

FOREST, PARKS, AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Douglas County Board of Supervisors

Monday, March 25, 2019, 9:30 a.m., Forestry Headquarters
9182 East Hughes Avenue, Solon Springs, Wisconsin

Meeting called to order by Chair Liebaert.

ROLL CALL: Present – Mark Liebaert, Mary Lou Bergman, Joseph Moen, Nick Baker. Absent – Steve Long. Others present – Candy Anderson, Shelley Nelson, Sigmund Degitz, Ken Fastner, Mark Schroeder, Cheryl Westman, Committee Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Bergman, second Baker, to approve the minutes from the February 25, 2019, regular and March 5, 2019, timber sale meetings. Motion carried.

Department Reports:

Budget: Included with members' packet. Anderson reviewed the budget for the time period ending February 28, 2019.

Forest Management Operations: Golembiewski reported 3 active timber sales; a very busy winter harvesting season, with a lot of wood still decked in the woods ready for hauling; deadline for June auction paperwork is next week, and expecting a strong offering; regeneration activities soon starting; Forester interviews scheduled.

Parks and Recreation: Schroeder reported writing snowmobile and ATV grants, working with FEMA and a bid opening is scheduled for Friday for the Park Creek Pond project. His replacement starts April 3rd and will be busy job shadowing him until his May 1st retirement.

ACTION ITEMS/REFERRALS:

Department Fee Schedule: Reviewed; with recommended fee changes included.

ACTION (REFERRAL/RESOLUTION): Motion by Baker, second Bergman, to approve department fee schedule with recommended fee changes as presented, to include general and 30,000lb commercial access permit fee amounts of \$350.00 each, and refer to Administration Committee and County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

2019 Capital Improvement Project Requests: Reviewed.

ACTION (REFERRA): Motion by Baker, second Bergman, to approve projects at the funding levels requested, and prioritize in order of need as presented, and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/CORRESPONDENCE/UPDATES/REPORTS:

Straight Arrow Enduro Riders Annual Report: Ken Fastner reported on off-highway motorcycle trail system. Major rain event in 2018 caused a lot of trail damage; 2019 will be 50th year for the annual August Enduro event.

Moose River Dog Club Annual Report: Degitz reported spring and fall events held on county forest property; one event last spring, and classic event in fall. Requesting to provide and add gravel to a low spot on a general forest access road off Highway M; club can work with department staff to identify potential trail locations for future events. 2019 spring event scheduled for last week of April.

ACTION: Motion by Liebaert, second Baker, to approve request for gravel, to be provided by Moose River Dog Club, and Forestry Department staff time and equipment assistance for spreading of material. Motion carried.

Friends of the Bird Sanctuary Annual Report: Refer to April or May meeting.

Wildlife Update Report (WDNR Wildlife Biologist): Reviewed.

Extended Timber Sale Contracts: Status of contracts reviewed: 7 of the high priority 4th and 5th year contracts have been completed.

April 9, 2019, Spring Forest Industry Gathering Reminder: Event to be held April 9, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Department Staffing Update: Schroeder's replacement, Clint Meyer, starting April 3, 2019; currently recruiting for Forester position, and two new seasonal LTE foresters to start May 3, 2019.

WDNR County Forest Liaison: Latvala reported on attending the WCFA 2019 Spring County Forest Administrator's Meeting in Marshfield on March 14-15, 2019. Fire season is quickly approaching, WDNR staff to begin working a seven-day schedule. County timber sale establishment work went very well in preparation for the June 2019 auction. WCFA correspondence distributed, advising of Jane Severt's planned 2019 retirement from current position as Executive Director.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Baker, second Moen, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Submitted by,

Cheryl Westman, Committee Clerk