

Resolution No. 6-0911

Whereas, the State of Wisconsin has authorized the collection of fees for recording documents in the Register of Deeds Office; and

Whereas, W§59.72 authorizes for a county to expend a portion of the collected fees provided the following conditions are met

- a) The county has established a land information office (ie. Office of Planning & Development)
- b) The county has established a land information council (ie. Iowa County Land Information Council)
- c) A land information office has received approval for a countywide plan for land records modernization (ie. Iowa County Land Records Modernization Plan)
- d) The county uses the fees to develop, implement, and maintain the countywide plan for land records modernization and provides land information on the Internet; and

Whereas, Iowa County has historically collected these fees since 1995 and have expended them solely according to the statutory guidelines; and

Whereas, the budget for these fees shall preclude spending more than is available in the dedicated account;

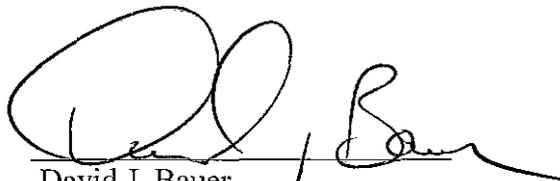
Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Iowa County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Iowa County Land Information Council to propose an annual budget to the Standing Committee utilizing these fees and, as long as that budget remains funded 100% from the retained fees account, the Council is authorized to make annual application for any grant from this fund and this grant application will require no further annual action by the County Board; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Land Information Council annually report the use of these funds to the Standing Committee and County Board and provide a five year review of the program and renewal of this resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EXTENSION AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Adopted this 20th day of September 2011.


David J. Bauer
Iowa County Chairman

ATTEST:


Greg Klusendorf
Iowa County Clerk

Analysis

1989 Wisconsin Act 31 and 1989 Wisconsin Act 339 created a statewide information program for the purpose of facilitating land records modernization in each county in Wisconsin.

Pursuant to the provisions of W§59.72, each county, including Iowa County, funds its land information program with real estate document recording or filing fees that are charged and collected in the Office of Register of Deeds. These fees are commonly referred to as "retained fees".

The expenditure of these fees by a county are subject to the following statutory conditions:

- a) The county has established a land information office (ie. Office of Planning & Development)
- b) The county has established a land information council (ie. Iowa County Land Information Council)
- c) A land information office has received approval for a countywide plan for land records modernization (ie. Iowa County Land Records Modernization Plan)
- d) The county uses the fees to develop, implement, and maintain the countywide plan for land records modernization and provides land information on the Internet

Furthermore, grants are available under the Land Information Program for the purposes of furthering county land information programs, training, and on occasion, for strategic statewide initiatives. Eligibility conditions are much the same as that to retain fees and grants are often limited to those counties that take in less than \$50,000 in recording fees revenue. Thus, the intent is to provide a funding mechanism for smaller counties to facilitate development of land information programs at a relatively equal basis across the state.

Therefore, this continuing resolution is intended to streamline the process for applying for and approving the expenditure of retained fees with the stipulations and conditions listed therein.
