

LANGLADE COUNTY



RESOLUTION #42-2017

INTRODUCED BY: FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE

INTENT: SUPPORT FOR A SEGREGATED FUNDING SOURCE FOR WISCONSIN FORESTRY PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, The Forestation State Tax (Mill Tax) was enacted in the 1930's for the purpose of acquiring, preserving and developing the forests of the State and has served as a segregated funding source for the Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry and for grants and assistance to county forests and other programs that support, enhance and protect forest management, forest health and the timber industry; and

WHEREAS, the Mill Tax has served to support the State's \$24 billion forest products industry and helped support the State's \$20 billion tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, the 2017-2019 Wisconsin State Budget proposal includes a provision to eliminate the Mill Tax and replace this forestry funding source with State General Purpose Revenues; and

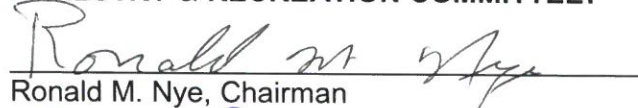
WHEREAS, forestry interests will likely be unable to compete with education, transportation, health care and other high priority services for general purpose revenues in future budgets; and

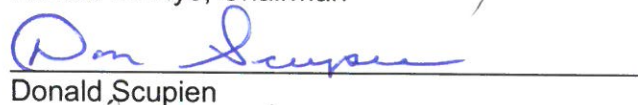
WHEREAS, revenues to the Mill Tax Program have increased significantly in recent years and it appears as if numerous expenditures from this account do not meet the intent of this segregated funding program.

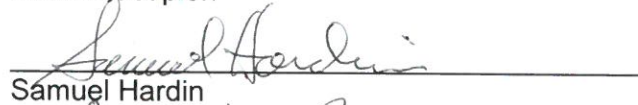
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Langlade County Board of Supervisors requests a full audit of the Forestry Account to determine expenditures that are appropriate to the forestry intent of the program;


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Langlade County Board of Supervisors supports retaining the Forestation State Tax but at a level more appropriate to funding Wisconsin's core forestry services as identified in S.S. 70.58 (1). The Langlade County Board of Supervisors would support alternatives to the mill tax that are a segregated, permanent revenue source to help fund Wisconsin's vitally important forestry and timber industries.

FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE:


Ronald M. Nye, Chairman


Donald Scupien

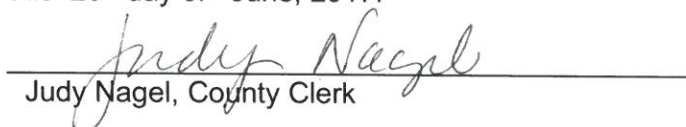

Samuel Hardin


Joseph Novak III


Duff Leaver

Fiscal Note: No Fiscal Impact.

Adopted by the County Board of Langlade County,
this 20th day of June, 2017.


Judy Nagel, County Clerk