

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2/16/2021

CHAPTER 4000

**PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS OF 15 YEAR PLAN & FORESTRY  
COMMITTEE AND FULL COUNTY BOARD APPROVAL OF PLAN**

<b>4000 15 YEAR PLANNING PROCESS.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4005 MEETING MINUTES.....</b>	<b>2</b>
4005.1 Minutes of Forestry Committee and Full County Board approval of plan and any amendments .....	4

## **4000 15 YEAR PLANNING PROCESS**

1. One public listening session, AFTER draft plan is written and 30 -day comment period
  - a. Publish 30-day comment period in local paper starting Thursday, August 20, 202 ending Monday, September 21,2020
  - b. Special Forestry Committee meeting for public comments on 15-year plan on September 21, 2020 from 5:00pm-6:00 pm
2. Address any public comments and amend plan as appropriate.
3. Final Committee approval at regular Committee meeting on Wednesday, October 14, 2020
4. Review by DNR
5. Any comments or amendments from the DNR are addressed.
6. Committee approval on Wednesday February 9, 2021 sending 15-year plan onto County Board for approval.
7. Full County Board Approval on Tuesday February 16, 2021
8. Approved plan goes to DNR for final approval.

## **4005 MEETING MINUTES**

*\*Minutes from meetings will be added to this section as approvals get made throughout the process\**

**FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**4:00 PM - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2021**  
**LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM - LOWER LEVEL**  
**FLORENCE NATURAL RESOURCE CENTER**  
**FLORENCE, WI 54121**

**PRESENT:**

SUPERVISOR / CHAIRMAN	ED KELLEY
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER	LARRY DZEKUTE
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER	SUSAN THEER
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER	FRAN MODSCHIEDLER
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER	MATT BRUNETTE
DNR – COUNTY FOREST LIAISON/STATE LAND FORESTER	TYLER WOOD (PHONE)
USFS DISTRICT MANAGER	CHAD KIRSCHBAUM
FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR	PATRICK SMITH
FORESTRY & PARKS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR	TAYLOR ZIOLKOWSKI
FORESTRY & PARKS BUSINESS MANAGER	MARY PODNAR

**ABESENT OR EXCUSED:** None

**MINUTES**

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

Chairman Kelley called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. Roll call was taken and all were present.

**2. APPROVAL / AGENDA**

It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to approve the agenda.

**3. APPROVAL / MINUTES**

It was moved by Supervisor Theer seconded by Supervisor Brunette and unanimously carried to approve the minutes as read.

**4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

A member from the public asked Administrator Smith what work is going to be done on the North Lake Boat landing. He was under the impression from last month's meeting that work would not be done for at least a year or two. Smith explained that the only work being done was preliminary drawings and cost estimates for submitting applications to secure funds for the project. Two members from SECOLA were also present and requested that they be part of initial planning process. Smith handed out drawings of 3 different design options for consideration to the committee and members of the public.

**5. AGENCY REPORTS**

**A. USFS**

USFS District Manager Chad Kirschbaum shared the current difficult timber market conditions. The USFS had six sales go no bid. They are setting up smaller timber sales in Florence County. GNA sales have been moving forward. They are currently working on hiring seasonal positions for the Florence and Eagle River locations.

Kirschbaum also shared that Timber Management Administrator Dan Reynolds will be attending our meetings as the USFS representative.

**B. DNR – TYLER WOOD**

DNR County Forest Liaison/State Land Forester Tyler Wood reported that there are three active timber sales in the County. The DNR is kicking off their Strategic Direction Plan which will be starting up 2023-2027.

**6. COUNTY FOREST**

**A. TIMBER SALE UPDATE**

Assistant Administrator Taylor Ziolkowski reported that there are three active timber sales in the County. Spring timber sales are close to being ready to advertise.

**B. APPROVAL OF THE 15 YEAR PLAN**

Smith passed around and discussed the 15 Year Plan. He explained that minutes from this meeting and minutes from the County Board (*when the plan gets approved*) will need to be added when they get approved. It was moved by Supervisor Brunette seconded by

Supervisor Theer and unanimously carried to approve the 15 Year Plan and send to County Board for approval.

