

FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

4:00 PM - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 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
SUSAN THEER
FRAN MODSCHIEDLER
RICH WOLOSYN
TYLER WOOD
DAN REYNOLDS - PHONE
PATRICK SMITH
TAYLOR ZIOLKOWSKI
MARY PODNAR

ABSENT OR EXCUSED: Matt Brunette

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chairman Kelley called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. Roll call was taken – Supervisor Brunette was excused.

2. APPROVAL / AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL / MINUTES

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

4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Charles Kelstrom is requesting a monthly report on the North Lake Boat Landing. He asked Chairman Kelley to admonish everyone at the table to be careful of what they say to people. He asked Administrator Pat Smith to address the issue with his employees on how they speak to the public.

Jay Weber thanked the Committee for updating the County website with boat fee information.

Larry Neuens is interested in purchasing rocks located on County property. Administrator Smith said this could be done by filling out a miscellaneous forest products permit. He will call local quarries to find out prices and bring to next month's meeting.

5. AGENCY REPORTS

A. USFS

USFS Timber Management Assistant Dan Reynolds said the seasonal recreational workers will soon be laid off. They are shutting campgrounds down and getting ready for the winter season.

The USFS fiscal year ended September 30th – and the Chequamegon Nicolet National Forest sold 154 million board feet with put them #1 in the agency nationwide.

There are six GNA timber sales in the Morgan Lake area and one active sale in Florence County.

B. DNR – TYLER WOOD

DNR County Forest Liaison/State Land Forester Tyler Wood reported one active sale in the County. The department is busy with 405 acres of timber sale establishment.

Wildlife Biologist Tom Carlson updated the Committee on deer harvesting. He said this information is updated on the DNR website. There is Turkey Stamp money available and recommended the County to apply for. The DNR has a good working partnership with the County.

6. COUNTY FOREST

A. TIMBER SALE UPDATE

Assistant Administrator Taylor Ziolkowski reported four active timber sales in the County.

B. APPROVE TIMBER SALE BIDS

Ziolkowski passed around the results from the Fall 2021 Timber Sale. We sold four out of our seven sales totaling \$157,276.45. It was moved by Supervisor Wolosyn seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to accept the Fall 2021 bids.

C. APPROVE LTE FORESTER POSITION

Smith passed around the LTE Forestry Technician job description and explained the need for this position. It was taken out of the budget. The Committee decided not to move forward with sending the position description to Personnel Committee.

D. BUDGET UPDATE

Discussion was had about what was taken out of budget. Smith can still purchase a truck – he will have to shift his money around. Ski hill parking lot and sidewalks were taken out – but still a possibility if the jail project has leftover money. The potential property purchase next to the North Lake boat launch was taken out. Supervisor Wolosyn said the decision was made to reduce the budget – Smith could decide what he needed most.

E. 2021-2022 GNA CONTRACT

Smith did not have the 2021-2022 GNA contract – he will bring to next month's meeting.

F. RE-ASSIGNMENT OF TIMBER SALE CONTRACT

Smith informed the Committee that a logging contractor is being bought out by of his employees. It does not affect the sales – just the contractor name. It was moved by Supervisor Modschiedler seconded by Supervisor Wolosyn and unanimously carried to re-do the contracts with the new contractor.

7. RECREATION

A. PARKS & BOAT LANDINGS

Smith passed around the campground revenue report from the 2020-2021 season.

Smith discussed the recent meeting with SECOLA/Zoning/LCC/Forestry & Parks regarding the North Lake boat launch. Smith gave a drawing from SECOLA to Coleman to see if their ideas could be incorporated with the launch. Smith said the next door land purchase is off the table. Scott Reynolds from SECOLA said they were looking at ideas to be able to get one or two more parking spaces. He said the meeting was productive and good

progress was made.

Smith discussed a survey that was done at the Patten Lake boat landing. There was concern that there may have been some encroachment issues on the County property line at the boat landing. The surveyors have concluded that this is not the case and the property lines will be delineated. There is a gate on the County property. Smith told the committee the gate would probably be removed next year and rocks placed at the property line.

B. APPROVE TO ADVERTISE FOR OCCASIONAL LABORER (SKI HILL COOK)

It was moved by Supervisor Theer seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to advertise for the Occasional Laborer position.

8. LAND SALES

Smith passed around an Ongoing Land Sale for Purchase list. He received an offer to bid for Parcel #10 for \$26,600. It was moved by Supervisor Wolosyn seconded by Supervisor Modshiedler and carried to accept Parcel #10 bid and send to County Board.

9. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

None

10. COMMITTEE MEMBER'S COMENTS & CONCERNS

Supervisor Wolosyn wanted Smith to send to Personnel the LTE Forestry Technician position to determine a pay grade to have on file. Wolosyn felt this could be done without recommendation from the Committee.

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 September by Forestry and Parks and the Florence Natural Resource Center.

12. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Supervisor Modschiedler seconded by Supervisor Theer and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:26 PM.

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