

Wisconsin County Forests Association

Joe Waichulis
President
Clark County

Phil Schneider
Vice President
Rusk County

Bill Bialecki
Treasurer
Lincoln County

Bill Schradle
Director
Barron County

Rick Seefeldt
Director
Marathon County

Hank Novak
Director
Marinette County

Jeff Olsen
Director
Bayfield County

Lolita Olson
Director
Washburn County

Mike Beyer
Director
Oconto County

Henry Sullivan
Director
Florence County

Chris Sybers
Director
Burnett County

Joe Muehlbach
Director
Vilas County

Michael Luedeke
Director-at-Large
Spooner, WI

Jeff Barkley
Director-at-Large
Madison, WI

Henry Schienebeck
Director-at-Large
Rhineland, WI
Rebekah Luedtke
Executive Director

February 3, 2026

Honorable Assembly Committee on Ways and Means Members

Representative O'Connor
Representative Armstrong
Representative Franklin
Representative Penterman
Representative Jacobson

Representative Kaufert
Representative Brooks
Representative Gustafson
Representative Bare
Representative Fitzgerald

RE: AB619 – Forestry Revitalization Act

The Wisconsin County Forests Association (WCFA) is writing in support of AB619, which aims to financially support a new wood consuming facility in Hayward. This new sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) facility will create high quality jobs for the local community, support the logging and trucking contractors of greater Wisconsin, and help the forests in the Great Lakes region by gaining an important buyer for harvested timber resources.

WCFA represents the 30 counties in Wisconsin with County Forest lands established under state statutes §28.10. Collectively, these 30 counties manage over 2.41 million acres of forests, the largest public ownership in our State. These counties are a major contributor to public land management and rural economic development, and are also highly valued because they provide a reliable source of raw materials for the forest products industry, as well as a tremendous amount of recreation opportunities and abundant wildlife habitat.

Sustainable forests, outdoor recreation and public land management are vitally important to Wisconsin's economic health. Strong and healthy markets are the avenue in which these things are provided. The forest products industry is the 2nd largest for output in Wisconsin, supporting more than 126,000 jobs and contributing over \$42 billion annually to the State's economy.

However, according to the USDA Timber Product Output Survey, Lake States Pulpwood Data, between 2000 and 2019, and exacerbated by the housing market collapse of 2008, the Great Lakes region has lost 20 pulp mills and 4 composite panel mills, equaling a loss of 2.2 million cords being harvested off the landscape annually. Combined with the 2020 loss of Verso's two mills, which consumed roughly 25% of the total raw material harvested in Wisconsin (+/- 600,000 cords annually), there is now a deficit of 2.8 million cords being put into the market each year in the Lake States region. That's over 230,000 truckloads of wood! Furthermore, there hasn't been a new mill built in the region in that timeframe to offset those losses.

801 N. Sales Street, Suite 107
Merrill, WI 54452
715-539-1097

rebekah@wisconsincountyforests.com
www.wisconsincountyforests.com

Wisconsin County Forests Association

Recent numbers from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) show that timber volume sold from county forests has dropped from 1,062,600 cord equivalents in 2019 (pre-Verso) to 774,880 cord equivalents last year in 2025, a 27% drop. Many counties use revenue generated from timber sales to balance budgets and financially support other services and programs important to residents and visitors of our counties. The significant loss of volume sold equates to less revenue for the counties to meet budgets and furthermore less revenue provided to the townships. The volume sold by the DNR has fallen off even farther – a 39% reduction between 2019 and 2025, a combined reduction of 427,700 cord equivalent between county forests and the DNR, or over 35,600 truckloads of wood annually.

Continual loss of wood markets puts sustainable forest management, including the viability of our healthy forests, in jeopardy. Active sustainable forest management, including timber harvests, provide healthy forest conditions, robust wildlife habitat, clean water resources and offer numerous outdoor recreation amenities and services afforded primarily from timber sale revenues. In Wisconsin, the County Forest programs bring revenue into county coffers to not only fund their programs but to also supplement county wide budgets. For example, the Forestry and Parks department in Rusk County is responsible for 25% of their county's annual operating budget. Other county departments and services, and possibly tax levies, could be significantly impacted if revenues of harvested timber, due to lost markets, fall considerably.

