

RESOLUTION #78-2014

Resolution offered by the Supervisor Alan Van Raalte, District 20.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, many lakes and flowages in Oneida County are created by dams, whether located within the boundaries of the county or outside; and

WHEREAS, threats to those dams was raised as an issue in various district races in the 2014 Oneida County Board Supervisor election; and

WHEREAS, lakes and flowages formed by those dams create recreational opportunities within the county that help to bring tourism revenue into the county; and

WHEREAS, many businesses within the county depend on those tourism revenues; and

WHEREAS, the county treasury benefits from sales tax revenue generated by that tourism; and

WHEREAS, tourism accounts for the equivalent of approximately 2,000 full-time jobs which greatly benefit the economy of the county; and

WHEREAS, many residential properties are also located along the shores of those lakes and flowages; and

WHEREAS, those residential properties are prime locations and are assessed at higher levels than are non-waterfront properties; and

WHEREAS, the property tax revenue generated by those waterfront properties are critical to the treasuries of the towns in which they are located and to the county and;

WHEREAS, at least two area paper mills are located on the shores of flowages because of the need for adequate water supplies for the production of paper products; and

WHEREAS, those paper mills provide employment to many Oneida County residents that benefit the local economy; and

WHEREAS, removal of those dams would have detrimental and far reaching consequences to the economy of Oneida County; to the ability of Oneida County to adequately meet its statutory obligations to the residents of the county; and to the general welfare of the county, its residents and its taxpayers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that an ad hoc Committee to determine the threat(s) to those dams, the source of the threat(s) and the appropriate action to mitigate the threat(s) shall be created; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that that committee shall be composed of the following: 5 county board supervisors, 1 each from the following committees: Forestry, Land and Outdoor Recreation; Land Records; Conservation and UW Extension Education; Planning and Development, and County Board 2nd Vice Chair who shall function as committee chair; and 3 Department heads, or their designee, from the Forestry Department; Land Records Department; and Land Conservation Department as non-voting members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall submit a report to the County Board as a whole a report of its findings, including economic impact, and recommendations on how best to mitigate the threat of dam removal within 6 months of its convening or the regularly scheduled County Board meeting in June, 2015, whichever is first.

Vote Required: Majority = _____ 2/3 Majority = _____ 3/4 Majority = _____

The County Board has the legal authority to adopt: Yes _____ No _____ as reviewed by the Corporation Counsel, _____, Date:

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Approved by the Supervisor Alan Van Raalte this _____ day of _____ , 2014.

Consent Agenda Item: YES NO

Offered and passage moved by: _____
Supervisor

Seconded by: _____
Supervisor

- _____ Ayes
- _____ Nays
- _____ Absent
- _____ Abstain
- _____ Adopted

by the County Board of Supervisors this _____ day _____ , 2014.

_____ Defeated

Mary Bartelt, County Clerk

David Hintz, County Board Chair