

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

ED KELLEY
LARRY DZEKUTE
SUSAN THEER
FRAN MODSCHIEDLER
MATT BRUNETTE
TYLER WOOD (PHONE)
CHAD KIRSCHBAUM (PHONE)
PATRICK SMITH
TAYLOR ZIOLKOWSKI
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 funding 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 three 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 that will be starting up in 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. 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 from March 17th – 19th. 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 so far this season.

B. SNOWMOBILE CLUB AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF UPDATE

The Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) stated they will not be providing a brief. They do not feel as though the County is directly related to the case. Smith will stay in contact to see if their opinion can be changed.

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, send it 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 on 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 near the Nicolet Trails 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