

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Cooperation, defined as collaboration or working together, is no longer a buzz word that state and federal governments emphasize in speeches and proposals. It has become a way of life in interacting between local, county, state and federal agencies. Today, elected and appointed officials at all levels expect cooperation as do constituents and local tax payers.

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIPS**

#### **Sawyer County**

The Town has a very good relationship with Sawyer County. A number of citizens are and have been called on to serve on County Committees, especially in the areas of ordinance development and Land & Water Conservation. The Town's ability to engage in its own zoning authority strengthens the relationship between the county and Town. Joint ventures are also evident between the county and Town on road improvement projects.

#### **School Districts**

Two school districts, Glidden and Hayward, represent the location for school aged children based on geographic location in the Town. The Town and school districts have open lines of communication with the Town.

#### **Other Adjacent or Overlapping Jurisdiction**

The Town communicates with state and federal agencies on land/forest management objectives since a large percentage of the Town is in federal ownership. The Town also communicates with other surrounding townships, regional organizations, and provides assistance and cooperation when necessary. Generally speaking, the Town has good relations with other organizations and agencies.

### **PLANS AND AGREEMENTS**

The Town has several cooperative efforts and agreements between agencies and organizations. The Town purchases salt and sand from Sawyer County. The county furnishes ambulance, emergency government services, police protection, and conservation assistance. The Town has agreements with the Federal Forest Service to fight forest fires and to maintain Federal Forest Roads. The Town also maintains fire protections on State DNR lands.

The Town works directly with the State DNR on zoning and enforcement issues. The Town has applied for and received several state and federal grants for lake monitoring and Rustic Roads.

Lastly, the Town has mutual aid for fire protection and road maintenance with many adjoining towns.

In the future, as adjoining jurisdictions, school districts, and others begin to plan for siting or developing facilities or have opportunities where bulk purchases can benefit one another, it is recommended that cooperation and partnerships be formed to maximize local efforts.

**EXISTING OR POTENTIAL CONFLICTS**

Existing and potential conflicts can impede cooperation and weaken strong community development. There are no existing or potential problems or conflicts with any adjoining or overlapping jurisdiction.

While there are no known conflicts, in the future if conflicts do arise heading the issue head-on is advised. In order to do so, it is suggested the Town and other party(s) meet jointly to resolve such conflict. If applicable, a moderator may assist the parties in working out the issue and recommending resolution.