In addition to economic setbacks, counties, and the citizens of Wisconsin, will likely see additional negative environmental and socio-economic impacts as well if markets do not rebound. Simply put, healthy markets equal healthy forests. Healthy forests equal healthy watersheds, healthy wildlife habitat, healthy outdoor tourist opportunities and healthy rural economies.

To that end, the new SAF facility won't just benefit the forests and forest industry of Wisconsin but all of us who live in and recreate in our great State. We all need this facility. Forestry isn't just our job but our passion, our pride and our way of life. We implore you to help keep Wisconsin and the Lake States a national leader in forest products and natural resource management by supporting AB619, the Forestry Revitalization Act.

Lastly, enclosed you will find resolutions from eleven northern counties supporting the bill, further stressing the importance of healthy wood markets.

Ashland	Burnett	Clark	Douglas	Florence	Lincoln
Oconto	Rusk	Sawyer	Taylor	Washburn	

Thank you for your time and consideration in these matters.
Sincerely,



Rebekah Luedtke
Executive Director
Wisconsin County Forests Association

801 N. Sales Street, Suite 107
Merrill, WI 54452
715-539-1097

rebekah@wisconsincountyforests.com
www.wisconsincountyforests.com



RUSK COUNTY

ROLL CALL Board Members	AYE (Yes)	NAY (No)	Abstain / Excused
1. ALEC HAMPTON	✓		
2. JERRY BILLER	✓		
3. KATHY HALBUR	✓		
4. JOHN MOORE	✓		
5. TERRY WEDWICK	✓		
6. VACANT			
7. SUZANNE VOHS	✓		
8. TOM CUDO	✓		
9. PHIL UNTERSCHUETZ	✓		
10. ANTON ZIESLER	✓		
11. PHIL SCHNEIDER	✓		
12. JIM MEYER	✓		
13. KURT GORSENER	✓		
14. JEREMY VINCENT	✓		
15. TOM HANSON	✓		
16. LOIS GOODE	✓		
17. DAVE WILLINGHAM	✓		
18. MIKE RUSSELL	✓		
19. RON FREEMAN	✓		
TOTAL	18	0	

BOARD ACTION

Vote Required: Majority Vote of a Quorum

Motion to Approve Adopted ☒
 1st Vincent Defeated ☐
 2nd Schneider
 No: 0 Yes: 18 Exc:

Reviewed by:

_____, Corp. Counsel

Reviewed by:

_____, Finance Director

FISCAL IMPACT: (Note if there is any fiscal impact or not)

Certification:

I, Connie Meyer, Clerk of Rusk County, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on the 28 day of October, 2025 by the Rusk County Board of Supervisors.


Connie Meyer
County Clerk, Rusk County

RESOLUTION # 71-25

FORESTRY REVITALIZATION ACT

TO THE RUSK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1 **WHEREAS**, certain state legislators from northern Wisconsin are introducing bill
2 language which would create the Forestry Revitalization Act, authorizing incentives for
3 aviation biofuel manufacturing, which has a skyrocketing demand in Europe; and
4

5 **WHEREAS**, this legislation provides incentives for the construction of an approximate
6 \$1.5 billion sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) plant in Hayward, Wisconsin by enumerating
7 \$60 million as a WEDC Enterprise Zone Tax Credit and \$150 million of state bonding
8 repaid through the Forestry Segregated Account; and
9


10 **WHEREAS**, the mill facility is intended to be fueled by forest products, which will
11 likely increase demand for sustainably grown products from the Rusk County Forest and
12 many other suppliers, while creating an estimated 150 additional jobs in the region.
13

14 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors
15 hereby supports the legislation supporting the development and construction of a
16 sustainable aviation fuel plan at Hayward; and
17

18 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution, and a letter of support, will be sent
19 to local state legislators, bill sponsors and co-sponsors, and the office of the Governor of
20 Wisconsin.
21
22

SUBMITTED BY:

Rusk County Forestry Committee


Phil Unterschuetz, Chairman


Phil Schneider, Vice-Chair


Jerry Biller


Alec Hampton


Kathy Halbur

Resolution # 2025-23

Forestry Revitalization Act

WHEREAS, certain state legislators from northern Wisconsin are introducing bill language which would create the Forestry Revitalization Act, authorizing incentives for aviation biofuel manufacturing, which has a skyrocketing demand in Europe; and

