

**Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Monday, December 13, 2010 @ 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, Richard Berndt, David Fox, Richard Eisenman and John Bailey

Visitors: Joan Giusto, Bill Groth, Mike Lietz, Russ Werner, Todd Pond, Lee Rahlf, Jerrad Macholl, Rick Graap, Dean Bowe, Kevin Kleinschmidt, and Sherrie Zortman

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, December 13, 2010 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 November 8, 2010 meeting. Motion by Eisenman, second by Berndt to approve minutes of November 8, 2010 meeting as printed. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. Review year to date budget report. Kevin answered questions regarding revenue, and discussion followed. 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 any land sale bids. No bids were received. Kevin advised that since the County Board will not meet in December, approval for conveyance of real estate from last month's land sale will not go to County Board until January, 2011.

6. Three-year DNR audit report. Kevin distributed a summary of the DNR audit report and reviewed with the Committee. Discussion followed. Kevin will develop a policy regarding payment schedule as recommended in the DNR audit report and bring back for Committee approval.

7. ATV projects. Joan Giusto, representative for the Harrison Hills ATV Club, appeared to discuss the Clubs' requests outlined at the previous Committee Meeting as follows:

a. Shelters. Joan advised the club will provide plan and cost estimates for small shelters located along the trail. Kevin recommended that one shelter be constructed at this time to see if any maintenance issues arise as a result. Type of shelter and locations were discussed as well as winter plowing of parking lot by multi-use shelter on CTH B.

b. Intersection signage. Joan distributed trail intersection signage outline. Discussion followed regarding coordinating with 911 system and snowmobile trail. Kevin will gather additional information to be discussed at a future Committee Meeting.

c. Theis Road trail. Kevin advised that it has been a long-term goal to develop this trail, but many issues need to be resolved before a state-funded project application can be submitted. Discussion followed.

Brief break taken at 9:55 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

9. Open timber sale bids – 10:00 a.m. Kevin made introductions and explained the bidding procedure. Timber Sale bids were opened and read. A total of 100 bids for 21 jobs offered were received. The total of bids received is \$742,594.40.

8. Ice Age Trail improvements – New Wood Park. Kevin reported on improvements the Ice Age Trail Alliance has proposed to make at the trailhead by New Wood Park to include constructing an informational kiosk and re-routing a short segment of the trail away from the campground. Russ Werner appeared to provide additional explanation. Discussion held regarding funding. Motion by Bailey, second by Eisenman to approve Ice Age Trail improvements at New Wood Park. All ayes. Motion carried.

10. Review Department Ad Hoc Committee Report. Kevin provided a copy of report and reviewed the main points. Discussion was held regarding inter-departmental services, sharing equipment and billing issues. Kevin will make requested additions to report.

11. WDNR Report – Bill Groth. Bill distributed summary regarding deer season outcome. Mike Lietz advised the regional forester position has been filled. Discussion was held regarding Strategic Direction draft involving fire control, private forestry, and law enforcement. The employment status of the DNR was also discussed.

12. Review Administrator’s written report. Kevin reported that the Forestry Department did not receive grant dollars submitted to make repairs on Krueger Firelane at this time, but can re-submit in August. Supplemental checks based on the 66% prorate were sent to Snowmobile Clubs. The Administrator’s written report was reviewed and placed on file.

13. Close timber sales.

T014-09	Steven Dassow	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T024-08	Futurewood Corp.	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T020-08	Smola Brothers	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T023-08	Smola Brothers	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T002-10	Biewer WI Sawmill	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit

Motion by Eisenman, second by Berndt to close sales per Kevin’s recommendation. All ayes. Motion carried.

14. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land and Parks Committee meetings are set as follows:
Monday, January 10, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Lincoln County Service Center, Conference Room 107
Monday, February 14, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Lincoln County Service Center, Conference Room 107

15. Award timber sale bids. Motion by Fox, second by Berndt to accept apparent high bids as presented pending reference checks of new bidders. All ayes. Motion carried.

16. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Bailey, second by Rankin to adjourn at 11:25 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.