

**FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**3:30 P.M. - WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2013**  
**LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM - LOWER LEVEL**  
**FLORENCE NATURAL RESOURCE CENTER**  
**FLORENCE, WI 54121**

**PRESENT:**

SUPERVISOR / CHAIRMAN  
SUPERVISOR / VICE CHAIRMAN  
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER  
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER  
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER  
USFS DISTRICT RANGER  
DNR – COUNTY FOREST LIAISON/STATE LAND FORESTER  
DNR – PRIVATE LANDS FORESTER  
FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR  
FORESTRY & PARKS FORESTER  
FORESTRY & PARKS BUSINESS MANAGER

ED KELLEY  
ED WENGER  
JOHN HALADA  
LARRY NEUENS  
DON GARDNER  
HARV SKJERVEN  
HENRY SULLIVAN  
TYLER WOOD  
PATRICK SMITH  
ANDREW NAULT  
MARY PODNAR

Absent or excused: N/A

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

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

**2. APPROVAL / AGENDA**

It was moved by Supervisor Gardner, seconded by Supervisor Halada, and unanimously carried to approve the Agenda as posted.

**3. APPROVAL / MINUTES**

It was moved by Supervisor Wenger, seconded by Supervisor Halada, and unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of June 12, 2013 as read.

**4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None

**5. AGENCY REPORTS**

**A. HARV SKJERVEN - USFS DISTRICT RANGER**

USFS District Ranger Harv Skjerven reported that there will be a sale going into the paper next week and one sale coming up in August. They are busy marking for the 2014 contracts. USFS Bob MacGregor has almost all of the prescriptions complete for it.

The position held by Betty Dupuis has been filled by Tina Bauman. She will be located in the Eagle River office and her first day of work will be July 29<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Kelley thought the Eagle River office was full and new positions would be stationed in Florence. Skjerven said the next position, which is Hal Thede's Reforestation Technician position, will be filled in the Florence office.

Skjerven wanted to get together with Administrator Smith to set aside a day to start talking stewardship for Florence County.

**B. HUBER & ASSOCIATES – KAREN GARDNER, FORESTER**

Karen Gardner sent Tony Derleth in her place and he reported to the committee that currently they have two crews working in the county on 265 acres. They plan on moving a third crew within the next month which will cover another 160 acres. It has been a good season for seed crop which is great for regeneration.

South of Hwy 70 – they re-surfaced about seven miles of the Goodman grade.

In regards to the current markets, log prices are up and pulp prices seem to be down.

**C. DNR – HENRY SULLIVAN**

Henry Sullivan, DNR-County Forest Liaison/State Land Forester introduced the new Private Lands Forester Tyler Wood. Tyler had to leave the meeting early as he was on his way to get married. The committee sent him off with well wishes.

The posting for the Team Leader position closed on June 30, 2013. Sullivan knows that there were at least three candidates from within the department. The duty station for this job is open for both Florence and Crandon.

The state is working on the planning process for both the Pine Popple Wild Rivers and the Spread Eagle Barrens timber sales. Currently, they have one sale that is field complete. Later in the summer they will be working on planning for the remainder of their jobs. A regional forester from Green Bay wants to look at a “marking camp” option. Sullivan explained that a “marking camp” is when the DNR pulls resources from outside the area to get things done.

There are two sales that are under contract right now. The North Power Dam sale is being given back to the state. This sale was bought by Mike and Lance Glime a few years back. They recently took a second look at it and they decided to give it back because of the rough terrain.

Sullivan spoke with Wildlife last week about the prescribed burn schedule. He is waiting to hear back from them. Tentatively, they are looking at burning the units between Menominee River Drive and Barrens Lake Road. If all goes as planned, Forest Technician, Jim LaChapell will begin prep work in that area around September or October of this year.

The DNR recently underwent a MFL audit and Sullivan said it went relatively well. There were several minor CAR’s found that the DNR plans on fixing. There was also one major CAR which had to do with genetically modified organisms on MFL property. These are also known as food plots. The DNR is working on a way to respond to this. In the southern part of the state some BMP issues popped up. Sullivan believes it will be interesting to see how these issues will be resolved.

**6. LAND SALES**

**A. OPEN & APPROVE BIDS**

Forestry & Parks Administrator Patrick Smith passed around the Tax Delinquent Land Sale Bid Opening Summary sheet. Parcels #1 and #2 had bids – Parcel #3 did not receive a bid. It was moved by Supervisor Wenger, seconded by Supervisor Neuens, and unanimously carried to send to these bids to County Board for approval.

## **7. COUNTY FOREST**

### **A. TIMBER SALE HARVEST - UPDATE**

Forestry & Parks Forester Andrew Nault reported to the committee that there is currently one active job going on the Lake Edith road. A few other jobs are wrapping up right now. Nault expects it to get busy after August 15<sup>th</sup>. DNR-County Forest Liaison/State Land Forester, Henry Sullivan and Nault have been busy working on fall sales. They will end up having five sales for the fall.

### **B. JOINT POSITION FORESTRY/HIGHWAY**

There were 34 applicants for the Forestry/Highway Common Laborer position. Highway Commissioner Jeff DeMuri and Smith were able to narrow the candidates down to eight. Interviews will take place tomorrow from 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Once the selection is made – the next step is to take the decision to Personnel.

## **8. RECREATION**

### **A. LAKE EMILY BOAT LANDING**

Assistant Administrator Jake Walcisak is submitting an application to the state for this project. They would like to begin work in the fall.

Chairman Kelley questioned the poor quality of the beach at West Bass. Smith knows this is an issue – and is looking for a better source of sand to dump that does not contain so many small rocks. They have similar issues with the Keyes Lake beach also.

Smith passed around the 2013 Campground Revenue sheet which shows the total days camped and revenue taken in to date. Even though Lake Emily has fewer campsites, people seem to camp all week there. Those that camp at West Bass seem to only stay for the weekend. However, they have been getting positive feedback about the electricity that is now available at West Bass.

### **B. BADWATERS BASH**

There are many people working together to get this Fishing Derby going. It should be a fun time by all and Smith invited everyone to go and have a good time.

## **9. ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**

A copy of the Court of Appeals decision was passed around. Smith informed the committee that the county won its case against the State Bank of Florence. The county should be getting a check from the bank very soon. Smith was asked if the bank had to pay attorney fees and Smith was told that for a case like this the county will not be reimbursed for attorney fees, but the county could receive \$500-\$1000 towards it. The counties attorney fees will be much higher – but this was a case that needed to be pursued.

## **10. COMMITTEE MEMBER'S COMMENTS & CONCERNS**

Supervisor Neuens expressed his frustration about not being able to get an answer in regards to who enforces the ordinances against power loading.

While attending the UWEX meeting last week, Neuens brought to the attention of the committee members that there was concern about UWEX moving to the lower level of the Resource Center Building because of the potential of the existence of mold. Smith said he plans on getting this issue addressed.

## **11. BILLS/REVENUES–FORESTRY & PARKS/RESOURCE CENTER**

It was moved by Supervisor Gardner, seconded by Supervisor Halada, and unanimously carried to approve bills being paid for by the Forestry and Parks and the Florence Natural Resource Center.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Supervisor Wenger, seconded by Supervisor Halada, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 4:39.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Podnar, Business Manager  
Florence County Forestry and Parks