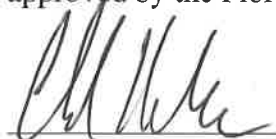
WHEREAS, this legislation provides incentives for the construction of an approximate \$1.5 billion sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) plant in Hayward, Wisconsin by enumerating \$60 million as a WEDC Enterprise Zone Tax Credit and \$150 million of state bonding repaid through the Forestry Segregated Account; and

WHEREAS, the mill facility is intended to be fueled by forest products, which will likely increase demand for sustainably grown products from the Florence County Forest and many other suppliers, while creating an estimated 150 additional jobs in the region.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Florence County Board of Supervisors hereby support the legislation supporting the development and construction of a sustainable aviation fuel plant at Hayward; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, and a letter of support, will be sent to local state legislators, bill sponsors and co-sponsors, and the office of the Governor of Wisconsin.

Submitted for adoption this 8th day of October, 2025 by the Florence County Forestry Committee and approved by the Florence County Board of Supervisors this 21st Day of October, 2025.:

 10-21-2025

Chad Hedmark, Chair,

Date

Florence County Board of Supervisors

 10-21-2025

Donna Trudell,

Date

Florence County Clerk



RESOLUTION



Resolution Number R01-2026-1529

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FORESTRY REVITALIZATION ACT

WHEREAS, certain state legislators from northern Wisconsin are introducing bill language, which would create the Forestry Revitalization Act, authorizing incentives for aviation biofuel manufacturing, which has a skyrocketing demand in Europe; and

WHEREAS, this legislation provides incentives for the construction of an approximate \$1.5 billion sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) plant in Hayward, Wisconsin by enumerating \$60 million as a WEDC Enterprise Zone Tax Credit and \$150 million of state bonding repaid through the Forestry Segregated Account; and

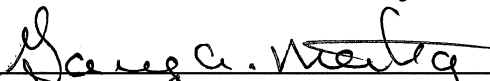
WHEREAS, the mill facility is intended to be fueled by forest products, which will likely increase demand for the sustainably grown products from the Ashland County Forest and many other suppliers, while creating an estimated 150 additional jobs in the region.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ashland County Board of Supervisors hereby supports legislation supporting the development and construction of a sustainable aviation fuel plant in Hayward; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, and a letter of support will be sent to local state legislators, bill sponsors and co-sponsors, and the office of the Governor of Wisconsin.

Adopted by the Ashland County Board of Supervisors, Ashland, Wisconsin on this 27th day of January, 2026.

By Action of the **Ashland County Board of Supervisors**:



Gary A. Mertig, Ashland County Board Chair

CERTIFICATION

I, Heather W. Schutte, County Clerk of Ashland County, hereby certify that the above and foregoing resolution/ordinance is a true and correct copy adopted by the Ashland County Board of Supervisors on this 27th day of January, 2026.



Heather W. Schutte, Ashland County Clerk

RESOLUTION No. 39 -2025

**RESOLUTION OF THE SAWYER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SUPPORTING THE WISCONSIN FORESTRY REVITALIZATION ACT**

WHEREAS, the forestry industry is a cornerstone of Wisconsin's economy, supporting over 100,000 jobs statewide and generating billions of dollars annually in economic activity; and

WHEREAS, Sawyer County is home to vast public and private forest lands that are essential to our economy, environment, recreation, and way of life; and

WHEREAS, sustainable forestry practices preserve clean water, clean air, wildlife habitat, and outdoor recreation opportunities for residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Forestry Revitalization Act has been introduced by Senator Mary Felzkowski and Representative Chanz Green to strengthen the forestry sector by investing in workforce development, modernizing infrastructure, improving forest health and wildfire resilience, and expanding markets for forest products; and

WHEREAS, the Act includes a major project: a proposed woody-biomass facility in Hayward, Wisconsin, to turn forestry residue (bark, branches, cutter shavings, tree tops, etc.) into sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) and naphtha. This facility is projected to involve approximately \$1.5 billion in private investment.

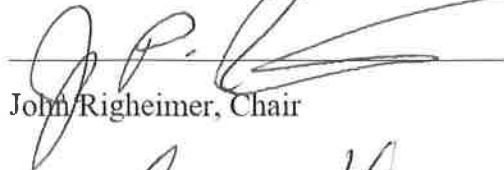
WHEREAS, in support of this facility, the State of Wisconsin will commit \$210 million in incentives and bonding, specifically including \$60 million in WEDC Enterprise Zone Tax Credits and \$150 million in state bonding (via the forestry account).

