also have a major impact on road names, such as W. Squaw Lake Road and E. Squaw Lake Road.
- Correct the spelling of Wickham Lake, Section 19, T35N-R9E  
Request is to correct the spelling. The DNR master waterbody list has it recorded as Vickham Lake. Likely a scrivener's error.

Discussion ensued on why the Committee or County is involved, and the concern of how or why some of the names were selected. Romportl explained that the Geographic Council is headed by the State DNR. Anytime there is a geographic feature name change, there is an application process that happens at the State level. In 2017, the County adopted Chapter 24, which gives guidance as to the notification process, and how this process is to be followed at the County level. The State/DNR reviews applications in November and forwards to the counties in December; then we make a recommendation in regards to the changes. The requests this year were delayed, due to them inadvertently being sent to Oneida County, New York. Oneida County, WI did not receive them until December 14<sup>th</sup>, which does not allow adequate time to meet the requirements of the Oneida County ordinance. Deadline to reply back to the State is February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Motion/Timmons/Pence to recommend the Geographic Name Council postpone any action of the Sugar Camp and Minocqua locations, until the fees are paid and a public hearing is held, following Oneida County Ordinance § 24.01 Geographic Feature Names, and due to inadequate notice. In addition, proceed with the change for Wickham Lake, as it was a scrivener's error. All ayes

**Public comments.**

Romportl introduced Tara Ostermann, the new Treasurer, as of January 4, 2021. Tara updated the committee on her background and experience with the new Transcendent Technologies software.

**Date of next meeting and items for agenda.** The next meeting will be February 9, 2021 at 9:30am

**Adjournment.** Adjourn the meeting at 10:31 A.M.

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Sonny Paszak

Chair Land Records Committee

Michael J. Romportl

Staff Chair