

**FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**4:00 PM - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022**  
**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 TIMBER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT  
FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR  
FORESTRY & PARKS BUSINESS MANAGER

ED KELLEY  
RICH WOLOSYN  
SUSAN THEER  
FRAN MODSCHIEDLER  
MATT BRUNETTE  
TYLER WOOD  
DAN REYNOLDS - PHONE  
PATRICK SMITH  
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 – all were present.

**2. APPROVAL / AGENDA**

It was moved by Supervisor Theer seconded by Supervisor Brunette and unanimously carried to approve the agenda.

**3. APPROVAL / MINUTES**

It was moved by Supervisor Modschiedler 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 Timber Management Assistant Dan Reynolds said the new NEPA Coordinator is Pao Vue and has begun work in the Florence office. They are moving forward with hiring a Botany Technician in the Florence office as well. The Seasonal Recreation crew are back for the summer. They are also moving forward with the NEPA environmental assessment across the district.

There are no active timber sales in the County. They are working on plot cruising for the Grub Hoe sale.

**B. DNR – TYLER WOOD**

DNR County Forest Liaison/State Land Forester Tyler Wood reported no active sales in the County. Fire season has begun. They will advertise three timber sales the end of May.

**6. COUNTY FOREST**

**A. TIMBER SALE UPDATE**

Administrator Smith reported no active timber sales in the County.

**B. CARBON CREDIT UPDATE**

Smith spoke with two project developers. Finite Carbon is not interested in working with the County at this time. Smith is waiting for a Financial Manager to be hired before moving forward.

**C. APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE SPRING TIMBER SALES**

It was moved by Supervisor Wolosyn and seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to approve advertisement of the 2022 Spring Timber Sales.

**D. FORESTRY TECH LTE POSITION UPDATE**

The new Forestry Tech LTE position was approved at both the Personnel and Audit & Budget Committees. It has now been sent to County Board for final approval.

**E. KEYES LAKE USFS PROPERTY**

The USFS Ranger contacted Smith regarding purchasing 2 ½ acres of land on Keyes Lake. There is a bunkhouse and garage on the property. It was moved by Supervisor Brunette and seconded by Supervisor Wolosyn and unanimously carried to have Smith proceed with researching the costs and any restrictions to the County with this purchase.

**7. RECREATION**

**A. SKI HILL**

Smith passed around the 2021-2022 Ski Season report. The ski hill had a very good year.

**B. COSGROVE LAKE PROPERTY DISCUSSION**

Smith spoke with the County attorney regarding this property. The attorney said the land owners should bear the costs associated with the legal description and appraisals. It was moved by Supervisor Wolosyn and seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to have the property owners pay the costs.

**8. LAND SALES**

**A. ACCEPT OR REJECT OFFERS**

Smith passed around the Ongoing Land Sale Offers for Purchase list. It was moved by Supervisor Theer seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and carried to accept the bids for Parcel #3 and Parcel #4 and send to County Board for final approval.

**9. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Smith would like to see Personnel Policy updated in order to hire summer workers. The County insurance carrier said employees must be 18 years old to drive County vehicles. Last year he was told they needed to be 17 years old. The workforce labor rules clearly state you need to be 17 years old to drive a vehicle.

The Truck Hill Climb at Keyes Peak was successful. Each volunteer group: Fire Department, Blue Ox Trail Riders & Ski Hill Committee will receive approximately \$12,000 each.

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

Supervisor Wolosyn inquired about the landlocked Tipler Dream Lake property. Smith said they are still working on contacting the landowner to work something out.

He also asked if the landowner at North Lake has completed his own survey yet. Smith was not sure –Wolosyn

asked Smith to find out from the landowner. The County survey will be completed by Coleman once the snow melts.

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

It was moved by Supervisor Theer seconded by Supervisor Wolosyn and carried to approve bills being paid for the month of March by Forestry and Parks and the Florence Natural Resource Center.

**12. ADJOURN TO CLOSE SESSION**

It was moved by Supervisor Wolosyn seconded by Supervisor Theer and carried to move to close session pursuant to;

- WI State Stat. §§ 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Considering promotion to Parks & Ski Hill Manager.

**13. ADJOURN CLOSE SESSION AND RECONVENE**

It was moved by Supervisor Brunette seconded by Supervisor Theer and unanimously carried to reconvene to open session to take actions on matters discussed in closed session.

It was moved by Supervisor Wolosyn seconded by Supervisor Brunette and unanimously carried for (1) Smith to go to Personnel and request this position be posted internally for 2 weeks and (2) to advertise this position with the understanding it is pending approval of the official letter of resignation.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Supervisor Wolosyn seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 PM.

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