**C. WCFA SPRING MEETING / ATTENDANCE**

The Spring WCFA meeting will be held in Marshfield on March 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>. If any Committee member is interested in attending the meeting – they need to let Business Manager Mary Podnar know as soon as possible for registration.

**D. APPROVAL OF TRUCK BIDS**

Smith passed around the truck bid he received from Florence Motor Sales for \$36,866. It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to accept the truck bid.

Supervisor Brunette asked if Smith was still interested in purchasing Highway's 1-ton truck. Smith told the Committee that he found a box for it. It was moved by Supervisor Brunette seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to purchase Highway's 1-ton truck.

**E. APPROVAL OF PLANTING BIDS**

Smith passed around the 2021 Tree Planting bids. It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute seconded by Supervisor Brunette and unanimously carried to accept the tree planting bid from Superior Forestry Service for \$10,354.50.

**7. RECREATION**

**A. SKI HILL**

Smith passed around the Ski Season report. The hill has been busy and doing well.

**B. SNOWMOBILE CLUB AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF UPDATE**

The Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) stated they are currently not interested in providing a brief. They do not feel as though the County is directly related to the case.

**C. NORTH LAKE BOAT LANDING UPDATE**

During the public comment period of the meeting, Smith handed out three draft site plans for the North Lake Boat landing. Also, during the public comment period, Smith briefly described the grant situation. Smith submitted a grant application to the WDNR to try to secure federal funds for the landing. This was due to the grant deadline being February 1st.

**D. CASUAL LABOR POSITION DESCRIPTION**

Smith passed around an updated position description for the Occasional Laborer position. It was moved by Supervisor Brunette seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to accept to send this Occasional Laborer position description to Personnel and advertise for summer help.

**8. RESOLUTIONS**

It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute seconded by Supervisor Theer and unanimously carried to approve resolutions A – F on the agenda and send to County Board for approval.

**9. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Smith plans having a County land sale in April.

The department will be taking on-line safety training courses within the next couple weeks.

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

Supervisor Modschiedler informed the Committee that the USFS has cut open federal trails (*Nicolet Trail*) in the County.

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

It was moved by Supervisor Theer seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and carried to approve bills being paid for the month of December and January by Forestry and Parks and the Florence Natural Resource Center.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 PM.

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

The Florence County Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment on February 16, 2021. The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:00 p.m. A quorum of members was present.

County Board Supervisors present: Bomberg, Brunette, Dzekute, Johnson, Kelley, Kellstrom, Mills, Modschiedler, Nichols and Theer.

Excused: Supervisor Hedmark and Supervisor Steber

Absent: none

#### Agenda

Moved by Supervisor Theer to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Johnson.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

#### Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Johnson to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Nichols.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Those wishing to address the Board – None

#### Mutual Aid Agreement for Child Support

Moved by Supervisor Johnson to approve the Child Support Covid-19 Emergency Services Agreement between Forest and Florence Counties for Mutual Aid as recommended by the Personnel Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Nichols.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

#### Forest Comprehensive 15 year plan

Moved by Supervisor Kelley to approve the Florence County Forest Comprehensive 15 year plan as recommended by the Forestry Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

#### Resolutions

Supervisor Kellstrom asked for further clarification on the resolution process when receiving funds.

Chairwomen Bomberg stated that several of our resolutions sent to County Board is a required first step in completing some grant applications which is first approved by the Home Committee finalized by County Board.

After the grant is received, the department head has strict guidelines to follow with those costs tracked by the finance department.

Chairwomen Bomberg clarified that all County department heads and supervisors are required to follow the policies and procedures that have been adopted by County Board.

