

FLORENCE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

4:00 PM - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 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
DNR – COUNTY FOREST LIAISON/STATE LAND FORESTER
FORESTRY & PARKS ADMINISTRATOR
FORESTRY & PARKS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
FORESTRY & PARKS BUSINESS MANAGER

ED KELLEY
SUSAN THEER
FRAN MODSCHIEDLER
MATT BRUNETTE
TYLER WOOD (phone)
PATRICK SMITH
TAYLOR ZIOLKOWSKI
MARY PODNAR

ABESENT OR EXCUSED: Larry Dzekute

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chairman Kelley called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. Roll call was taken and Larry Dzekute was excused.

2. APPROVAL / AGENDA

It was moved by Supervisor Theer seconded by Supervisor Brunette and unanimously carried to approve the agenda without changes.

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

Supervisor Brunette received a phone call regarding the poor condition of the Lake Emily campground/boat launch road. Administrator Pat Smith reported that it is a town road and needs to be re-built.

5. 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 reported that there are no active timber sales in the County.

6. COUNTY FOREST

A. PRIVATE LANDOWNER ACCESS REQUEST FOR TWO PROPERTIES

Administrator Smith passed around the maps detailing the access request for each property and a copy of our current Florence County 15 Year Forest Plan and the plan that will take effect on January 1, 2021. Smith explained that one request was for access on an existing road and the other was for permission to build an access road to get

onto the property. The requests were denied by Smith because according to Florence County's current 15 Year Forest Plan – access to cross County Forest lands must be a route of last resort. The maps showed that each of these properties have roads to access them that does not cross County Forest. He requested more information from the forester prior to the meeting and it was not received.

The forester for the landowners passed around a timber harvest access permit that he uses. For the Neuens property he explained he was seeking efficiency and public safety as to why he was requesting access across County forest. He is requesting a road be built on County Forest to the Gosz property because of a poor road network. It was suggested that Florence County's current access agreement be submitted to corporal council for approval.

Supervisor Theer asked the forester if these access agreements could wait until the next meeting and the Forester agreed.

It was moved by Supervisor Brunette seconded by Supervisor Modschiedler and unanimously carried to have Smith and the forester review the request again and Smith was to bring his final decision back to next month's meeting.

B. TIMBER SALE UPDATE

Assistant Administrator Ziolkowski reported that the County has no active timber sales.

C. 15 YEAR PLAN

Smith updated the Committee that a public hearing was held on September 21st and the plan is at DNR for review.

D. APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE TIMBER SALES

Ziolkowski passed around and reviewed the 2020 Fall Timber sale prospectus and maps. It was moved by Supervisor Brunette seconded by Supervisor Theer and unanimously carried to approve advertising the 2020 Fall Timber sales.

7. RECREATION

A. COSGROVE LAKE PROPERTY

Smith had a survey done at Cosgrove Lake to see if they could expand the parking lot area. The deed and survey did not match and there appears to be some encroachment areas. Smith is following up with the survey company.

B. SNOWMOBILE CLUB TIPLER BUILDING

The Blue Ox Trail Riders would like to construct a building to house a groomer in the Tipler area. Smith is waiting for information from the State Property Manager as how to proceed.

8. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE

Smith asked the Committee permission to advertise for the ski hill cook position. It was moved by Supervisor Theer seconded by Supervisor Brunette and unanimously carried to approve advertising for a ski hill cook and send to Personnel.

Smith passed around and discussed the report for the DNR 3 Year Audit performed by the DNR.

Smith will need a trenching contract for work to be performed on the County Forest.

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER'S COMMENTS & CONCERNS

None

10. BILLS / REVENUES – FORESTRY & RESOURCE CENTER

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

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

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