

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Monday, January 11, 2016 @ 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: Carl Vander Sanden, Curtis Powell, Kevin Koth, Ryan Schwartzman, Bob Reichelt

Members Excused:

Members Absent:

Visitors: Fred Heider, M. Powell, Lance Meier, Bill Groth, Kevin Kleinschmidt and Deb Gerdes.

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, January 11, 2016 in Conference Room 107, Lincoln County Service Center. The meeting was called to order by Chair Carl Vander Sanden at 9:00 a.m.
2. Approve minutes of December 14, 2015 meeting. Motion by Schwartzman, second by Powell to approve minutes of December 14, 2015 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. Open and award land sale bids. No bids were received.
6. Open and award timber sale bids. Timber sale bids were opened and read. Two bids were received on timber sale T022-15 which was not sold at the November bid opening. Motion by Powell, second by Koth to award sale to high bidder pending any necessary reference checks or mathematical errors. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
7. Lincoln County Outdoor Recreation Plan – Fred Heider. Kevin introduced Fred Heider from North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Fred gave an overview of the process for updating Lincoln County's Outdoor Recreation Plan, which expires at the end of this year. Updating the plan every five years is a requirement for Lincoln County's continued eligibility to apply for certain grants. The next step in the process will be to gather public input.
8. Annosum Root Rot Policy. Kevin gave a brief summary of the Annosum Root Rot Policy. Treatment is recommended for stands within a 25 mile buffer of a known occurrence and there is now a known occurrence within that distance to the county forest. Motion by Powell, second by Schwartzman to modify the Annosum Root Rot Policy section within the existing timber sale contract as recommended by Kevin to require treatment during non-frozen conditions beginning with the spring 2016 sales. All ayes. Motion carried.

9. 2015 timber sale revenue. Revenue spreadsheet was distributed and reviewed. A total of \$1,973,804.17 was collected on County Forest Property with \$195,862.51 being distributed to towns with County Forest Land within their townships; \$391,725.04 to the County General Fund; and \$1,386,216.62 to the County Forestry Fund. This was a record year for timber sale revenue. Any unused budgeted funds and surplus revenues from the County Forestry Fund will be transferred to the County CIP Fund after the annual audit. Discussion followed.

10. WDNR Report – Bill Groth. Bill informed the committee he was able to view most of the active logging sites on Lincoln County Forest. Sale areas look good.

11. Review Administrator’s written report. The recreation officer’s report was distributed. Discussion followed. Kevin reported that January 2, 2016 the Hiawatha Trail in Tomahawk, from SARA Park north to the Lincoln/Oneida County line, opened for snowmobile use. Clubs are working on getting the snowmobile trails in the northern portion of the county ready and our crew is working on the Underdown winter recreation trails. The Forestry Department received a job shadow request from a Tomahawk student. The Administrator’s written report was reviewed and placed on file.

12. Close timber sales.

T037-14	Schreiner Forestry	Close and refund cash bond
T002-13	G & Logging, Greg Lukes	Close and refund cash bond

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

13. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land & Parks Committee Meetings are set as follows:
Monday, February 8, 2016 at 9:00 a.m., LCSC Conference Room 107
Monday, March 14, 2016 at 9:00 a.m., LCSC Conference Room 107

14. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Schwartzman, second by Koth to adjourn at 9:37 a.m. All ayes.
Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Kevin Kleinschmidt and Deb Gerdes