Moved by Supervisor Modschiedler to adopt resolution # 2021-02 in support of increased funding for Aging and Disability Resource Centers as recommended by the ADRC/Aging Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Johnson.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

RESOLUTION 2021-02

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCREASED FUNDING FOR AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS

WHEREAS, Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) are the first place to go to get accurate unbiased information on all aspects of life related to aging or living with a disability; and

WHEREAS, ADRC services include providing information and assistance, options and benefits counseling, coordinating short-term services, conducting functional screens, and enrollment processing and counseling; and

WHEREAS, in Wisconsin, there are currently 34 single-county ADRCs, 12 multi-county/tribal ADRCs, and seven tribal Aging and Disability Resource Specialists that work with an ADRC; and

WHEREAS, ADRCs serve the fastest growing demographic of our state's population; and

WHEREAS, the funding method for ADRCs has not been revised in more than a decade, and funding for ADRCs has not increased since 2006; and

WHEREAS, it has become evident that ADRC funding needs revision for a number of reasons, including:

- The current inequitable distribution of funding among ADRCs.
- The need to increase funding so that all ADRCs may effectively meet their mission, as outlined in the Scope of Services contract addendum; and

WHEREAS, the Office for Resource Center Development (ORCD) within the Department of Health Services (DHS) established a stakeholder advisory group in 2017 to discuss ADRC funding; and

WHEREAS, the stakeholder advisory group identified a number of issues with the current funding formula, such as:

- Dollars are distributed based on the date of ADRC establishment - older ADRCs (Generation One) receive more funding than ADRCs established at a later date (Generation Two and Three ADRCs);
  - The current formula does not take into account elements associated with health and social inequity that require a greater need for ADRC services;
  - The current formula does not adjust with need – Wisconsin's aging and disability populations continue to grow and are expected to grow significantly over the next 20 years;
  - The current formula does not account for needed cost of living adjustments;
- and

WHEREAS, a significant state GPR investment is needed to implement the recommendations of the stakeholder advisory group; and

WHEREAS, such a significant state investment would provide consistency in ADRC funding statewide, cover the services required and recommended in the Scope of Services contract addendum, and equalize services among ADRCs; and

WHEREAS, the work of the stakeholder advisory group complements the work of the Governor's Task Force on Caregiving.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Florence County Board of Supervisors does hereby support the following increases in the 2021-23 state biennial budget to ensure access to critical services provided by ADRCs to Wisconsin's aging and disability populations:

- Provide an additional \$27,410,000 GPR in funding to our state's ADRCs. It is important to note that the proposed change in the ADRC allocation methodology cannot occur unless the full \$27.4 million is allocated.
- Provide additional funding to expand/equalize ADRC services across the state:
  - Expand Dementia Care Specialist Funding Statewide: \$3,320,000
  - Fully Fund Elder Benefit Specialists Statewide: \$2,300,000
  - Expand Caregiver Support and Programs: \$3,600,000
  - Expand Health Promotion Services: \$6,000,000
  - Expand Care Transition Services: \$6,000,000
  - Fund Aging and Disability Resources in Tribes: \$1,180,000
  - Fully Fund Aging and Disability Resource Support Systems: \$2,650,000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Tony Evers, DOA Secretary Joel Brennan, DHS Interim Secretary Karen Timberlake, the Wisconsin Counties Association and all area legislators.

Moved by Supervisor Johnson to adopt resolution # 2021 – 03 in support of the Emergency Declaration for Covid-19.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Kellstrom.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

#### RESOLUTION # 2021-03

#### EMERGENCY DECLARATION FOR COVID-19

WHEREAS, in December, 2019, a novel strain of the coronavirus known as COVID-19 was detected, and COVID-19 has continued to spread throughout the world, including to the United States and the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the federal government, state governments, and local governments are working together to contain the further spread of the disease and treat existing cases; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, and on March 12, 2020 the Governor of the State of Wisconsin declared a Health Emergency in the State; and

WHEREAS, Florence County (the "County") has been working to protect the health and well-being of its residents from the spread of COVID-19, and to prepare for the impacts the disease is likely to have on the County; and

WHEREAS, the County Board (the "Board") has determined that it is necessary to make all possible resources and means available to the County in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its residents from the threat posed by the continued spread of COVID-19, be able to seek and utilize mutual aid and to potentially obtain reimbursement from the State or Federal Governments if available; and



NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 323.11 the Board finds and declares that an emergency exists within the County by reason of an imminent threat of disaster impairing medical care, health, and other critical systems of the County due to the spread of COVID-19, and ensures that the Counties health professionals and other local stake holders have the necessary tools at their disposal such as N-95 respirators; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the period of emergency prescribed by this Resolution, the Board may order, by ordinance or resolution, whatever is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, protection, and welfare of persons and property within the County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Board Chair and County Administrative Coordinator are hereby authorized and directed by the Board to coordinate and administer the County's emergency management response and to carry out the orders of the Board related thereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Head of Emergency Management of the County is authorized and directed to carry out his duties under the County's Emergency Management Plan under the supervision and direction of the County Board Chair and County Administrative Coordinator and perform such other duties as may be directed by further resolution of the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the period of emergency the County Supervisors are hereby authorized to attend meetings of the Board remotely, and the Board shall take all actions necessary to effectuate the same in compliance with all other applicable laws.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, based upon the information available to the Board and the ongoing threat posed by the spread of COVID-19, the period of emergency shall continue for sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Resolution unless sooner terminated or extended by further resolution of the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all actions heretofore taken by the Board and other appropriate public officers and agents of the County with respect to the matters contemplated under this Resolution are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

Moved by Supervisor Kelley to adopt resolution # 2021 – 04 in support of Waterways Commission Project as recommended by the Forestry Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Kellstrom.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

WATERWAYS COMMISSION PROJECT

RESOLUTION #2021- 04

WHEREAS,

Florence County hereby requests assistance for the purposes of, and or, performing a feasibility study for, developing recreational boating facilities, acquiring weed harvesting equipment, dredging a channel for recreation boating, acquiring aids to navigation or regulatory markers as described in an application, acquiring trash skimming equipment, and or chemical treatment for Water Eurasian Milfoil.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That Florence County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the study, project, or acquisition and

HEREBY AUTHORIZES,

Patrick J. Smith, Administrator, and/or Mary Podnar, Business Manager, and/or Mat Gummin, Recreation Coordinator of the Florence County Forestry and Parks

Department, to act on behalf of Florence County to: submit an application to the Wisconsin Waterways Commission for financial assistance, sign document, and take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That Florence County will comply with state and federal rules for the programs; may perform force account work; will maintain the complete project in an attractive, inviting and safe manner, will keep the facilities open to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility; and will obtain approval in writing from the Wisconsin Waterways Commission before any change is made in the use of the project site (if applicable).

Moved by Supervisor Kelley to adopt resolution # 2021 – 05 in support of Outdoor Motorized Recreation Aids as recommended by the Forestry Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Kellstrom.

Motion carried, with all voting “Aye” on a voice vote.

RESOLUTION #2021 - 05

OUTDOOR MOTORIZED RECREATION AIDS

WHEREAS,

Florence County is interested in acquiring, insuring, maintaining, or developing lands for Public Outdoor Motorized Recreation purposes as described in the application; and

WHEREAS,

Financial aid is required to carry out the project

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That Florence County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project, and

HEREBY AUTHORIZES,

Patrick J. Smith, County Forest Administrator, and/or Mary Podnar, Business Manager, and/or Mat Gummin, Recreation Coordinator of the Florence County Forestry & Parks Department to act on behalf of Florence County to; submit an application to the State of Wisconsin, Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available; sign documents, and take necessary action to undertake, direct, and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That Florence County will comply with State rules for the programs may perform force account work; will maintain the completed project in an attractive, inviting and safe manner; will keep the facilities open to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility and will obtain from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources approval in writing before any change is made in the use of the project site.

Moved by Supervisor Kelley to adopt resolution # 2021 – 06 in support of Snowmobile Trail Maintenance & Development as recommended by the Forestry Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Kellstrom.

Motion carried, with all voting “Aye” on a voice vote.

