

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Monday, July 14, 2014 @ 9:00 A.M.
Lincoln County Service Center Conference Room 107
801 N. Sales St., Suite 106, Merrill, WI 54452 **715-539-1034

Members Present: Graham Rankin, John Bailey, Donald Nelson, Carl Vander Sanden and Ryan Schwartzman

Visitors: Bill Groth, Kevin Kleinschmidt, Nancy Bergstrom, Travis Watruba and Deb Gerdes

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, July 14, 2014 in Conference Room 107, Lincoln County Service Center. The meeting was called to order by Chair Graham Rankin at 9:00 a.m.

2. Approve minutes of June 9, 2014 meeting. Motion by Nelson, second by Schwartzman to approve minutes of June 9, 2014 meeting as printed. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. Review year to date budget report. The Committee reviewed year to date budget report and placed on file.

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

5. Closed session.

Convene into closed session pursuant to §19.85 (1) (g). Conferring with legal counsel concerning strategy to be adopted by the governmental body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

- a. River Valley Bank
- b. Timber Sale T007-12

Motion by Vander Sanden, second by Nelson to convene into closed session authorizing Kevin Kleinschmidt and Nancy Bergstrom to remain for closed session. Roll call vote taken. Rankin – aye, Vander Sanden – aye, Schwartzman – aye, Nelson – aye, Bailey – aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Vander Sanden, second by Schwartzman to reconvene into open session. Roll call vote taken. Rankin – aye, Vander Sanden – aye, Schwartzman – aye, Nelson – aye, Bailey – aye. Motion carried.

6. Open session. Take any necessary action on items discussed during closed session.

Motion by Bailey, second by Vander Sanden to reinstate acceptance of Letters of Credit from River Valley Bank as security for timber sale contracts and to close Timber Sale T007-12. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. Request to open southern portion of Camp Avenue to ATV use.

The Spirit Valley Riders ATV Club requested that the southern portion of Camp Avenue be opened for ATV use to help make a route connection to the Merrill area. Kevin informed the committee that there have been no negative issues with previously opened sections of road and this request will not displace any other uses. Discussion followed. Motion by Nelson, second by Schwartzman to open remaining portion of Camp Avenue to ATV use. All ayes. Motion carried.

8. Recreation Officer's report. Kevin distributed copies of the Recreational Officer's report. Officer Watruba was present to provide the committee with an overview of his job duties and identify some problem areas. Discussion followed on various new ATV, snowmobile and boating laws and enforcement of County Park and Forest ordinances. The Committee thanked officer Watruba for his work and dedication.

9. Approve biomass sales. Kevin advised the committee that there are several biomass sales to clean up in various locations on the county forest and asked the committee for approval to sell at his discretion. Motion by Bailey, second by Vander Sanden to approve the selling of these biomass sales at Kevin's discretion. All ayes. Motion carried.

10. Approve replacement of 2007 ½ ton pickup. Kevin explained request to replace 2007 pickup with an extended cab model. Motion by Nelson, second by Schwartzman to authorize advertising for quotes for the replacement of 2007 ½ ton pickup. All ayes. Motion carried.

11. WDNR Report – Bill Groth. Bill reported that he has been working with the assistant county forest administrator on timber sale administration.

12. Review Administrator's written report. Kevin reported that the fall timber sale paperwork will be completed this week, as will the Harrison Dam inspection. Tax delinquent property signs are out and newspaper ads will appear this week as well. There will be a dedication for the connection of the Hiawatha and Bearskin Trails on August 23rd. Kevin informed the committee that all permits have been obtained for the proposed Pine Lake ATV trail. The Administrator's written report was reviewed and placed on file.

13. Close timber sales.

T035-10 G & L Logging Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit

Motion by Vander Sanden, second by Schwartzman to close sales per Kevin's recommendation. All ayes. Motion carried.

14. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land & Parks Committee Meetings are set as follows:
Monday, August 11, 2014 at 9:00 a.m., LCSC Conference Room 107
Monday, September 8, 2014 at 9:00 a.m., LCSC Conference Room 107

15. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Bailey, second by Vander Sanden to adjourn at 10:35 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.