



Resolution

No. 2021-56

Supporting and Authorizing Matching Funds for Bayfield County “RAISE” 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 in Wisconsin and the United States; *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 a top 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, Bayfield County has proposed a “replace in kind” construction method to keep costs to a minimum; *and*,

WHEREAS, the US Department of Transportation RAISE program offers matching funds for economic development projects and in May and June 2021 the Bayfield County Board authorized submittal of an application to the RAISE grant program for reconstruction of County Highways A and N to all season road standards; *and*,

WHEREAS, Bayfield County has extensive tourism and a strong interest in electric vehicles however there are **no** fast-charging stations in Northern Wisconsin; *and*

WHEREAS, the Bayfield County project will include multiple Electric Vehicle Charging Stations along the project routes, entrances and exits.

WHEREAS, the estimated cost for the entire project is \$13 million dollars for reconstruction of 16.4 miles of highway reconstruction on County Highway A including Electric Vehicle Charging Stations along the route AND as part of this overall project Bayfield County will contributing \$1 million to convert the recently reconstructed six-mile section of County Highway N to upgrade it to an all- season road.

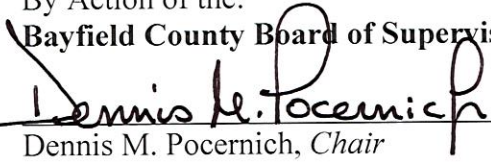
WHEREAS, this improvement project would have a significant economic development impact on Bayfield County Communities and businesses in addition to improving safety and reducing maintenance costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors assembled this 29th day of June 2021, will commit and hereby encumbers \$1.5 million toward this project over a period of up to seven years in addition to the \$1 million on County Highway N; for a total of \$2.5 million towards this project *and*,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors full supports this RAISE project, including All Season Road Economic Development and Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations.

By Action of the:

Bayfield County Board of Supervisors


Dennis M. Pocernich, *Chair*

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF BAYFIELD)

I, Lynn M. Divine, *Bayfield County Clerk*, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2021-56, Volume 29, adopted by the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors at their meeting held on the 29th day of June 2021.


Lynn M. Divine, *Bayfield County Clerk*