RESOLUTION # 2021 - 06

SNOWMOBILE TRAIL MAINTENANCE & DEVELOPMENT

*WHEREAS, Florence County is interested in maintaining, acquiring, insuring and developing lands for public snowmobile trail use; and*

WHEREAS, said public snowmobile trails are eligible for funds under S.23.09 (26) Stats.;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

that Florence County apply for funds under S.32.09(26),Stats., for such eligible maintenance, acquisition, insurance and development costs and hereby authorizes Patrick J. Smith, County Forest Administrator, and/or Mary Podnar, Business Manager, and/or Mat Gummin, Recreation Coordinator of the Florence County Forestry & Parks Department to act on behalf of Florence County to:

Submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available; sign documents; and take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

Moved by Supervisor Kelley to adopt resolution # 2021 – 07 in support of County Fish and Game Project as recommended by the Forestry Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Kellstrom.

Motion carried, with all voting “Aye” on a voice vote.

COUNTY FISH AND GAME PROJECT  
RESOLUTION #2021 - 07

Whereas, the Legislature of the State of Wisconsin enacted legislation providing for allocation to the respective counties in the state on an acreage basis for the county fish and game projects on the condition that the counties match the State allocation, and

Whereas, Florence County desires to participate in county fish and game projects pursuant to provisions of section 23.09(12) of the Wisconsin Statutes;

Therefore, be it resolved:

That the Florence County Board of Supervisors does hereby appropriate a matching allocation for such projects and such appropriations shall continue as long as matching state aids are available, or Until this resolution is modified by the Board of Supervisors of Florence County;

Be it further resolved:

That the Forestry and Parks Committee of the Florence County Board of Supervisors be and hereby Authorizes Patrick J. Smith, Administrator, and/or Mary Podnar, Business Manager and/or Mat Gummin, Recreation Coordinator of the Florence County Forestry and Parks Department, to expend the funds hereby appropriated and the funds to be received from the State of Wisconsin, for the improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, and to operate and maintain or to cause to be operated and maintained the project for its intended purpose.

Moved by Supervisor Kelley to adopt resolution # 2021 – 08 in support of Outdoor Recreation Aids as recommended by the Forestry Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Kellstrom.

Motion carried, with all voting “Aye” on a voice vote.

OUTDOOR RECREATION AIDS  
RESOLUTION # 2021 - 08

WHEREAS, Florence County is interested in acquiring or developing lands for public outdoor recreation purposes as described in the application and

WHEREAS, financial aid is required to carry out the project;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Florence County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project or acquisition and  
HEREBY AUTHORIZES Patrick Smith, Florence County Forestry and Parks Administrator, and/or Mary Podnar, Business Manager and/or Mat Gummin, Recreation Coordinator to act on behalf of Florence County to:

Submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available;

Submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within six month of project completion date;

Submit signed documents; and

Take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Florence County will comply with state or federal rules for the programs to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility; and will obtain from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources or the National Park Service approval in writing before any change is made in the use of the project site.

Moved by Supervisor Kelley to adopt resolution # 2021 – 09 in support of Wildlife Habitat Partnership as recommended by the Forestry Committee.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Kellstrom.

Motion carried, with all voting “Aye” on a voice vote.

WILDLIFE HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

RESOLUTION #2021 - 09

WHEREAS, Florence County Forestry and Parks Department is interested in obtaining a cost-share grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources;

WHEREAS, the respondent attests to the validity and veracity of the statements and representations contained in the proposal;

WHEREAS, an Agreement is required to carry out the project; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Florence County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project or acquisition and

HEREBY AUTHORIZES Patrick Smith, Florence County Forestry and Parks Administrator, and/or Mary Podnar, Business Manager and/or Mat Gummin, Recreation Coordinator to act on behalf of Florence County to:

Submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available;

Submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within six month of project completion date;

Submit signed documents; and

Take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that respondent will comply with all local, state, and federal rules, regulations, and ordinances relating to this project and the cost-share agreement.

Under Committee reports

Supervisor Nichols will attend a LEO Meeting in February. Nothing to report.

Supervisor Modschiedler spoke saying that Integrity is working with our EMS on a contract.

County Chair Bomberg confirmed the short term contract a possibility.

Adjourn

Moved by Supervisor Johnson to adjourn.

Motion seconded by Supervisor Nichols.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Trudell  
County Clerk