

The Iron County Comprehensive Planning/Land & Zoning Committee met in the County Board Room of the Iron County Courthouse in Hurley, WI on Tuesday, January 20th, 2026. Committee members present were Chairman Patrick Hanson, Karen Lauer, Doug Swartz, Rick Boes and Kurt Wolff. Also in attendance, Larry Youngs, County Board Chairman and Erika Roeder, Zoning Department Administrator. Assistant Zoning Administrator Mark Marczak, GIS Specialist, Neil Martinko.

Hanson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Roeder acknowledged the meeting was properly posted.

Motion to approve 12/09/2025 minutes by Lauer/Swartz; carried 5-0.

Conditional Use Hearing: Director Roeder shared that the required Public Notice of this hearing was sent on time for publication, but the newspaper failed to include it. The Hearing is now pushed to the February 17th, 2026, Zoning Committee meeting. The Town of Anderson has already approved the conditional use at their January meeting.

GIS Updated: presented by Neil Martinko. Martinko states grants were approved and total \$106,000. Continues to work on the land splits and working with Clara Maki in the Treasurer's office on the Tax Lister end of year program completion. Once this is completed and submitted it will ensure eligibility for future grand opportunities.

Boathouse Discussion: Director Roeder shared the responses from the various lake associations in Iron County. The response was approximately a 50/50 on whether Iron County should allow flat roof boat houses. Discussion continued whether more time should be taken to research. Concerns were expressed by committee members on the monitoring of the boathouses and owners creating more problems than Zoning can monitor or correct. Roeder asked the committee "what happens in 5 years when this turns into neighbors complaining about parties etc...". Boes replied we would then have to rely on the local town's ordinance. Ultimately the committee decided to no longer pursue input as changing this ordinance not seem wise as it will potentially create more issues from a land use perspective (impervious surface issues) and an ordinance issue of keeping the "peace", in the future.

Administrator's Report: Director Roeder stated 2025 finished off 35 permits short of the previous year but the 2026 permits are already trending 14 ahead of where we were at this time last year. She went on to state Zoning continues to work on getting software set up so residents will be able to apply and pay online with a credit card. Roeder would also like to begin working in the office to create a more efficient space for both staff and residents. A counter space area for residents to work on is on the list as well as moving staff as I.T. will be moving to one of the vacant offices.

Public Comment: No public comment

Approval of Bills: Chairman Hanson reviewed the bills for Zoning, which were more than they usually are, but Director Roeder spelled out the end of year payments due as well as one last contracted payment that will not reoccur as that contract has been completed.

Set Next Meeting Date: Next Zoning Committee meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 17th at the Iron County Courthouse, main Board Room.

Adjourn: Chairman Hanson made the motion to adjourn. Wolff approved, seconded by Boes. Meeting adjourned.

DRAFT