

**RESOLUTION #34-2016**

Resolution offered by the Supervisors of the Forestry, Land, and Recreation Committee

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

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the 2015-2017 state budget (2015 WI Act 55, Section 9132, page 642), the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) must develop a proposal to move the headquarters of the Division of Forestry (FR-HQ) to a location north of U.S. Highway 10; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to identify plausible locations in northern Wisconsin to facilitate the relocation of the Division of Forestry, the WDNR is currently seeking input from municipalities interested in having the FR-HQ located in their domain; and

**WHEREAS**, by relocating the Division of Forestry to the "Northwoods" where the bulk of the state's forest resource and associated timber industry is located, should dramatically improve the efficiency of the forestry division by reducing travel distance and response time; and

**WHEREAS**, Oneida County offers a unique combination of being centrally located in the core of the state's forest resource, while having the necessary infrastructure in place to efficiently accommodate the day to day operation of the Division of Forestry; and

**WHEREAS**, Oneida County's role as being the central hub of the state's forest products industry is self-evident by the following agencies: Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, the WDNR Northern District Office, Wisconsin County Forest Association, the Great Lakes Timber Producers Association, Ponsse-North America, the American Legion Highland Forest – (Wisconsin's largest State Forest), and the field office of the Wisconsin Commissioners of Public Trust Land (BCPL), all choosing to locate their headquarters within Oneida County; and

**WHEREAS**, the relocation of the Division of Forestry to Oneida County would have an immediate and long lasting positive impact to our local economy through the infusion of approximately 50-70 high paying jobs, support staff, and their associated families relocating to our area, and the trickle-down effect of said agency conducting daily business within Oneida County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that Oneida County approves of, and would welcome, the relocation of the State Division of Forestry to any municipality located in Oneida County; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that upon adoption of this resolution the Forestry, Land, and Recreation Committee, and/or their duly appointed agent is directed to submit this resolution along with any associated support material deemed necessary the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for their consideration.

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:

Approved by the Forestry, Land, and Recreation Committee this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

Consent Agenda Item: **YES** **NO**

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Offered and passage moved by:

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Supervisor  
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Supervisor  
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Supervisor  
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Supervisor  
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Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_ Ayes

\_\_\_\_\_ Nays

\_\_\_\_\_ Absent

\_\_\_\_\_ Abstain

\_\_\_\_\_ Adopted

by the County Board of Supervisors this \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_ Defeated

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Bartelt, County Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Hintz, County Board Chair