

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners, held at the Chippewa County Courthouse, 319 Court St., Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan on the 19th day of December 2024 at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Jim Martin, Bob Savoie, Justin Knepper, Damon Lieurance and Jim Traynor

ABSENT: None

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner Lieurance and seconded by Commissioner Savoie.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-36**

#### **Resolution of Support for the Development of PenWin Industries LLC's Waste-to-Renewables Project for the Upper Peninsula of Michigan**

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) is requiring Michigan counties to develop new waste handling procedures to ensure sustainable waste management practices for the future; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners recognizes the need to support alternative solutions to traditional landfilling and waste disposal methods, particularly those that contribute to environmental sustainability; and

**WHEREAS**, the development of a Waste-to-Renewables facility by PenWin Industries LLC represents a forward-thinking solution that aligns with Governor Gretchen Whitmer's green energy initiatives and Michigan's commitment to a greener, more sustainable economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners seeks to support green industrial development that creates median-wage earning jobs, promotes economic growth, and reduces our reliance on non-renewable energy sources; and

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of a Waste-to-Renewables facility will encourage infrastructure investment and development, creating an industrial base that will have long-term benefits for the economy of the Upper Peninsula; and

**WHEREAS**, PenWin Industries LLC has committed to working with all Upper Peninsula counties to promote regional collaboration and to ensure that the economic and environmental benefits of this project are shared across the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the success of this project is closely tied to the preservation and enhancement of critical rail infrastructure, including the Escanaba and Lake Superior (E&LS) rail line and the Route 8 corridor, which are vital for transporting materials and products to and from the facility, as well as supporting the broader industrial needs of the region; and

**RESOLUTION 2024-34 Resolution of Support for the Development of PenWin Industries LLC’s Waste-to-Renewables Project for the Upper Peninsula of Michigan**

**WHEREAS**, a strong and unified approach among all 15 counties in the Upper Peninsula will strengthen our ability to attract state, federal, and private investment, ensuring the long-term viability and success of the Waste-to-Renewables project;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners fully supports the development of PenWin Industries LLC’s Waste-to-Renewables facility as an essential step toward creating a more sustainable future for the Upper Peninsula, while addressing both environmental and economic goals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners acknowledges the importance of preserving and enhancing rail infrastructure as a key component in ensuring the logistical success of this project and supporting broader economic development in the Upper Peninsula; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Michigan, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Upper Peninsula legislators, and other relevant stakeholders to demonstrate our collective support for this critical project.

A VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS

AYES: Jim Martin, Bob Savoie, Justin Knepper, Damon Lieurance and Jim Traynor

NAYS: None

Adopted by the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners on December 19, 2024.

STATE OF MICHIGAN        )  
  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF CHIPPEWA    )

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted by the County Board of Commissioners of Chippewa County at a regular meeting held on the date first stated above, and I further certify that public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.



Steve Woodgate, County Clerk