

FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
3:30 P.M. - WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2017
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM - LOWER LEVEL
FLORENCE NATURAL RESOURCE CENTER
FLORENCE, WI 54121

PRESENT:

SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER
SUPERVISOR / COMMITTEE MEMBER
USFS DISTRICT RANGER
USFS NEPA COORDINATOR
DNR – COUNTY FOREST LIAISON/STATE LAND FORESTER
FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR

LARRY DZEKUTE
HOLLY STRATTON
SUSAN THEER
CHAD KIRSCHBAUM
ADAM FELTS
HENRY SULLIVAN
PATRICK SMITH

ABESENT OR EXCUSED: SUPERVISER ED KELLEY AND SUPERVISOR ED WENGER WERE EXCUSED

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Supervisor Stratton called the meeting to order at 3:47 PM. Roll call was taken. Supervisors Dzekute and Theer were present. Supervisors Kelley and Wenger were excused.

2. APPROVAL / AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL / MINUTES

It was moved by Supervisor Theer, seconded by Supervisor Dzekute, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of June 14, 2017. It was moved by Supervisor Theer, seconded by Supervisor Stratton, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of June 27, 2017

4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

5. AGENCY REPORTS

A. CHAD KIRSCHBAUM - USFS DISTRICT RANGER

USFS District Ranger Chad Kirschbaum introduced himself to the Committee. The County and USFS have been working on a second Stewardship Project. The planning of the project is nearing completion. Hope to have it signed within the month.

There is currently one active timber sale on the National Forest in Florence County on the Grandma Lake Road. Clean up of storm damage from last fall.

B. HUBER & ASSOCIATES

Tony Derleth was not in attendance.

C. DNR – HENRY SULLIVAN

There are two active timber sales.

They are currently working on sale establishment on the south side of the Pine River near Bull Falls.

6. COUNTY FOREST

A. TIMBER SALE UPDATE

Administrator Pat Smith reported that there are two active timber sales in the County. There was storm damage in approximately 20 acres on top of the Ski Hill that we need to salvage. We have a contractor lined up to clean up the damage. It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute, seconded by Supervisor Theer, and unanimously carried to approve the salvage sale to Church Logging.

B. GUNNELSON LAND PURCHASE UPDATE

Smith discussed there being an issue with our Stewardship Grant application due to property rights that we sold to the State on the land being used as “Match” lands. Smith asked the committee to permission to use other properties under county ownership as match lands for the grant. After discussion it was moved by Supervisor Dzekute, seconded by Supervisor Theer, and unanimously carried to allow Smith to use other lands as match lands and continue to pursue this grant.

C. UPDATE ON DNR LAND SALE

Smith updated the committee that in discussion with the Financial Manager the county would be in a better position for this type of purchase in 2019 rather than 2018. Smith has called the DNR real estate contact to see if this was a feasible request. Smith will update the committee next month on where it stands.

7. RECREATION

A. ATV TRAILS

Marinette County Forestry Committee approved the trail connection to their County Forest Road 533. The ATV route/trail from Aurora to Marinette County trail system has been signed as now open for use.

B. SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

Smith updated the committee that the department is working on a solution to the trail closure near Miller road. Little progress has been made to this point.

8. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Smith passed around a letter from John Roberts and informed the committee that John will be presenting at the county board meeting next Tuesday. Smith told the committee that he is willing help in any way to work on developing better access to some of the water falls on the Pine River in that area.

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER’S COMMENTS & CONCERNS

Supervisor Theer had a concerned citizen ask about the road into Lake Emily Campground. The road has many potholes and the citizen is wondering when they will be fixed. Smith stated that he had heard the same comments and the road is on the list of “to-do’s” with the weather the way is has been it has been hard to do any road maintenance. Supervisor Theer asked that this be put on the next agenda for follow up.

10. BILLS/REVENUES – FORESTRY & RESOURCE CENTER

It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute, seconded by Supervisor Theer, and carried to approve bills being paid for Forestry and Parks and the Florence Natural Resource Center for June. There was not a handout for revenues for this

month. The August meeting we will have revenues for both months.

11. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Supervisor Theer, seconded by Supervisor Dzekute, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 4:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Smith, Administrator
Florence County Forestry and Parks