

FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
4:00 PM - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2024
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM - LOWER LEVEL
FLORENCE NATURAL RESOURCE CENTER, FLORENCE, WI 54121

PRESENT:

CHAIRMAN / COMMITTEE MEMBER
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER
USFS DISTRICT MANAGER
FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR
FORESTRY & PARKS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
FORESTRY & PARKS BUSINESS MANAGER

ED KELLEY
FRAN MODSCHIEDLER
MATT BRUNETTE
SUSAN THEER
JOE MILLS
CHAD KIRSCHBAUM
PAT SMITH
TAYLOR ZIOLKOWSKI
MARY PODNAR

ABSENT OR EXCUSED: None

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

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

2. APPROVAL / AGENDA

It was moved by Supervisor Mills seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as posted.

3. APPROVAL / MINUTES

It was moved by Supervisor Brunette seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of February 14, 2024 Committee meeting.

4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

5. AGENCY REPORTS

A. USFS

USFS District Manager Chad Kirschbaum introduced himself to the Committee. Fire season has begun. He also gave position updates in the Florence office. There are two big vegetation projects; the Four Mile project and the Aspen-Spruce-Fir project. There has been discussion on a nationwide old growth policy. He encouraged the County to provide public comment.

B. DNR – TYLER WOOD

DNR County Forester Tyler Wood was not in attendance.

6. COUNTY FOREST

A. TIMBER SALE UPDATE

Assistant Administrator Ziolkowski said the County has one active sale in the County. They have been busy working with the Horse Club on a horse map. Work is also being done on a scarification project.

B. TRUCK BIDS

Administrator Smith has not heard from Ewald Automotive so he plans to put together a bid package if he can't make contact with Ewald.

7. RECREATION

A. SKI HILL

Smith passed around 2023-2024 Ski Season report. The truck runs went well. They estimated 4,000 people in attendance. He said they money to build a pavilion and replacing the carpet at the lodge.

USFS District Manager Kirschbaum said they still own the Forest Service Office on Keyes Lake. They are still determining what they want to do with the property – turn back to bunkhouse, sell, deed to County.....

B. PARK RESERVATION UPDATE

Smith said the new reservation system seems to be running smoothly. We are up to \$16,000 in reservations.

C. OUTOODR RECREATIONAL PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Supervisor Modschiedler, Mills & Brunette all volunteered to be on the Outdoor Recreational Steering Committee.

8. ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Smith received a complaint from a private property owner regarding a road on county land used for a carry in access site on Loon Lake. The owners use this road to access to their property as well. They said the road is damaged and would like the County to repair.

Smith has not opened the ATV trails as they remain soft. The Blue Ox Trail Riders still need to close the snowmobile trail gates as well.

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER'S COMENTS & CONCERNS

None

10. BILLS / REVENUES – FORESTRY & RESOURCE CENTER

Smith gave an update on the repairs being done on the Wild Rivers Interpretive Center. They hope it will be re-opening next week. It was moved by Supervisor Brunette and seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and carried to approve bills being paid for the month of February by Forestry and Parks and the Florence Natural Resource Center.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Kelley at 4:50 PM.

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