

Vernon County thanks Ho-Chunk Nation

The Vernon County Board passed a resolution to recognize the recent \$1.2 million payment from the Ho-Chunk Nation to Vernon County.

The payment is part of an intergovernmental agreement between the Ho-Chunk Nation and Vernon County. The Nation will dedicate earnings from its gaming facilities to provide the \$1.2 million annually to the county for every year it is required to make a payment to the state.

"The Ho-Chunk Nation has a long standing history in the area, and we are dedicated to our ancestral homelands," said Anne Thundercloud, Ho-Chunk public relations officer. "We wanted to make sure our payments to the state could benefit our surrounding communities. We are committed to fostering positive relationships, and we look forward to expanding that rapport with Vernon County."

Vernon is one of 11 counties that will receive funds from the Ho-Chunk. The Nation will give back more than \$55 million dollars to local communities through these agreements.

Each Wisconsin county has individualized plans on how they will use the additional funds, some projects include: maintenance of roads, highways, parks and bridges, law enforcement patrol, improving electronic communications, funding for human services programs, funding economic development centers, and economic growth.

Vernon County Board Chairman Thomas Spenner joins Ho-Chunk Nation spokesperson Anne Thundercloud shortly after the passing of the resolution.



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