

**- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -**

**September 26, 2005**

**Bayfield County Announces Railroad Right-Of-Way  
Quit Claim Process**

On Tuesday, August 30, 2005, the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors reviewed and approved Resolution 2005-034 relevant to the Railroad Right-of-Way. The resolution disavows the County's interest in the portion of the railroad right-of-way "North of the City of Washburn's North Boundary and all the way into 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in the City of Bayfield". The County's Tourism Department is directed to identify other portions of the right-of-way not needed for recreational trails and provide a report back to the County Board for further action. The County is continuing this review south of Washburn.

County Administrator, Mark Abeles-Allison states that "This resolution is in the best interest of Bayfield County and it's citizens. This action releases county interests where current and future trails are not planned"

Bayfield County has established a process for property owners between Washburn and Bayfield to obtain Quit Claim Deeds relevant to the railroad right-of-way. Property owners must provide photo identification with signature along with the legal description of the property in person to the County Administrator's office together with an administration fee of \$50.00. The fee covers actual expenses involved with issuing the quit claim deed(s) and associated documentation. The county will verify that the property is traversed by the railroad grade and is located between Washburn and Bayfield. The County Administrator's office will prepare the Quit Claim Deed with property and property owner information and will forward the documents to the property owner for signature, which must be notarized. The property owner will also be notified of the cost for recording the documents (determined by the number of pages). The document(s) must be returned to the County Administrator's office along with the recording fee. The documents will be signed by the County Clerk and County Board Chairman and will be recorded with the Register of Deeds office. Original documents and receipt for payment will be returned to the property owner.

Sample documents and the procedure will be available on the County Administrator's section of the County Web Site at [www.bayfieldcounty.org](http://www.bayfieldcounty.org), or by contacting the Bayfield County Administrator's Office located at 117 East Fifth Street, PO Box 878, Washburn, WI 54891. 715-373-6181.