

October 2, 2025, Special Board Meeting

U-328

Thursday, October 2, 2025, at 4:00 p.m., Chairperson Mark Stauber called the meeting to order. The meeting was held at Cooks Run. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present; Chairperson Mark Stauber, Commissioner Ean Bruette, Jacob Conery, Pete Judd, Patti Peretto.

Also present: Sheriff Ryan Boehmke, Undersheriff Bob Reid, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti, and Clerk/Register Amy Donati .

Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items Only (3 minutes max):

Richard Sloat gave comment on the wetland in the Cooks Run area.

Sara Basso asked the County Commissioner to weigh the pros and cons when discussing logging the Cooks Run area.

Sean Pierce gave comment about possibly turning Cooks Run into a Nature Center that will allow non-motorized vehicle.

New Business and possible action upon:

Corrections Union Contract: Moved by Bruette, supported by Judd to approve the Corrections Union Contract and have Board Chair Mark Stauber sign.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Conery, Judd, Peretto, Bruette, Stauber

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Budget Amendment to increase Admin office equipment from Contact APA, \$1,500.00: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve the budget increase 101-223-978.000 Office Equip/Computer \$1,500.00; decrease 101-229-703-599 Contractual A.P.A \$1,500.00.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Judd, Peretto, Bruette, Conery, Stauber

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Cooks Run Forestry Updates: Brock VanOss, VanOss Forestry: Gave thorough detailed description of the logging process, why forest management is extremely important, what the process would look like if the Cooks Run property were to be harvested and answered questions from those that attended in detail.

Kari Divine, Renewable Resource Solutions: Gave detailed description of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), explaining the perpetual growing and harvesting of trees with the long-term protection of wildlife, plans, soil and water quality. Also, answered any questions from those that attended in detail.

After Discussion no action was taken.

Guest Speakers:

Paul Erving, Renewable Resource Solutions: No Comment

Michael Paling, American Bird Conservancy: No Comment

Elanor Niemi, Iron Baraga Conservation District: Niemi introduced herself and offered

Don Litner, Iron County Watershed Council-Cooks Run Steering Committee: Expressed interest in putting forth a Proposal in the November BOC for the Iron County Watershed Council to assist the County in getting more individual to use the Cooks Run Property.

Becky Jorgneson, Iron County Watershed Council-Cooks Run Steering Committee: No Comment

Sara Basso, Iron County Watershed Coalition: No Comment

Maggie Sheffer, Iron County Watershed Coalition: Asked that the County Commissioners listen to public opinion and to please do what they can to protect the Cooks Run area.

Public Comments (3 minutes max):

Richard Sloat gave comments on the wetlands around the Cooks Run area. Asking for these sensitive areas not be logged.

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to adjourn the meeting, All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Chairperson, Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register Amy Donati