

Resolution 18-21

**In Support of Adding a Specific Reference in Wis. Stat. § 70.11(2)
to Property Owned by Regional Planning Commissions as Exempt from Real Property Taxes**

WHEREAS, Regional Planning Commissions are created pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 66.0309 by the Governor upon petition of local units of government and are comprised of Counties and Municipalities located within their defined geographical area; and

WHEREAS, Regional Planning Commissions are granted broad powers in order to address the "physical, social and economic development of the region", which may include holding title to real property for such purposes; and

WHEREAS, Member Counties provide funds annually to Regional Planning Commissions for the purpose of meeting operational expenses pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 66.0309(14); and

WHEREAS, Dissolution of a Regional Planning Commission would require that "all outstanding indebtedness of the commission has been paid and all unexpended funds returned to the local unit which supplied them" pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 66.0309(15); and

WHEREAS, Regional Planning Commissions are therefore a direct instrument of and created for the benefit of the counties and municipalities that fund them; and

WHEREAS, all Real Property, Including Real Property owned by Wisconsin Regional Planning Commissions, is subject to the application of Wis. Stat. § 70.11 for the purpose of obtaining property tax exempt status; and

WHEREAS, because Wis. Stat. § 70.11(2) specifically references other joint "districts" of communities, such as joint water authorities created under § 66.0823, but not specifically planning commissions created under § 66.0309, ambiguity exists as to whether or not planning commissions qualify for exemption under § 70.11(2); and

WHEREAS, Regional Planning Commissions are created by local units of government and its assets are constructively assets of those local units of government.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that to rectify the existing ambiguity in Wis. Stat. § 70.11(2) the following language be added to specifically include Regional Planning Commissions as an additional exemption under this statute: "regional planning commissions created under Wis. Stat. § 66.0309"; and

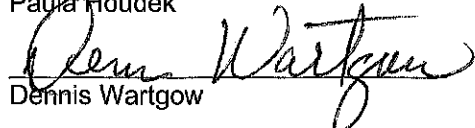
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC) strongly encourages and supports the State Legislature in amending Wis. Stat. § 70.11(2) to include a specific reference of Regional Planning Commissions as exempt entities for the purpose of real property taxation, and

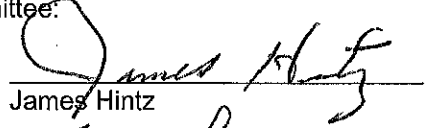
BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Wisconsin Counties Association, members of the Wisconsin Assembly and Senate representing the NWRPC region, and the member counties of the Northwest Regional Planning Commission.

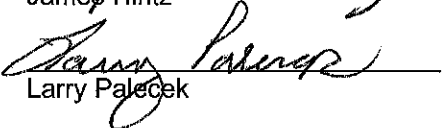
Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee:


Robert D. Kopisch, Chair

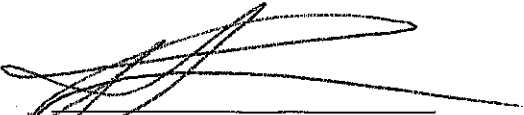

Paula Houdek


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James Hintz


Larry Palecek

Reviewed by County Administrator:


Nicholas Trimner

Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 18th day of May 2021.


Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair


Jean Gottwald, County Clerk

For: 13 Against: 0