

FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
3:30 PM - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2016
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM - LOWER LEVEL
FLORENCE NATURAL RESOURCE CENTER
FLORENCE, WI 54121

PRESENT:

SUPERVISOR / CHAIRMAN
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER
SUPERVISOR/COMMITTEE MEMBER
USFS
DNR – COUNTY FOREST LIAISON/STATE LAND FORESTER
FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR
FORESTRY & PARKS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

ED KELLEY
ED WENGER
LARRY DZEKUTE
LARRY NEUENS
ADAM FELTS
HENRY SULLIVAN
PATRICK SMITH
ANDY NAULT

Absent or excused: John Halada

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Ed Kelley, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

2. APPROVAL / AGENDA

It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute seconded by Supervisor Neuens, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as posted.

3. APPROVAL / MINUTES

It was moved by Supervisor Wenger, seconded by Supervisor Neuens, and unanimously carried to approve the Forestry & Parks minutes of March 9, 2016.

4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

5. AGENCY REPORTS

A. HARV SKJERVEN - USFS DISTRICT RANGER

USFS Adam Felts reported that the Forestry Tech position was filled in Eagle River and the person is Angie Morris. There are no active sales at this time. There has been no activity on the Stewardship Project with Florence County.

B. HUBER RESOURCES

Tony Derleth from Huber Resources was not in attendance.

C. DNR-HENRY SULLIVAN

State sales are wrapped up for the year.

There are changes coming to the Managed Forest Law (MFL) program.

The State has caught up on the time standard hours coming into fire season. It has been hard to keep up without the Technician position being filled. The GNA LTE from Forest County has been coming over and doing recon work to try and help catch up.

6. COUNTY FOREST

A. TIMBER SALE UPDATE

Assistant Administrator Andy Nault reported that there were two active sales in the County right now. The woods seem to be holding up – but the roads are very sloppy. It has been a good winter for setting up sales.

B. INTERVIEW COMMITTEE FOR RECREATION COORDINATOR

There was a lot of discussion about the wages of this position and the upcoming results of the wage study. The committee is hopeful the wage study will result in an increase in wages for this position to help stabilize the department. It was moved by Supervisor Wenger, seconded by Supervisor Neuens, and unanimously carried to re-advertise the position after the wage study has been concluded.

C. APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE SPRING 2016 TIMBER SALES

It was moved by Supervisor Wenger, seconded by Supervisor Dzekute, and unanimously carried to advertise the 2016 Spring Timber Sales.

D. SUMMER OCCASIONAL WORKER

Smith told the committee that both the Highway and Forestry & Parks advertised for summer occasional workers. This position is utilized by both departments. Interviews will be setup in the coming weeks.

E. HIGH SCHOOL INTERN

It was moved by Supervisor Wenger, seconded by Supervisor Dzekute, and unanimously carried to approve moving forward with a High School Intern from the 2016-2017 school year.

7. RECREATION

A. PARKS

Smith informed the committee that the department was preparing the parks for the upcoming camping season.

B. RIFLE RANGE

Smith informed the committee of the grant that the department received to do some renovations at the range and make the range easier for the users. Also, there was a request of the department to plow the range in the winter months. Smith will talk to the highway department about having them do this when they plow LaSalle Falls road in the winter.

B. SNOWMOBILE CLUB LOAN

Smith informed the committee of the Loan that was approved at A&B committee the previous evening and that the Financial Manager Joe Bestor has been working on the conditions of the loan with the club and that it should be a good thing for the County and the Club. It was moved by Supervisor Wenger, seconded by Supervisor Dzekute, and unanimously carried to approve moving forward with a loan to the Snowmobile Club.

8. ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Smith informed the committee about the Land Sale issue and the progress that has been made to date. Also, one of the vehicles that was purchased this year is in and the other should be following soon.

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER'S COMMENTS & CONCERNS

None.

10. BILLS/REVENUES – FORESTRY & RESOURCE CENTER

It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute, seconded by Supervisor Neuens, and unanimously carried to approve bills being

paid by the Forestry and Parks and the Florence Natural Resource Center for the month of March.

11. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Supervisor Wenger, seconded by Supervisor Neuens, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 4:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Smith, Administrator
Florence County Forestry and Parks