

**LINCOLN COUNTY FORESTRY, LAND & PARKS COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of Monday, March 10, 2008 @ 9:30 AM**  
**Forestry Meeting Room, Land Resource Center**

Members Present: Graham Rankin, Frank Saal, Richard Berndt, Carl Short

Members Absent: James Alber

Visitors: Joan Giusto, Rod Burgener, Fred Schulz, Susan Schulz, Dewey Plamann, John Bailey, Dan Adamec,  
Bill Groth, Kevin Kleinschmidt, Sherrie Zortman

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, March 10, 2008 in the Forestry Meeting Room, Land Resource Center. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Graham Rankin. James Alber was excused.

2. Approve minutes of February 6, 2008 meeting. Motion by Saal, second by Berndt to approve the minutes of February 6, 2008 meeting as printed. Discussion followed regarding putting contents of phone calls in the written minutes. Motion by Short that based on the definition of "minutes" the following statement be omitted from item 1. of the February 6, 2008 minutes: Alber related to Kevin by telephone that he cannot attend meetings before 9:30 a.m. and wanted this statement reflected in the minutes. Saal second the motion. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Berndt, second by Saal to approve the amended minutes of February 6, 2008 meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. Review year to date budget report. Carl had a question about asterisks on the budget report. Richard said that the Finance Committee discussed this item and found it to be a malfunction in the Munis Program that could be costly to repair. Committee reviewed year to date budget report and placed on file.

4. Comments from members of the public or invited guests. No comments.

5. Discuss Light Utility Vehicle Pilot Program. Several members of the public appeared to offer support for the Light Utility Vehicle Pilot Program. Kevin voiced concerns regarding the vagueness of this program, possible cost to the County for additional maintenance work that may be required on the trails due to the extra traffic, safety concerns with wider, heavier machines on the trails, and the county's isolation with no connecting trails to other counties being open for this use because Langlade and Oneida County both opted out of the program. Discussion followed regarding possible benefits of the program including registration revenue, economic impact and the benefits for the elderly and disabled. Motion by Berndt, second by Saal for Lincoln County to participate in the Light Utility Vehicle Pilot Program with the ability to withdraw from the program if deemed necessary before the 2 years are finished and forward resolution to the County Board of Supervisors for approval. Discussion followed. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. Award contract for Garlic Mustard spraying. Kevin reported that 2 bids were received and explained that spraying for Garlic Mustard will be funded by a Sustainable Forestry Grant. Discussion followed. Motion by Saal, second by Berndt to award bid to 4 Control, Inc. to provide herbicide treatment of garlic mustard. All ayes. Motion carried. On March 24, 2008 a training session regarding invasive species will be held in the Land Resource Center Meeting Room. Motion by Saal, second by Short to authorize mileage and per diem for Committee members attending the training session for invasive species on March 24, 2008. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. Request for Summer Intern. Kevin reported that he has been working with Rick Weide, WDNR Wildlife Biologist, to hire a summer intern to assist in maintaining/renovating wildlife openings. This position would be funded by Wildlife Habitat Grant dollars. Motion by Berndt, second by Saal to authorize Forest Administrator to hire a summer intern. All ayes. Motion carried.

8. Request for repurchase of tax delinquent parcels.

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|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| a. Section 6, T34N-R4E | Town of Tomahawk – Michael Nelson |
| b. Section 5, T35N-R5E | Town of Wilson – Charles Giese    |

Kevin explained that the former property owners of these parcels wish to repurchase them. Discussion followed. Motion by Saal, second by Berndt to offer tax delinquent parcels to former property owners with full payment due in 60 days, and forward resolution to County Board of Supervisors for approval. All ayes. Motion carried.

9. Underdown Campground. Kevin informed the Committee that our department petitioned the State for a variance to the dump station requirement so that the Underdown Campground can be licensed. Campers using this facility will be permitted to dump their waste at Council Grounds State Park or the City of Merrill Wastewater Treatment Plant. Discussion followed. Motion by Saal, second by Rankin to permit charging camping fees at the Underdown Campground consistent with the other County Campgrounds, posting dump station signage. All ayes. Motion carried.

10. Discuss multi-use building. Discussion was held regarding shelving and water well possibilities. Kevin reported that he received several quotes for construction of restrooms, and will apply for funding through the ORV Program.

11. Update on vacant positions. Kevin reported that applications to fill the forester position were due last Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. The vacancy for Shop Foreman was approved to be filled as a non-union position but down-graded from grade 11 to grade 9 because many of the office duties performed by the previous foreman will now be done in the main Forestry office.

12. Set date and authorize advertising for timber sale. Motion by Saal, second by Berndt to authorize advertising and set timber sale date for Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

13. WDNR Wildlife Report – Rick Weide. Rick Weide, Wildlife Biologist, was not present at the meeting.

14. WDNR Forester's Report – Bill Groth. Bill Groth, Forestry Liaison reported that they have been working on Forest Inventory/Compartment Recon and noted that Lincoln County will be audited for FSC this May. Also, they should be in the new ranger station this May.

15. Review Administrator's written report. Frank commented on items discussed at the WCFA spring meeting including SFI and FSC certification. Kevin said he will send WCFA board of directors meeting minutes to the Committee to keep them informed. Carl reported that he notified the Foto News to correct the title of Recreation Officer. It has been incorrectly printed as Resource Officer. The Administrator's written report was reviewed and placed on file.

16. Close Timber Sales.

T032-03	Bruce Broeking	Close and refund bond
T002-06	Biewer Wisconsin Sawmill	Close and refund bond

Motion by Saal, second by Rankin to close sales per Kevin's recommendation. All ayes. Motion carried.

17. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land and Parks Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 7, 2008 @ 9:30 a.m. in the Forestry Meeting Room, Land Resource Center.

18. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Berndt, second by Short to adjourn at 11:20 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.