

FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

3:30 PM - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2020

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 DISTRICT MANAGER
FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR
FORESTRY & PARKS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
FORESTRY & PARKS BUSINESS MANAGER

ED KELLEY
LARRY DZEKUTE (*phone*)
LARRY Neuens (*phone*)
SUSAN THEER (*phone*)
HOLLY STRATTON (*phone*)
CHAD KIRSCHBAUM (*phone*)
PATRICK SMITH
TAYLOR ZIOLKOWSKI
MARY PODNAR

ABESENT OR EXCUSED: Larry Neuens

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chairman Kelley called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM. Roll call was taken – Supervisor Dzekute, Theer, Stratton and Neuens attended via phone.

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 Dzekute seconded by Supervisor Theer 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 reported that the Botany Technician position is out for advertisement and the Forester position has been filled. It has been quiet in the woods. They will be putting out a press release to let the public know what will be open and closed.

B. DNR – TYLER WOOD

DNR County Forest Liaison/State Land Forester Tyler Wood was not in attendance.

6. COUNTY FOREST

A. TIMBER SALE UPDATE

Smith reported that there aren't any active timber sales in the County. He introduced the new Assistant Administrator Taylor Ziolkowski.

B. 15 YEAR PLAN – REVIEW PREVIOUS CHAPTERS

Smith asked if the Committee had any questions/suggestions from the chapters they have received.

C. REVIEW COOP / COG PLAN

The COOP/COG plan for Forestry & Parks was mailed to each Committee member for review. It was agreed to wait and discuss any changes/suggestions at the next meeting.

D. APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE FOR SUMMER

Smith asked if the Committee would allow him to advertise for summer help if his summer employees from last year do not come back. It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute seconded by Supervisor Stratton and carried to allow Smith to advertise for summer help if necessary.

E. TELECOMMUTING POLICY FOR FORESTRY & PARKS

Smith reviewed the draft Forestry & Parks telecommuting policy with the Committee.

F. K & N GRANT UPDATE

Smith shared that Florence County received \$90,400 grant funding from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program for the acquisition of 120 acres in the Town of Commonwealth.

7. RECREATION

A. BALL FIELD IMPROVEMENTS

The backstop at the Little League Fisher Lake ball field is in poor condition. Pat received a quote for \$4,820 to replace it. He has money in his budget for the work to be done.

Smith received a request from the softball league to split the cost to repair the back stop at the Fairgrounds. The quote came in at \$2,200 – so Forestry & Parks portion would be \$1,100. Smith has money in his budget for this work as well. It was moved by Supervisor Theer seconded by Supervisor Dzekute and carried to proceed with both repairs.

It was the consensus of the Committee to proceed with Smith operating the parks and campgrounds as usual until he gets direction to do otherwise.

8. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Smith reported that the DMV is closed for walk-in traffic but is still taking appointments.

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER'S COMMENTS & CONCERNS

None

10. BILLS/REVENUES – FORESTRY & RESOURCE CENTER

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

11. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Supervisor Theer, seconded by Supervisor Neuens and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 4:11 PM.

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