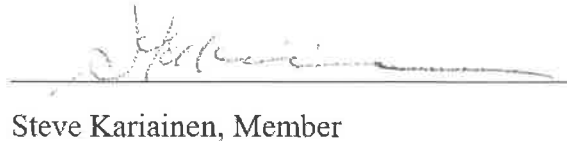
WHEREAS, the facility is expected to create high-paying, local jobs (estimate up to 150 jobs at the plant and another 200 jobs in surrounding industries) and generate significant annual economic impact for northern Wisconsin, especially benefiting loggers, truckers, forest-based landowners, and related sectors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its strong support for the Wisconsin Forestry Revitalization Act, including the state's investment of \$210 million in incentives and bonding, and urges the Governor and members of the Wisconsin State Legislature to enact this legislation as presented;

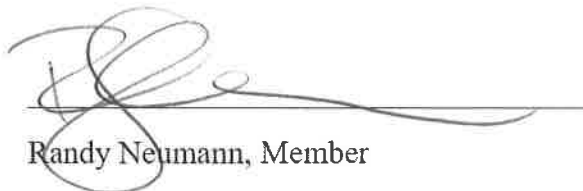
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of Wisconsin, the members of the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly representing Sawyer County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and other stakeholders supportive of revitalizing Wisconsin's forestry industry.

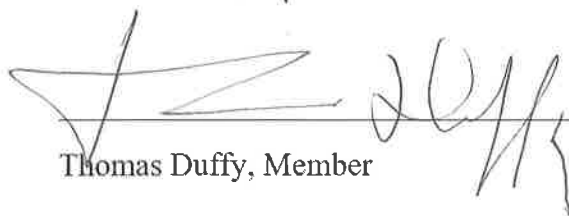
This Resolution is recommended for adoption by the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors at its meeting on October 16, 2025, by this Sawyer County Economic Development & UW-Extension Committee this 6th Day of October, 2025


John Righeimer, Chair


Steve Kariainen, Member

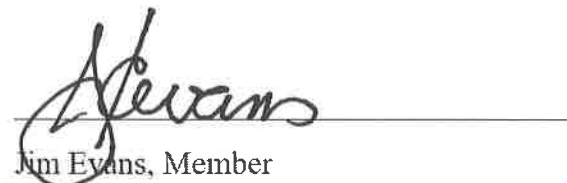

Stacey Hessel, Vice Chair

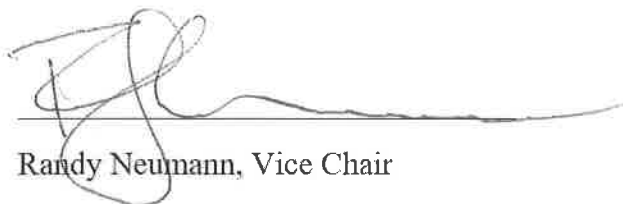

Randy Neumann, Member


Thomas Duffy, Member

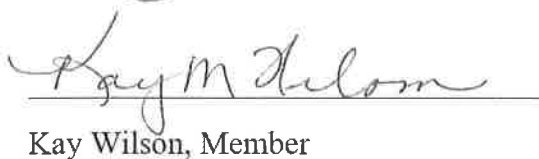
and by this Sawyer County Land, Water & Forestry Resources Committee this 8th Day of October, 2025.


Steve Kariainen, Chair



Jim Evans, Member


Randy Neumann, Vice Chair

Dale Magnuson, Member


Kay Wilson, Member

This Resolution is hereby adopted by the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors this 16th day of October, 2025.


Ron Kinsley, Chair,


Liz Klein, County Clerk

Sawyer County Board of Supervisors

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Re: **Forestry Revitalization Act**

WHEREAS, this legislation provides incentives for the construction of an approximate \$1.5 billion sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) plant in Hayward, Wisconsin by enumerating \$60 million as a WEDC Enterprise Zone Tax Credit and \$150 million of state bonding repaid through the Forestry Segregated Account; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oconto County Board of Supervisors hereby support the legislation supporting the development and construction of a sustainable aviation fuel plant at Hayward; and

FISCAL IMPACT: None

By: LAND AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Tim Cole, Chair
Patrick J. Scanlan
Keith Schneider
Wayne Kaczowski
Mike Beyer

