

LAND RECORDS COMMITTEE MEETING
 April 13, 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 9:31 a.m. in accordance with the Open Meeting Law noting that the meeting notice was properly posted and the location is handicap accessible. Liebert arrived at 9:49am. Dave Schmidt, Friends of Town Line Park, was in attendance. Dave Selissen, SR/WA, from Right of Way Professionals, Inc., was present via Zoom.

Public comments.

There were no comments from the public.

Approve agenda for today’s meeting.

Motion/Timmons/Oettinger to approve today’s agenda. All ayes.

Approve minutes of Land Records March 9, 2021 meeting.

Motion/Pence/Oettinger to approve minutes of the March 9, 2021. 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 Register of Deeds.
Motion/Timmons/Pence to approve monthly bills, expenses and vouchers, as presented by the Register of Deeds Office. All ayes.
 Romportl reviewed monthly bills, expenses, and line item transfers for the Land Information Office.
Motion/Paszak/Timmons to approve monthly bills, expenses, line item transfer and vouchers, as presented by the Land Information Office. All ayes.

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

Franson noted that all attendance has been attended virtually for the Register of Deeds. Romportl reported the WLIA conferences will be held virtually throughout the month of May and the Land Information staff will attend, as needed.

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

Romportl reported that the permit application is currently in the data structure stage, in hopes of being rolled out early next year. Overall, things are going well.

2020 Annual Report Land Information and Register of Deeds

Romportl provided copies of the Land Information Annual Report and explained the information contained therein to the committee members.
Motion/Paszak/Pence to accept 2020 Land Information annual report and forward to County Board. All ayes.
 Franson provided the Register of Deeds Annual Report and explained the information contained therein to the committee members.
Motion/Timmons/Oettinger to accept 2020 Register of Deeds annual report and forward to County Board. All ayes.

Update of 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.
- Change the names of Squaw Lake & Squaw Creek to Amber (Ikwe) Lake and Amber (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
- Correct the spelling of Wickham Lake, Section 19, T35N-R9E

Romportl supplied handouts of the letter he sent to the Geographic Name Council, under the guidance of Corporation Counsel. He attended the Geographic Name Council meeting via Zoom and sent an email to the Committee to update them as the local news media was covering the story.

Squaw Lake had local participation at the Council meeting, both in favor and against the proposed name change. The chairman of the Geographic Name Council stated that the Council believes it does not have a requirement to have approval from a County Board for a name change, except when there is a duplicate name within the State. The Council made the recommendation to change the name of Squaw Lake to Amber Lake.

The request to change the name of an unnamed lake to King George Lake was rejected, due to the lake being under the required 10 acres, in addition to not having enough support.

The spelling of Wickham Lake will be changed, due to it being a clerical spelling error.

The recommended changes made by the Geographic Name Council will be forwarded to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, which will happen in the next few months, where action will be taken to make the official name changes.

Motion/Timmons/Liebert for Romportl, with guidance from Corporation Counsel, to write a letter to the Geographic Name Council, and include our local representatives, to strongly urge a change in their policy and procedure to recognize local and County opinion, regardless if there is a duplicate name change, or not. All ayes.

Public Comment – Dan Butkus present via Zoom, stated that he is looking to see a standardization for naming, for example, the islands on Squash Lake. On Google Maps, they are Big and Little Island. The County and DNR have them named as Marshall and Scrub Oak Island per a recorded document. He understands the process is in flux and will stay tuned for updates.

WisDOT Real Estate acquisitions for Project ID: 9261-07-20 Highway 32 in Section 24, Township 38 North, Range 11 East, and consider resolution to grant request.

Romportl provided maps and handouts indicating the area where the designated easements would be and explained the request for the culvert improvement for Scott Creek. The County owns the 100' strip lands on both sides of the road. The initial offer of \$250, discussed at the March meeting, was increased to just over \$700, based on the WI State Statute Chapter 32 that requires compensation to be based on the loss and fair market value of the property, in addition to the fact that the easement is only temporary. The new offer does include a \$500 administrative fee, required by Chapter 18 of the Oneida County ordinance. Dave Selissen, SR/WA, from Right of Way Professionals, Inc., acting on behalf of the State of Wisconsin, was present on Zoom to answer questions.

Motion/Timmons/Oettinger for Romportl to bring a Resolution to the May meeting to approve the WisDOT request for a fee of \$700. All ayes.

County owned easement road located in Sections 6 & 7, T38N R10E – Parcel #s SU-1686-1 & SU-1743 off Indian Lake Rd.

Romportl reported the parcel/road was taken by a tax foreclosure in the early 1990s. Per State Statute and opinion by Corporation Counsel, the County is not responsible to maintain the road. About two years ago, the land owners were contacted about transferring the road to the Town Road, but any fees incurred for bring road up to town road specs would be assessed to land owners. That request was rejected. Romportl noted the parcel/road is being brought back into discussion because of a recent inquiry to cut trees.

Motion/Timmons/Liebert for Romportl, with guidance from Corporation Counsel, to write a letter to the land owners, asking them to form a road association, so Oneida County can convey the road, subject to the continued use. All ayes.

Request from Friends of Town Line Park to locate a bike trail across County owned lands near Hanson Lake, Section 2, Township 36 North, Range 8 East, parcel numbers CR-20 & CR-21.

Romportl distributed a map, letters, and a formal request by the Friends of Town Line Park, along with a brief history of the parcel. Dave Schmidt from Friends of Town Line Park was introduced. Schmidt reported that after the group was formed, they polled the community, via Facebook, with suggestions for improvement to Town Line Park. The biggest concern was access to the park from trails along Hwy 47. A private party has already given permission to access the park through their property, which would leave the remaining trail to be routed through the County parcel. Schmidt emphasized this is only the initial stage of the proposal - prior to engaging maps, routes, engineers and cost, and he is asking for support from the committee.

Motion/Pence/Liebert to support the preliminary project, subject to formalization of the trail with the other groups, including Forestry, and reserve the right to relocate the trail. All ayes.

Closed session - It is anticipated that the committee may meet in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85 (1) (e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. A roll call vote will be taken to go into closed session and it is anticipated that the committee will return to open session by roll call vote to consider the remainder of the meeting agenda.

a) **Topic: Parcel off Air Park RD being part of Certified Survey Map # 5001 in GL 1 (NE-NE) Section 11 and GL 11 (SE-SE) Section 2, Township 36 North, Range 8 East, City of Rhinelander.**

b) **Approve closed session minutes of December, 8, 2020.**

Motion/Timmons/Oettinger to enter into closed session at 11:24am. Roll call vote. All ayes.

Motion/Timmons/Pence to approve the Closed Session minutes from December 8th meeting. By roll call vote, All Ayes.

A roll call vote will be taken to return to open session and may ratify any matters(s) discussed in closed session.

Motion/Oettinger/Pence to return to open session at 11:52 AM. Roll call vote. All ayes.

Announcement of any action taken in closed session.

None

Public comments.

There were no comments from the public.

Date of next meeting and items for agenda. The next meeting will be May 11, 2021 at 9:30am

Adjournment. Adjourn the meeting at 11:53 A.M.

Sonny Paszak

Chair Land Records Committee

Michael J. Romportl

Staff Chair