

Resolution

No. 2019-45

AUTHORIZING MATCHING FUNDS FOR BAYFIELD COUNTY "BUILD" GRANT PROJECT ON COUNTY HIGHWAYS A & N

WHEREAS, Bayfield County maintains 172 miles of county highways; and

WHEREAS, Forestry is a critical industry for Bayfield County; and

WHEREAS, Bayfield County annually places road weight limit restrictions on county highways during the spring break-up to protect roads which negatively impact the ability of the logging industry to access and transport forest product; and

WHEREAS, County Highways A and N provide access to thousands of acres of forestland that supplies timber for forest products; and

WHEREAS, funding for highways is important. Scarce resources make funding difficult. Bayfield County has annually dedicated additional resources to highway projects, and

WHEREAS, over the past five years both the Bayfield County Board and the Citizens of Bayfield County have ranked Highways as the number one priority of the County during the annual budget process and budget survey; and

WHEREAS, maintenance and upkeep of roadways are of regional concern to support the forest industry; and

WHEREAS, alternate funding mechanisms are important to supplement the county's ability to properly maintain county roads; and

WHEREAS, the US Department of Transportation BUILD program offers matching grant funds for economic development projects and in May 2018 the Bayfield County Board authorized submittal of an application to the BUILD grant program for reconstruction of County Highways A and N to all season road standards; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost for the project is \$28,750,000 dollars encompassing 22 miles of county highway reconstruction, and

WHEREAS, this improvement project would have a significant economic development impact on Bayfield County Communities and businesses in addition to improving safety and reducing maintenance costs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Bayfield County Board, this 25th day of June 2019 will commit and hereby encumbers \$3.75 million (13%) toward this project over a period of five years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Bayfield County has previously supported efforts at the state level to raise additional funds for county highway reconstruction and that the Bayfield County Board hereby petitions the Governor, the Assembly, and Senate of the State of Wisconsin to pursue supplemental funding for county highways in Wisconsin.

By Action of the:

Rayfield County Board of Supervisors

Dennis M. Pocernich, Chair

STATE OF WISCONSIN)) ss

COUNTY OF BAYFIELD)

I, Scott S. Fibert, Bayfield County Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Volume 26, adopted by the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors at their meeting held on the 25th day of June

Scott S. Fibert, Bayfield County Clerk