Adopted by an electronic vote: 25 Ayes, 1 Nay, 3 Absent, 1 Abstain, 1 Vacant

STATE OF WISCONSIN

COUNTY OF OCONTO

I, Kim Pytleski, do hereby certify that the above is true and correct copy of the original now on file in the office of the County Clerk and that it was adopted by the Oconto County Board of Supervisors on this date. DATE: 10/30/2025 Kim Pytleski, County Clerk

FORESTRY REVITALIZATION ACT

To the Honorable members of the Burnett County Board of Supervisors;

WHEREAS, certain state legislators from northern Wisconsin are introducing bill language which would create the Forestry Revitalization Act, authorizing incentives for aviation biofuel manufacturing, which has a skyrocketing demand in Europe; and

WHEREAS, this legislation provides incentives for the construction of an approximate \$1.5 billion sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) plant in Hayward, Wisconsin by enumerating \$60 million as a WEDC Enterprise Zone Tax Credit and \$150 million of state bonding repaid through the Forestry Segregated Account; and

WHEREAS, the mill facility is intended to be fueled by forest products, which will likely increase demand for sustainably grown products from the Burnett County Forest and many other suppliers, while creating an estimated 150 additional jobs in the region.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Burnett County Board of Supervisors hereby support the legislation supporting the development and construction of a sustainable aviation fuel plant at Hayward; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, and a letter of support, will be sent to local state legislators, bill sponsors and co-sponsors, and the office of the Governor of Wisconsin.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

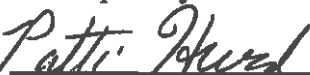
Respectfully submitted by the Natural Resources Committee,
Signed and dated this 9th day of October 2025.



Edgar Peterson

By Zoom Attendance

Christopher Sybers



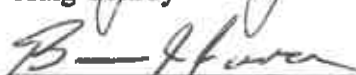
Patti Hurd

Absent

Chuck Anderson



Craig Conroy



Bruce Jara



Charlie Weis

State of Wisconsin
County of Burnett

I, Wanda Hinrichs, the duly elected and qualified County Clerk in and for Burnett County, do hereby certify that the attached Resolution 2025-24, "Forest Revitalization Act" was adopted by the Burnett County Board of Supervisors at a legally assembled meeting at which a quorum was present and acted throughout. The date of passage was October 16, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Wanda Hinrichs", written over a horizontal line.

Wanda Hinrichs,
Burnett County Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 92

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE WISCONSIN FORESTRY REVITALIZATION ACT.

WHEREAS, the forestry industry is a cornerstone of Wisconsin's economy, supporting over 100,000 jobs statewide and generating billions of dollars annually in economic activity; and,

WHEREAS, Taylor County is home to vast public and private forest lands that are essential to our economy, environment, recreation, and way of life; and,

WHEREAS, sustainable forestry practices preserve clean water, clean air, wildlife habitat, and outdoor recreation opportunities for residents and visitors alike; and,

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Forestry Revitalization Act has been introduced by Senator Mary Felzkowski and Representative Chanz Green to strengthen the forestry sector by investing in workforce development, modernizing infrastructure, improving forest health and wildfire resilience, and expanding markets for forest products; and,

WHEREAS, the Act includes a major project: a proposed woody-biomass facility in Hayward, Wisconsin, to turn forestry residue (bark, branches, cutter shavings, tree tops, etc.) into sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) and naphtha. This facility is projected to involve approximately \$1.5 billion in private investment; and,


WHEREAS, in support of this facility, the State of Wisconsin will commit \$210 million in incentives and bonding, specifically including \$60 million in Wisconsin Enterprise Zone Tax Credits (WEDC) and \$150 million in state bonding (via the forestry account); and,

WHEREAS, the facility is expected to create high-paying, local jobs (estimate up to 150 jobs at the plant and another 200 jobs in surrounding industries) and generate significant annual economic impact for northern Wisconsin, especially benefiting loggers, truckers, forest-based landowners, and related sectors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Taylor County Board of Supervisors, duly assembled this 29th day of October, 2025, hereby expresses its strong support for the Wisconsin Forestry Revitalization Act, including the state's investment of \$210 million in incentives and bonding, and urges the Governor and members of the Wisconsin State Legislature to enact this legislation as presented.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of Wisconsin, the members of the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly representing Taylor County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and other stakeholders supportive of revitalizing Wisconsin's forestry industry.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Scott Mildbrand
Taylor County Board Supervisor, District 6
Forestry & Recreation Committee Chair

