

LINCOLN COUNTY FORESTRY, LAND & PARKS COMMITTEE
Minutes of Monday, February 05, 2007 @ 9:00 AM
Forestry Meeting Room, Land Resource Center

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

Members Absent: None

Visitors: Theresa Schmeltzer, Norman Heckendorf, Nancy Bergstrom, Jim Wendt, Jane Severt, Sherrie Zortman

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, February 05, 2007 in the Forestry Meeting Room, Land Resource Center. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Graham Rankin.

2. Approve minutes of January 5, 2007 meeting. Motion by Alber, second by Short to approve the minutes of January 5, 2007 as printed. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. Review vouchers. Jane explained the distribution of Forest Land Revenue. Committee reviewed vouchers as previously paid and placed on file.

(Frank Saal arrived at 9:03 a.m.)

4. Review year to date budget report. Jane informed the Committee that budget modifications will be made and the grant for the Recreation Officer will be handled through the Sheriff's Department. Committee reviewed year to date budget report and placed on file.

5. Comments from members of the public or invited guests. Norman Heckendorf inquired about the multi-use building in Harrison Hills. Jane replied that this is a summer/fall project and request for bids will be made for building construction in the spring. This item will be placed on next months agenda.

6. Set 2007 equipment rates. Jane distributed copies of the 2007 equipment rates for each piece of equipment owned by the Forestry Department. The rates are set by the State and used for grant work. James Alber expressed concerns with the various increase percentages used for each piece of equipment. Discussion followed. A yearly equipment rate comparison report will be prepared. Motion by Rankin, second by Short to approve the 2007 equipment rates. Rankin, Berndt, Short, Saal voting aye (4). Alber voting nay (1). Motion carried.

7. Replacement of 1995 Skandic snowmobile. Jim Wendt, Forestry Shop Foreman, appeared to explain the request for a Skandic utility snowmobile to replace the 1995 snowmobile. Discussion followed. Motion by Alber, second by Berndt to authorize advertising for quotes for the replacement of 1995 Skandic snowmobile. All ayes. Motion carried.

8. Replacement of 1999 Ford truck. Jane explained the request and said that the Forestry Department would like to retain this vehicle for forestry use. Discussion was held regarding trade-in values and equipment schedule by replacement date. Motion by Alber, second by Rankin to authorize advertising for quotes for the replacement of 1999 Ford truck, and to retain the 1999 Ford truck for Forestry Department use which will be reviewed in the fall of 2007. All ayes. Motion carried.

9. Access to Linda Krueger property. As instructed by the Committee at the January 2007 meeting, Mike O'Keefe, Army Corp. of Engineers, Gary Bartz, DNR, Theresa Schmeltzer, Realtor, and Jane viewed the area for proposed access to Linda Krueger's property. No grading/filling will be done, so therefore Army Corp. of Engineers has no recommendation. Discussion followed regarding the definition of a road and access permits. Motion by Alber, second by Berndt that in light of Army Corp. of Engineers position, which is not allowing

road construction for access to Linda Krueger's property in Section 6-33-05, the Forestry Department will issue an Access Permit to the current landowner. All ayes. Motion carried. The Access Permit will work out the details and conditions for access by ATV.

A brief break was taken at 10:20 a.m. Meeting reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

10. Department policy on access to private property through County Forest. Discussion was held regarding the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Access Permits and special circumstances. Nancy Bergstrom, Corporation Counsel, suggested that the Administrator set the groundwork for permits, handle department policies and present to Committee, as done in the Zoning Department.

11. Keith Woller tax delinquent land parcel. Jane reported that payment was received from Keith Woller for parcel #4 of the 2006 Land Sale.

12. Updates for tax delinquent land sale procedures. Discussion was held regarding tax delinquent land sale procedures. Motion by Saal, second by Short to update tax delinquent land procedures as follows: "If successful bidder defaults on the property purchase, at Forest Administrator's discretion, it will be offered to the next eligible successful bidder on the property on the same terms and conditions. If the 2nd eligible bidder declines or defaults on the purchase then the parcel will again be offered for sale when practicable." All ayes. Motion carried. Further discussion followed. Motion by Alber, second by Berndt to add second update to tax delinquent land sale procedures as follows: "All sales shall be by sealed bids specifying a fixed dollar amount." All ayes. Motion carried.

A brief break was taken at 11:25 a.m. Meeting reconvened at 11:30 a.m.

13. Closed Session.

Motion by Alber, second by Saal to convene into closed session pursuant to §19.85 (1) (e) Wis. Stats. Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session (T005-05 and T020-05), authorizing Jane Severt and Nancy Bergstrom to remain for closed session. Roll call vote taken. Berndt-aye, Short-aye, Rankin-aye, Saal-aye, Alber-aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Alber, second by Berndt to reconvene into open session. Roll call vote taken. Berndt-aye, Short-aye, Rankin-aye, Saal-aye, Alber-aye. Motion carried 5-0.

14. Open Session.

Take any necessary action on items discussed during closed session. No action was necessary.

15. Sheriff's Department Shooting Range. The Highway Department is removing gravel at the present site, so a new location for a shooting range is necessary. Discussion followed regarding safety, costs and long-range planning. Motion by Alber, second by Rankin to direct Jane to notify the Sheriff's Department that the Forestry Committee is not interested in developing a shooting range by the Forestry Shop, Chat. All ayes. Motion carried. The Committee requests that the Sheriff's Department work with NTC to use the multi-million dollar facility being constructed on Champagne Street. Until this facility becomes operational, the Forestry Committee suggests that the Sheriff's Department work with Corning Gun Club or Lincoln County Sportsman's Club.

16. Birch Town Hall. Jane met with Herb Schotz, Representative for the Town of Birch Building Committee, regarding land purchase for the new Town Hall. Jane explained that the parcel has to be defined by the County Surveyor before appraisals can be done and purchase price be set. Discussion followed. The Committee directed Jane to write an informational letter to the Town of Birch Chair regarding progress of Town Hall.

17. WDNR Wildlife Report. No report.

18. WDNR Forester's Report – Bill Groth. Bill was absent from meeting, but Jane reported that forest reconnaissance work is underway.

19. Review Administrator's Report. Discussion followed. The Administrator's report was reviewed and placed on file.

20. Close Timber Sales.

T013-06	Smola Brothers	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T019-05	Midwest Forest Products	Close and refund Bond

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

21. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land and Parks Committee meetings are scheduled as follows:

Monday, March 5, 2007 @ 9:00 a.m., Forestry Meeting Room, Land Resource Center.

Thursday, April 5, 2007 @ 9:00 a.m., Forestry Meeting Room, Land Resource Center.

22. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Alber, second by Rankin to adjourn at 12:15 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.