

RESOLUTION 2021-72

*Paragraph*

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 other 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 Regional Planning Commissions requires that “all outstanding indebtedness of the commission has been paid and all unexpended funds returned to the local units 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,

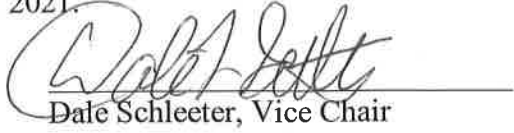
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that to rectify the existing ambiguity in Wis. Stat. 70.11(2) the following language be added to specifically include Regional Planning Commissions as an additional exemption under this statute: **“regional planning commissions created under Wis. Stat. 66.0309”**, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Sawyer County 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

45 **BE ALSO RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Wisconsin Counties  
46 Association, Senator(s) Petrowski and Bewley, Representative(s) Edming, and the other  
47 members of the Northwest Regional Planning Commission.

48  
49 Recommended for adoption by the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors at its meeting on May  
50 20, 2021, by this Administration Committee on May 13, 2021.

51   
52 \_\_\_\_\_  
53 Tweed Shuman, Chairman

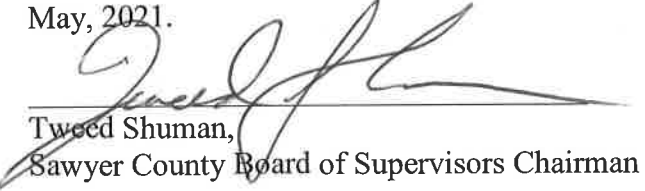
  
54 \_\_\_\_\_  
55 Dale Schleeter, Vice Chair

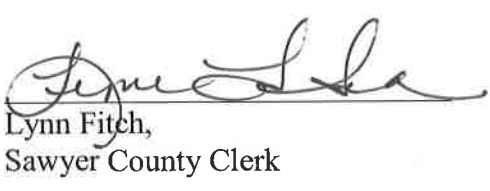
56 \_\_\_\_\_  
57 James Schlender, Supervisor

58 \_\_\_\_\_  
59 Ron Kinsley, Supervisor

60 \_\_\_\_\_  
61 Tom Duffy, Supervisor

62  
63 This Resolution is hereby adopted by the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors this 20<sup>th</sup> day of  
64 May, 2021.

65   
66 \_\_\_\_\_  
67 Tweed Shuman,  
68 Sawyer County Board of Supervisors Chairman

  
69 \_\_\_\_\_  
Lynn Fitch,  
Sawyer County Clerk