Motion by: Hartwig

Second by: Bialecki

Resolution 2025-10-65

Lincoln County Support for the Forestry Revitalization Act

Dist.	Supervisor	Y	N	Abs
1	Bialecki			
2	Anderson-Malm			
3	McCrank			
4	Woellner			
5	Zelinski			
6	Ashbeck			
7	Dunphy			
8	Thiel			
9	Vorpagel			
10	Boyd			
11	Detert			
12	DePasse			
13	Bishop			
14	Lyskawa			
15	Lemke			
16	Miller			
17	Meunier			
18	Wickham			
19	Dorava			
20	Cummings			
21	Simon			
22	Hartwig			
Totals				
Carried				
Defeated				
Amended				
Voice vote				
Roll call				

WHEREAS, Senator Mary Felzkowski and Representative Chanz Green are introducing bill language which would create the Forestry Revitalization Act, authorizing incentives for aviation biofuel manufacturing, which has a skyrocketing demand in Europe; and

WHEREAS, this legislation provides incentives for the construction of an approximate \$1.5 billion sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) plant in Hayward, Wisconsin by enumerating \$60 million as a WEDC Enterprise Zone Tax Credit and \$150 million of state bonding repaid through the Forestry Segregated Account; and

WHEREAS, the mill facility is intended to be fueled by forest products, which will likely increase demand for sustainably grown products from the County Forest system and many other suppliers, while creating an estimated 150 additional jobs in the region.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors hereby support the legislation supporting the development and construction of a sustainable aviation fuel plan at Hayward; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of Wisconsin, the members of the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly representing Lincoln County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and other stakeholders supportive of revitalizing Wisconsin's forestry industry.

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) SS
COUNTY OF LINCOLN)

I hereby certify that this resolution/ordinance is a true and correct copy of a resolution/ordinance adopted by the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors on:

October 21, 2025

Dated: October 21, 2025

Authored by: William Bialecki (District 1 Supervisor)

Co-Sponsored by: Kenneth Wickham (District 18 Supervisor) and Andrew Zelinski (District 5 Supervisor)

Committee: Forestry, Land and Parks Committee

Committee Vote: All Ayes

Date Passed: October 13, 2025

Fiscal Impact: None

Drafted by: Dean Bowe, Forest Administrator

Christopher J. Marlowe
Lincoln County Clerk



Resolution No. 2025-67

Forestry Revitalization Act

WHEREAS, certain state legislators from northern Wisconsin are introducing bill language, which would create the Forestry Revitalization Act, authorizing incentives for aviation biofuel manufacturing, which has a skyrocketing demand in Europe; and

WHEREAS, this legislation provides incentives for the construction of an approximate \$1.5 billion sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) plant in Hayward, Wisconsin by enumerating \$60 million as a WEDC Enterprise Zone Tax Credit and \$150 million of state bonding repaid through the Forestry Segregated Account; and

WHEREAS, the mill facility is intended to be fueled by forest products, which will likely increase demand for the sustainably grown products from the Washburn County Forest and many other suppliers, while creating an estimated 150 additional jobs in the region.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washburn County Board of Supervisors hereby support legislation supporting the development and construction of a sustainable aviation fuel plant ~~at~~ Hayward; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, and a letter of support will be sent to local state legislators, bill sponsors and co-sponsors, and the office of the Governor of Wisconsin.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

Submitted for adoption this 15th day of October, 2025 by the Washburn County Forestry, Parks and Recreation Committee and approved by the Washburn County Board of Supervisors this 12th day of November, 2025.:

Motion for adoption by:

Supervisor S. JOHNSON

Sandy Johnson
Sandy Johnson, Chair

Hank Graber
Hank Graber, Vice Chair

Lolita Olson
Lolita Olson

Seconded by: H. GRABER
Supervisor

Jerry Smith
Jerry Smith

Randi Swanson
Randi Swanson

Ayes 20, Noes 0, Absent 1

Motion: S. JOHNSON Second: H. GRABER

(Voice) (Bell) vote: Yes 20 No 0 exc. 1
J.F.

