

**FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**3:30 P.M. - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2018**  
**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  
USFS NEPA COORDINATOR  
DNR – COUNTY FOREST LIAISON/STATE LAND FORESTER  
FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR  
FORESTRY & PARKS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR  
FORESTRY & PARKS BUSINESS MANAGER

ED KELLEY  
ED WENGER  
LARRY DZEKUTE  
SUSAN THEER  
HOLLY STRATTON  
ADAM FELTS  
HENRY SULLIVAN  
PATRICK SMITH  
ANDY NAULT  
MARY PODNAR

**ABESENT OR EXCUSED:** None

**MINUTES**

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

Chairman Kelley called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM. Roll call was taken. All members are present.

**2. APPROVAL / AGENDA**

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

**3. APPROVAL / MINUTES**

It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute, seconded by Supervisor Theer, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of January 10, 2018 as read.

**4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Dwaine Drewa from Kids And Mentors Outdoor (KAMO) group made a presentation to the Committee. He passed around information regarding monofilament (fishing line) recycling. He explained the hazards when fishing lines are disposed improperly. KAMO is proposing to build fishing line recycling bins. They have the funding to build these bins. After discussion it was the consensus of the Committee to support this KAMO project.

**5. AGENCY REPORTS**

**A. USFS**

NEPA Coordinator Adam Felts reported that they have closed the Wallace Stewardship Agreement with the County on Tuesday. Only thing remaining is pending paperwork. They are now moving forward with the Grub Hoe pre-road work agreement.

Information is still being collected regarding the Facilities Master Planning process. The information will be sent to headquarters in Rhinelander. In March – all this information will be sent to Regional Forester Kathleen Atkinson from Milwaukee to decide what options to pursue.

Administrator Smith passed around an example of how Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) reimbursements would work for the County. If the County were to engage in a GNA contract - Administrator Smith and Assistant Administrator Andy Nault would be the only employees qualified to perform work. Smith said their workload is too full to do extra GNA work in their normal work hours. Also, both he and Nault are salaried employees and cannot be paid overtime so there is no motivation to perform extra GNA work. Smith is proposing that he and Nault be paid overtime for GNA work. The County would be reimbursed by the State plus 12% indirect costs. After discussion, it was moved by Supervisor Wenger, seconded by Supervisor Dzekute, and unanimously carried to send this to Personnel.

Felts reported that there are three timber sales in the County – mostly around the Grandma Lake area.

**B. HUBER & ASSOCIATES**

Tony Derleth was not in attendance.

**C. DNR – HENRY SULLIVAN**

DNR County Forest Liaison/State Land Forester Henry Sullivan reported that there are three active timber sales in the County.

The State received one bid for survey work by Salvage/Robago Lake. Bids have been sent out and will be opened in February.

There will be a bid opening for two GNA sales in Vilas County.

The State is at 72% of goal for time standard hours. He feels confident that they will meet their goal of 1,112 hours.

Fire season is right around and the department has been getting equipment ready for the season. They expect to be getting a new fire truck in July.

**6. COUNTY FOREST**

**A. TIMBER SALE UPDATE**

Assistant Administrator Andy Nault reported that the woods are pretty slow right now – there is only one active sale. He has been busying working on five Spring sales which is approximately 450 acres. The department also wants to start working on a recon project. They are looking at roughly 3,500 acres – trying to determine if they want to do some more thinning in these stands or if they are ready for final harvest.

**B. GUNNELSON LAND PURCHASE UPDATE**

Smith has still not heard back from the State regarding this purchase.

**C. APPROVE BIDS FOR UTV**

Smith passed around and discussed the UTV Bid Summary. After discussion, it was moved by Supervisor Wenger, seconded by Supervisor Stratton, and unanimously carried accept the bid for a new 2018 Polaris Ranger 1000XP.

**D. EQUIPMENT PURCHASE OPTIONS**

Smith passed around and discussed a cost sheet for equipment rental from the DNR. The department would like to do some site prep work this summer near Sand Lake. The department would need to rent equipment from the DNR to perform this work. It would cost nearly \$10,000 to do this site prep work if they chose the option to rent equipment. Smith is proposing purchasing a mulching head for the front of the skid steer so Forestry & Parks can do this work and future site prep projects as well. There is money in the budget for site prep work (renting equipment) but not for the purchase of equipment. Smith would like to ask for a budget revision. After discussion, it was moved

by Supervisor Stratton, seconded by Supervisor Theer, and unanimously carried to purchase this piece of equipment and send this recommendation to Audit & Budget.

## **7. RECREATION**

### **A. SKI HILL CONCESSIONAIRE**

Smith passed around and discussed the 2017-2018 Ski Season report and Ski Hill Kitchen Revenue & Expenses reports. Smith is hoping the weather holds so we can be open a few more weekends.

### **B. LAND FOR SALE ADJACENT TO FAIRGROUNDS**

Smith spoke to the landowner who owns 4.4 acres of land for sale located next to the Fairgrounds. The landowner wants \$18,000 - \$20,000 for this property. The Florence Town Assessor will be putting together some comps for sales in the area on vacant lots to see what things have been selling for. Smith will take that information back to the landowner to see if they can agree at a reasonable price.

## **8. RESOLUTIONS**

Smith passed around and discussed the six resolutions that are needed to apply for state and federal grants. He said new is the Wildlife Habitat Partnership Resolution. The mulching head he is recommending to be purchased could be used for a potential wildlife grant that he is interested in applying for. It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute, seconded by Supervisor Stratton, and carried to approve all six resolutions and send to County Board.

## **9. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Smith informed the Committee that there will be a WCFA meeting in Marshfield March 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>. If anyone was interested in attending to please let Business Manager Mary Podnar know. The Summer WCFA tour will be held in here in Florence June 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>. Podnar and Nault have been busy planning for this event. Also – the Sustainable Forestry Conference will be held on April 19, 2018. Please let Podnar know if you plan on attending.

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

Supervisor Stratton proposed having a Committee person at large on the Forestry & Parks Committee (Ed Wenger) since he is not running for supervisor. Everyone agreed that his background and knowledge in Forestry would be a great asset to the Committee.

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

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

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Supervisor Theer, seconded by Supervisor Stratton, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:03 PM.

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