

FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
3:30 PM - WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 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
DNR PINE/POPPLE WILD RIVER PROPERTY MANAGER
FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR
FORESTRY & PARKS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
FORESTRY & PARKS BUSINESS MANAGER

ED KELLEY
LARRY DZEKUTE
SUSAN THEER
FRAN MODSCHIEDLER
MATT BRUNETTE
DUANE HARTWICK
PATRICK SMITH
TAYLOR ZIOLKOWSKI
MARY PODNAR

ABESENT OR EXCUSED: None

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Forestry & Parks Administrator Patrick Smith called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM. Roll call was taken – all were present.

2. FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR – CONDUCT ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Administrator Smith called for nominations for Chairman of the Forestry & Parks Committee three times. It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute, seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler that the nomination for Forestry & Parks Chairman be closed and a unanimous ballot be cast for Supervisor Ed Kelley. It was unanimously carried to have Ed Kelley be Chairman of the Forestry and Parks Committee. Smith turned the meeting over to Chairman Kelley.

3. ELECTED CHAIRMAN – CONDUCT ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Chairman Kelley called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Forestry and Parks Committee three times. It was moved by Supervisor Theer, seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler that the nomination for Forestry & Parks Vice-Chairman be closed and a unanimous ballot be cast for Supervisor Dzekute as Vice-Chairman. It was unanimously carried to have Larry Dzekute be Vice-Chairman of the Forestry and Parks Committee.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Supervisor Theer, seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as read.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 8, 2020

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

6. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

7. AGENCY REPORTS

A. USFS

USFS District Manager Chad Kirschbaum was not in attendance.

B. DNR – TYLER WOOD

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

8. COUNTY FOREST

A. NEW MEMBER POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Smith presented a PowerPoint presentation for our new supervisors giving an overview of what the Forestry & Parks Department does. Supervisor Theer suggested Smith give a County tour as she found that helpful when she joined the Committee.

B. TIMBER SALE UPDATE

Assistant Administrator Taylor Ziolkowski reported that the County has one active timber sale.

C. TIMBER SALE EXTENSION REQUEST

Smith passed around a letter from the Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association (GLTPA) regarding the effects of COVID-19 on the timber industry. The County has three sales that will be expiring June 30, 2020. GLTPA recommends giving contractors one year free extensions. Smith recommends allowing this for the Counties three sales. It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute, seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to grant one year extensions without penalty for these three sales.

D. REVIEW COOP/COG PLAN

Smith passed out the Operations Plan for Forestry & Parks. The Committee will review it for next month's meeting. Smith will find out if this plan needs to go to the County Board.

E. TELECOMMUTING POLICY FOR FORESTRY & PARKS

Smith passed out a draft version of the Forestry & Parks Department Telecommuting Policy. The Committee will review for next month's meeting.

9. RECREATION

A. PARKS

Campgrounds are open for self-contained camping. The bathrooms are closed.

B. KEYES LAKE PROJECT

The Keyes Lake Boat Launch project came in under budget. Our grant specialist is working with Smith to find ways of utilizing the remaining State & Federal funding for the project. Smith will bring recommendations to next month's meeting.

C. FACILITY RENTAL

Smith updated the Committee on how we are handling upcoming lodge and pavilion rentals. Most people are cancelling or changing their dates.

10. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

The National Guard was at the Resource Center on May 12th testing for COVID-19. There were 224 people tested.

11. COMMITTEE MEMBER'S COMMENTS & CONCERNS

Supervisor Modschiedler expressed concerns over maintenance of federal gates on the trail system.

12. BILLS / REVENUES – FORESTRY & RESOURCE CENTER

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

13. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Supervisor Modschiedler, seconded by Supervisor Theer and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 4:37 PM.

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