I, Alicia Swearingen, as County Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the County of Washburn at the meeting held on: 11.12.2025

Alicia Swearingen

ROLL CALL				
DIST	SUPERVISOR	Y	N	OTHER
1	HULTSTROM			
2	BONG			
3	SLAY			
4	FENNESSEY			
5	BAKER			
6	H. HENDRICKSON			
7	GLAZMAN			
8	SKOWLUND			
9	JAQUES			
10	PETERSON			
11	M. CUMMINGS			
12	LEAR			
13	SANDOK BAKER			
14	LOHSE			
15	S. HENDRICKSON			
16	LUOSTARI			
17	LIEBAERT			
18	MOEN			
19	LONG			
20	SAPIK			
21	D. CUMMINGS			
TOTALS		YES	NO	ABSENT ABSTAIN
ACTION				
ADOPTED X	LOST	REFERRED	AMENDED	OTHER
LAST REVISED 8-21-2025				

RESOLUTION #71-25
WISCONSIN FORESTRY REVITALIZATION ACT SUPPORTED
(PAGE 1 OF 2)

PRESENTED BY THE FOREST, PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the forestry industry is a cornerstone of Wisconsin's economy, supporting over 100,000 jobs statewide and generating billions of dollars annually in economic activity, and

WHEREAS, Douglas County is home to vast public and private forest lands, including the largest County Forest land base in the State of Wisconsin, that are essential to our economy, environment, recreation, and Northwoods quality of life, and

WHEREAS, sustainable forestry practices preserve clean water, clean air, wildlife habitat, and outdoor recreation opportunities for residents and visitors alike, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Forestry Revitalization Act has been introduced by Senator Mary Felzkowski and Representative Chanz Green to strengthen the forestry sector by investing in workforce development, modernizing infrastructure, improving forest health and wildfire resilience, and expanding markets for forest products, and

WHEREAS, the Act provides incentives for the construction of an approximate \$1.5 billion sustainable woody-biomass mill facility in Hayward, Wisconsin that will process forestry residue (bark, branches, chips, slash, etc.) into sustainable aviation biofuel (SAF) and naphtha, and

WHEREAS, in support of this facility, the State of Wisconsin will commit \$210 million in incentives and bonding, specifically including \$60 million as a WEDC Enterprise Zone Tax Credit and \$150 million of state bonding repaid through the Forestry Segregated Account, and

WHEREAS, the facility is expected to create high-paying, local jobs (estimated up to 150 jobs at the mill and another 200 jobs in associated industries), increase demand for sustainably grown forest products from the Douglas County Forest and many other suppliers, and generate significant annual economic impact for northern Wisconsin, especially benefiting loggers, truckers, forest-based landowners, and related sectors, and

WHEREAS, the Douglas County Board of Supervisors urges that any state incentives or public support for the proposed facility be conditioned upon the use of local skilled labor and the execution of a project labor agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Douglas County Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its strong support for the Wisconsin Forestry Revitalization Act, including the state's investment of \$210 million in incentives and bonding for the development and construction of a sustainable aviation fuel plan at Hayward; and urges the Governor and members of the Wisconsin State Legislature to enact this legislation as presented, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of Wisconsin, the members of the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly representing Douglas County, bill sponsors and co-sponsors, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

ROLL CALL				
DIST	SUPERVISOR	Y	N	OTHER
1	HULTSTROM			
2	BONG			
3	SLAY			
4	FENNESSEY			
5	BAKER			
6	H. HENDRICKSON			
7	GLAZMAN			
8	SKOWLUND			
9	JAQUES			
10	PETERSON			
11	M. CUMMINGS			
12	LEAR			
13	SANDOK BAKER			
14	LOHSE			
15	S. HENDRICKSON			
16	LUOSTARI			
17	LIEBAERT			
18	MOEN			
19	LONG			
20	SAPIK			
21	D. CUMMINGS			
TOTALS		YES	NO	ABSENT ABSTAIN
ACTION				
ADOPTED X	LOST	REFERRED	AMENDED	OTHER
LAST REVISED 8-21-2025				


RESOLUTION #71-25
WISCONSIN FORESTRY REVITALIZATION ACT SUPPORTED
(PAGE 2 OF 2)

Dated this 20th day of November, 2025.

