

FOREST, PARKS, AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Douglas County Board of Supervisors
Monday, March 27, 2017, 9:30 a.m., Forestry Headquarters
Solon Springs, Wisconsin

Meeting called to order by Chair Mark Liebaert.

ROLL CALL: Present- Mark Liebaert, John Robinson, Terry White, Mary Lou Bergman. Absent – Robert Mock. Others present - Dustin Bronson, Jack Byrd, Jon Harris, Alex Rowe, Mark Schroeder, Judy O'Brien, Jason Jordan, Mick Salmen, Sigmund Degitz, John Otto, Ken Fastner, Jane Anklam, Dan Corbin, Michael Mattson, Rebecca Loken, Greg Kessler, Terry Asleson, Cathy Khalar, Acting Secretary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by White, second Robinson, to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2017, regular meeting, and March 7, 2017 timber sale. Motion carried.

Department Reports:

Budget: Included with members' meeting packet. O'Brien reviewed the budget for the period ending February 28, 2017.

Forest Management Operations: Jordan reported 4 active sales, and 3 hauling. Tree planting of 220 acres to occur in the near future.

Parks and Recreation: Schroeder reported grant applications for snowmobile and ATV development and maintenance have been completed; seasonal park worker interviews scheduled for Friday; and working on emergency action, inspection, operation and maintenance plans for the dams.

ACTION ITEMS/REFERRALS:

Hosting Car Show Event at Lucius Woods County Park (AAD Shriners, Duluth): Duluth AAD Shriners seeking permission to host 2nd annual car show in and around Lucius Woods County Park this summer.

ACTION: Motion by Robinson, second Bergman, to allow AAD Shriners Duluth to host car show in and around Lucius Woods County Park on August 5, 2017. Motion carried.

Applications for Pesticide Ordinance #1.17 Exemption:

Lucius Woods County Park - Direction from this committee last fall to propose an experimental herbicide treatment area in the park for comparison purposes with the goat treatment area comparing cost efficiencies and effectiveness between the chemical and biological control methods. Department staff worked with UW Extension to develop a chemical treatment proposal (included in members' meeting packet). Completed application distributed.

ACTION: Motion by White, second Robinson, to approve the chemical treatment project and exemption from Ordinance #1.17 Pesticide Ordinance for Lucius Woods County Park with department staff to work with UW Extension. Motion carried.

Wisconsin DNR - Dustin Bronson (Forest Analyst Scientist with Wisconsin DNR) requesting an exemption to Ordinance #1.17 Pesticide Ordinance to conduct a research study investigating how to best promote establishment of other tree species into stands of black ash experiencing high mortality due to emerald ash borer (EAB) infestation. WCFA letter of support and completed application distributed.

ACTION: Motion by Robinson, second Bergman, to approve participation in the project and exemption from Ordinance #1.17 Pesticide Ordinance for the identified ash stand in the Town of Summit. Motion carried.

2017 Capital Improvement Project Requests: Reviewed.

ACTION (REFERRAL): Motion by Bergman, second White, to approve the 2017 capital improvement project requests as presented totaling \$1,250,000, forward to County Administrator for review. Motion carried.

2016 Wisconsin Act 170 (WDNR Off-Highway Motorcycle Program): Discussion.

ACTION: Motion by Liebaert, second Robinson, to refer to next meeting. Motion carried.

Release of Capital Reserve Funding (Dam Maintenance): Release of \$6,000 requested to complete Emergency Action Plans (EAP's) for Mooney Dam and Stateline Flowage Dam.

ACTION (REFERRAL/RESOLUTION): Motion by White, second Robinson, to approve release of capital reserve funding for dam maintenance in the amount of \$6,000, and refer to Administration Committee and County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/CORRESPONDENCE:

Straight Arrow Enduro Riders Annual Report: Ken Fastner and John Otto provided update on activities: July 11th wind event really impacted Minnesota portion of trail system; 1000 hours of club time spent clearing trails. Salvage timber harvesting helped open up trails. Enduro event set for 3rd weekend in August.

SUSPEND THE RULES: Motion by Bergman, second White, to extend the meeting beyond the two hour time limit. Motion carried.

Moose River Dog Club Annual Report: Sig Degitz provided updates: wind events caused problems this year blocking portions of course with downed trees. Ran grouse championship last year; new course put in last spring. A course was lost due to logging, causing a major reroute. 2017 spring event scheduled for April 22 and 23.

Friends of the Bird Sanctuary Annual Report: Lynn Zymek provided update (report in members' meeting packet).

Invasive Species Control Utilizing Goats in Lucius Woods County Park Accomplishment Report: Funding is budgeted for utilizing the goats in the spring and fall of this year. Becky reported that after two rotations, no buckthorn stems were found. Ideally, three goat treatment sessions annually during the active growing season are more effective. Goal this year is to have goats access the park when leaves are on plants and to continue bringing the goats home each night for safety reasons.

Wildlife Update Report (WDNR Wildlife Biologist): Greg Kessler provided deer and bear harvesting management updates; distributed handouts regarding spring hearings; and noted there is a federal bill drafted to take wolves off the Endangered Species Listing.

April 12, 2017 Spring Forest Industry Gathering: Lunch to be provided at the Solon Springs Community Center from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Event to be listed on website calendar so all board members are aware and can attend if interested.

Reports:

Wisconsin County Forest Association: No report.

WDNR County Forest Liaison: Asleson attended WCFA meeting; reported county time standard hours to remain the same for FY2017 year end.

Future Agenda Items: Off-Highway Motorcycle Program; LWPAC banners.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by White, second Bergman, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

Submitted by,

Cathy Khalar, Acting Secretary