

FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

3:30 PM - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2020

LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM - LOWER LEVEL

FLORENCE NATURAL RESOURCE CENTER

FLORENCE, WI 54121

PRESENT:

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

ED KELLEY
SUSAN THEER
HOLLY STRATTON
TYLER WOOD
PATRICK SMITH
MARY PODNAR

ABSENT OR EXCUSED: Larry Neuens & Larry Dzekute

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chairman Kelley called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM. Roll call was taken – Larry Neuens and Larry Dzekute were excused.

2. APPROVAL / AGENDA

It was moved by Supervisor Stratton seconded by Supervisor Theer and unanimously carried to approve the agenda without changes.

3. APPROVAL / MINUTES

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

4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

5. AGENCY REPORTS

A. USFS

USFS District Manager Chad Kirschbaum was not in attendance. Administrator Smith reported because of the holidays - there was not much activity. The County was asked to do another stewardship project with the USFS.

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 final draft of the Master Plan will be presented to the Natural Resources Board in January. It is available on the North East Sands webpage.

6. COUNTY FOREST

A. TIMBER SALE UPDATE

Smith reported that there are two active timber sales in the County.

B. 15 YEAR PLAN – REVIEW PREVIOUS CHAPTERS

Smith asked if the Committee had any questions/suggestions from the chapters they have received. He will pass out Chapter 600 next month.

7. RECREATION

A. LTE SKI HILL LABORER

The LTE Ski Hill Cook that was hired – worked for two weeks and then took a different job. Smith would like to re-advertise the position. He is aware of two people interested in the position. It was moved by Supervisor Stratton, seconded by Supervisor Theer and unanimously carried approve hiring the two LTE's and send to Personnel.

B. BOAT LANDINGS

Smith received a question asking why the boat launches were not plowed this year. Forestry & Parks have never plowed the landings in the past due to the amount of staff time and equipment wear and tear. Many of them are located at the end of town roads. After discussion it was moved by Supervisor Theer, seconded by Supervisor Stratton and unanimously carried to approve continuing with the existing policy of not plowing boat landings.

8. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Smith would like to re-advertise for the Assistant Administrator position. It was moved by Supervisor Stratton, seconded by Supervisor Theer and unanimously carried to approve advertising for this position.

Chairman Kelley asked Smith if someone should be in attendance at the hearing for the Natural Resources Board regarding the Northeast Sands Master Plan. Smith did not believe a Florence County representative needed to be present. Smith was disappointed with the negotiation process. The proposed State Natural Area and reduction in timber harvesting is still in the plan. The hearing will be held January 21st – 22nd.

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER'S COMMENTS & CONCERNS

Supervisor Stratton asked for clarification on ATV/snowmobile stickers and registration.

10. BILLS/REVENUES – FORESTRY & RESOURCE CENTER

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

11. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Supervisor Stratton, seconded by Supervisor Theer and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 4:26 PM.

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