Committee Action: Unanimous

Fiscal Note: None

ACTION: Motion by Moen, second Baker, to adopt. Motion by Sandok Baker, second Hultstrom, to amend resolution to include the following wording: “The Douglas County Board of Supervisors urges that any state incentives or public support for the proposed facility be conditioned upon the use of local skilled labor and the execution of a project labor agreement.” Motion carried. Motion to adopt resolution as amended, carried.

 <p>Clark County, WI Founded In 1853</p>	Type/Number	Resolution 44-12-25			
	Title	Supporting the Forestry Revitalization Act			
	Overview/Synopsis	Support the “Forestry Revitalization Act”, and the proposed incentives for the construction of a sustainable aviation fuel plant in Hayward, Wisconsin			
	Submitted By	Forestry Committee			
	Fiscal Impact	N/A			
	Review (Initial & Date)	Legal	<i>Amel 1/7/26</i>	Finance	<i>tfd 1/7/2026</i>

1 WHEREAS, certain state legislators from northern Wisconsin have introduced the “Forestry
2 Revitalization Act”, which is a legislative bill that would authorize \$210 million in incentives for
3 the establishment of an aviation biofuel manufacturing plant in northern Wisconsin;

4
5 WHEREAS, aviation biofuel is increasing in demand, especially among foreign nations, with the
6 European Union (E.U.) phasing in regulations that will require sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) to
7 be mixed with conventional aviation fuel, and mandates requiring aviation fuel in E.U. airports
8 consist of 70% SAF by 2050;

9
10 WHEREAS, this proposed legislation provides incentives for the construction of a \$1.5 Billion
11 sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) plant in Hayward, Wisconsin by creating an appropriation of \$60
12 million in a Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) Enterprise Zone Tax
13 Credit, and \$150 million in state bonding; and

14
15 WHEREAS, the Clark County Forest consists of nearly 135,000 acres, with the County, through
16 long-term and sustainable forest management practices, having historically supplied raw forest
17 products to a number of industries;


18
19 WHEREAS, the forestry industry has seen a decrease in demand for raw forest products
20 statewide, following the closure of a long-time running paper mill in Wisconsin Rapids; and

21
22 WHEREAS, the proposed sustainable aviation fuel plant is intended to turn CORSIA-qualified
23 woody biomass (bark, branches, cutter shavings, tree tops, etc.) into sustainable aviation fuel,
24 which will likely increase demand for sustainably grown products from the Clark County Forest
25 and many other suppliers, while creating an estimated 150 additional jobs in the Northern
26 Wisconsin region;

27
28 WHEREAS, the proposed legislation requires 80% of the biomass used in the facility to create
29 SAF to be sourced from within the State of Wisconsin;

30
31 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Clark County Board of Supervisors hereby supports
32 the “Forestry Revitalization Act”, and the proposed incentives for the construction of a
33 sustainable aviation fuel plant in Hayward, Wisconsin;

34
35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution shall be sent to local state legislators, bill
36 sponsors, and co-sponsors, and the office of the Governor of Wisconsin.

Committee/Board/Supervisor Action	
Committee/Board/Supervisor Name:	Forestry & Parks Committee
Result/Date:	November 11, 2025
Mover:	Supervisor Bower
Seconder:	Supervisor Kolzow
Ayes:	Wilcox, Waichulis, Kolzow, Bower & Smith
Nays:	None
Absent:	None
Clark County Board of Supervisors Action	
Vote Required:	Majority
Result/Date:	Adopted 12/30/2025
Type of Vote:	Voice Vote
Mover:	Supervisor Waichulis
Seconder:	Supervisor Klabon
Ayes:	Wilcox, Klabon, Waichulis, Hoff, Kodl, Kolzow, Jalling, Tyznik, Bower, Smith, Ryan Ashbeck, Johnson, Rueth, Bobrofsky, Riley Ashbeck, Hasz, Smagacz, Boon, Trunkel, Gerhardt, Bakker, Garbisch, Neville, Sebesta
Nays:	Supervisors Schindler & Stoecker
Absent:	Supervisors Brodhagen, Mulderink & Thielman
<p>I, Christina M. Jensen, Clerk for Clark County, hereby certify that Resolution 44-12-25 was adopted by the Clark County Board of Supervisors at the meeting held on December 30, 2025</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-end;"> <div style="width: 40%;">  <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Christina Jensen Clark County Clerk Neillsville, Wisconsin 54456</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <p>SEAL</p> </div> </div>	