

FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
3:30 PM - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2018
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
FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR
FORESTRY & PARKS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
FORESTRY & PARKS BUSINESS MANAGER

ED KELLEY
LARRY NEUENS
LARRY DZEKUTE
SUSAN THEER
HOLLY STRATTON
HENRY SULLIVAN
PATRICK SMITH
ANDY NAULT
MARY PODNAR

ABESENT OR EXCUSED: NONE

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chairman Kelley called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM. Roll call was taken.

2. APPROVAL / AGENDA

It was moved by Supervisor Neuens seconded by Supervisor Stratton and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with changes.

3. APPROVAL / MINUTES

It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute, seconded by Supervisor Neuens, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of September 12, 2018 as read.

4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

5. AGENCY REPORTS

A. USFS

USFS District Manager Chad Kirschbaum was not in attendance.

B. HUBER & ASSOCIATES

Tony Derleth was not in attendance. Forestry & Parks Administrator Pat Smith reported that Huber & Associates will be handing out 220 antlerless deer permits on the Goodman / Florence forest. These tags will be passed out at the Natural Resource Center.

C. DNR – HENRY SULLIVAN

DNR County Forest Liaison/State Land Forester Henry Sullivan reported that there is one active timber sale. The department plans on advertising bids for the Fall 2018 timber sales this month. DNR wanted to do a prescribed burn this Fall – however because of weather conditions this may not happen. There will be a Pine Popple Wild Rivers Master Planning meeting next week on Tuesday. Chairman Kelley asked Sullivan to request information on the Pike

portion of the Wild Rivers Master Planning. The Pike is part of the Wild Rivers and each has their own separate Master Plan. The original legislation was for the Pine Popple / Pike. After much discussion it was the consensus of the Committee to be sure that the public is notified to be able to comment on the Master Planning process. As more information comes out regarding Master Planning – Sullivan said he would share what he learns with the Committee.

6. COUNTY FOREST

A. TIMBER SALE UPDATE

Assistant Administrator Andy Nault reported there are four active sales in the County. Activities in the woods are slow due to the wet weather.

B. GUNNELSON LAND PURCHASE UPDATE

Smith said Dave Gunnelson would like to use a portion of the proceeds from this land purchase to start a scholarship fund at Florence High School. Smith contacted Superintendent Ben Niehaus and he is trying to get the school board members involved in working with our legislators to back this sale. Niehaus requested that Smith get something on paper from the landowner documenting this request.

Supervisor Stratton contacted Senator Tom Tiffany's office and requested that he consider having the Joint Finance Committee session before the end of the year.

C. LABRECQUE LAND PURCHASE

The offer to purchase this property has been given to the landowner for their signature.

D. TIMBER SALE BIDS APPROVAL

Nault passed around and discussed the Fall 2018 Timber Sale Summary. Total sales for the Fall bid came in at \$200,670.25. After discussion it was moved by Supervisor Dzekute, seconded by Supervisor Stratton and unanimously carried to approve the Fall 2018 timber sale bids.

E. TIMBER TRESPASS UPDATE

Smith sent a letter to the consulting forester but was given the wrong address so the letter was late in getting to him. The forester paid for the trespass stumpage – but asked for extra time to pay the survey cost. After discussion it was moved by Supervisor Stratton, seconded by Supervisor Theer and unanimously carried to allow Smith to work with the forester on a payment plan.

F. SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY GRANT APPLICATION

Smith is still waiting for costs to come in. The grant is due on December 1, 2018.

7. RECREATION

A. RECREATION PLAN UPDATE

Smith is still waiting for comments to come back from the Townships and County Board members. He gave them until the end of month. Smith said the additions/deletions that were discussed at the last meeting will be put into the plan.

B. CAMPGROUND RULES REVIEW

Smith asked if the Committee reviewed the ordinances and asked if they had any suggestions on changes. Supervisor Neuens questioned the 14-day camping rule. After discussion it was decided to keep the language the same. The Committee also asked Smith to look into possibly expanding the Lake Emily campground and bring the costs back to them.

8. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS

Smith passed around the Performance Evaluation Procedure for Administrators. Chairperson Kelley and Supervisor Neuens agreed to do Smith's 2018 Performance Evaluation.

Smith asked that next month's meeting time be changed because he will be on vacation. It was agreed to change the meeting time to 8:00 AM on Wednesday, November 14, 2018.

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER'S COMMENTS & CONCERNS

None

10. BILLS/REVENUES – FORESTRY & RESOURCE CENTER

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

11. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Supervisor Dzekute, seconded by Supervisor Stratton, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 4:32 PM.

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