Resolution to Support distribution of Indian Gaming Funds

Whereas, Tribal Gaming Compacts contain language that reads that the State will make “best efforts” to assure that monies paid to the State shall be spent on several different items including “Support of programs and services of the County in which the Tribe is located” and,

Whereas, poorer counties and towns in northern Wisconsin continue to face difficult times in maintaining among other things their local roads and providing public safety services. They often are not eligible for state and federal funding because they cannot even raise the local match requirement, and

Whereas, northern counties and towns with Indian casinos experience additional wear and tear on their roadways and need additional highway safety equipment, and

Whereas, to meet both the intent of how some of tribal gaming revenue is to be used and to meet the growing roadway needs in counties and towns in northern Wisconsin with Indian tribal casinos, it is proposed that a grant program be created, and

Whereas, Tribal Gaming Revenue is estimated to increase by almost $2.7 million annually in the next biennium, and

Therefore grant to each county with an Indian casino and containing the headquarters of the tribe an increase in their county road aids by $125,000 annually. This item and the item below are to be funded from the growth in Indian Gaming funds, and

Therefore grant an additional $125,000 to be divided between the towns in these counties. The towns grant will be divided equally between the town in which the tribe’s headquarter is located and the towns that border the town having the tribal headquarters, and

Therefore funds granted may be used directly for road improvements, as a match for qualifying for other state funds that need a local match, or for equipment needed to respond to emergency calls, and

Therefore these funds are to have no impact on the regular road aids these counties and towns receive, and further
This Resolution is recommended for adoption by the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors at its meeting on May 16, 2019, by this Sawyer County Finance Committee on this 9th day of May, 2019.

Bruce Paulsen, Chairman

Ron Kinsley, Vice Chair

Brian Bionette

Troy Morgan

Wm. R. Voight

Bill Voight

This Resolution is hereby adopted by the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors this 16th day of May, 2019.

Tweed Shuman

Sawyer County Board of Supervisors Chairman