

**FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**4:00 PM - WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 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  
DNR – COUNTY FOREST LIAISON/STATE LAND FORESTER  
USFS - TIMBER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT  
FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR  
FORESTRY & PARKS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR  
FORESTRY & PARKS BUSINESS MANAGER

ED KELLEY  
LARRY DZEKUTE  
FRAN MODSCHIEDLER  
MATT BRUNETTE  
TYLER WOOD (PHONE)  
DAN REYNOLDS (PHONE)  
PATRICK SMITH  
TAYLOR ZIOLKOWSKI  
MARY PODNAR

**ABESENT OR EXCUSED:** Susan Theer

**MINUTES**

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

Chairman Kelley called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. Roll call was taken and Supervisor Susan Theer was excused.

**2. APPROVAL / AGENDA**

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

**3. APPROVAL / MINUTES**

It was moved by Supervisor Brunette seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to approve the minutes as read.

**4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Charles Kellstrom was pleased to see the no parking sign placed at the North Lake Boat Landing. He inquired about the enforcement of it.

Jay Weber talked about boat launch fees / enforcement and would like to see them on the webpage.

**5. AGENCY REPORTS**

**A. USFS**

USFS Timber Management Assistant Dan Reynolds said the flooring project in the USFS wing was completed. He thanked Smith for his help with the project. He gave an update on timber sales in Florence County. Dan also gave an update on hiring of staff for the Florence office. There will be a temporary weight restriction on the bridge over the Popple River off Newald Tower Road.

Smith updated the Committee regarding the Grub Hoe Stewardship contract – it is a winter only contract and Smith is working with the contractor on how to get the job complete.

**B. DNR – TYLER WOOD**

DNR County Forest Liaison/State Land Forester Tyler Wood reported there are no active sales. They will be holding a bid opening next week. They are hoping to be able to have a prescribed burn within the next couple of weeks.

**6. COUNTY FOREST**

**A. TIMBER SALE UPDATE**

Assistant Administrator Taylor Ziolkowski worked with Horse Trail Club on trails. He explained the timber markets to the Committee. The tree planting crew will be here next week.

**B. CARBON CREDIT**

Smith has been talking with Consulting Forestry Company to come up with an estimate for carbon credits for the County.

**C. SALE EXTENSIONS/CANCELLATIONS**

Smith said the County has two sales that are asking for extensions with no penalties. It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute seconded by Supervisor Brunette and unanimously carried to approve sale extensions without penalty.

**D. APPROVE BIDS FOR SPRING TIMBER SALES**

Smith passed around 2021 Spring Timber Sale Summary. Out of the five sales – one sold, three sales did not meet minimum, and one sale went no bid. It was moved by Supervisor Brunette seconded by Supervisor Dzekute and unanimously carried to accept the one bid. It was also approved by Supervisor Brunette and seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler to allow a re-bid of the sales that did not sell.

**7. RECREATION**

**A. APPROVE BIDS FOR KEYES LAKE LIGHTING PROJECT**

Smith said we only has one bid for the lighting project at Keyes Lake and it was from Van Ert. It was over our budget amount. Coleman Engineering suggests the Committee accept the bid as submitted. They will then put in a change order for the amount of available for funding. It was approved by Supervisor Modschiedler and seconded by Supervisor Brunette to approve the bid and send to County Board.

**B. PARKS UPDATE**

Campgrounds are open but the water is still not turned on due to the cold nights.

**C. SKI LODGE HEATING SYSTEM UPDATES**

The heating at the lodge needs to be updated. Smith is waiting for a quote for a new boiler/piping.

**8. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

The 2021 WCFA Summer Forest Tour will be Vilas County on June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in going needs to let Business Manager Mary Podnar know.

Smith received five applications for the Occasional Laborer position. Interviews will be held next Wednesday and he will get the agenda out.

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

Supervisor Brunette said he attended the Homestead Township meeting and they noted the 10% due to townships were down. Brunette explained that it was because timber revenue was down for the year.

He also wanted to thank Ziolkowski for the great work he did with the Horse Club.

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

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

**11. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved by Supervisor Brunette seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and carried to move for close session for: *WI State Stat. §§ 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss a potential purchase of land for park purposes.*

**12. ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved by Supervisor Modschiedler seconded by Supervisor Brunette to reconvene to Open Session to take action, if appropriate, on matters discussed in Closed Session.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Supervisor Modschiedler seconded by Supervisor Brunette and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:49 PM.

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