

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Tuesday, March 3, 2009 @ 8:00 A.M.
Lincoln County Service Center, Conference Room 158

Members Present: Graham Rankin, Richard Berndt, David Fox and Carl Short

Members Absent: Richard Eisenman

Visitors: Kevin Kleinschmidt, Joan Giusto, Bill Groth, John Mulder, Sherrie Zortman

- 1. Call meeting to order.** The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 in Conference Room 158, Lincoln County Service Center. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Graham Rankin. Richard Eisenman was excused.
- 2. Approve minutes of February 3, 2009 meeting.** Motion by Berndt, second by Short to approve minutes of February 3, 2009 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.** Joan Giusto, representing the Harrison Hills ATV Club, requested permission to hold a brat fry at the multi-use shelter on July 4, 2009 to promote ATV safety. Kevin consented and said a permit would be required with proof of liability insurance. Joan presented documentation showing the positive impact of ATV's on Wisconsin tourism. The construction of a restroom by the multi-use shelter will be completed this summer/fall.
- 5. Conveyance of real estate – Zion Lutheran.** Kevin explained that in 1944, Zion Lutheran Church, Town of Harding, was deeded a 3 acre parcel on the southeast corner of 40 acres that the county took tax delinquent in 1952. An error was made on the deed when the county acquired this property and only left the church with 1 acre. This resolution would convey to the church the other 2 acres that they rightfully own. Discussion followed. Motion by Fox, second by Short to approve conveyance of real estate to Zion Lutheran, Town of Harding. All ayes. Motion carried.
- 6. Budget modification.** This item will be held over because information was not available at this time.
- 7. Approve equipment rates.** Discussion was held regarding equipment rates. Motion by Rankin, second by Short to approve 2009 equipment rates and any possible adjustments made by the DOT. All ayes. Motion carried.
- 8. Christmas tree permits.** Kevin explained that currently permits to cut Christmas trees are issued at no charge, but with more requests being made, suggested that \$5.00 be charged allowing 1 tree per household. Motion by Berndt, second by Short to issue Christmas tree permits at a cost of \$5.00 limited to 1 tree per household. All ayes. Motion carried.
- 9. WCFA Spring Meeting – March 19-20, 2009.** Kevin reminded the Committee of the WCFA Spring Meeting.
- 10. Set timber sale date and authorize advertising.** Motion by Berndt, second by Short to set Timber Sale date for Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. and authorize advertising. All ayes. Motion carried.
- 11. Discuss cost saving ideas.** Kevin offered cost saving ideas, including sharing employees/equipment with other departments, purchasing tree marking paint by the gallon rather than quart, hiring some jobs out, reduction of services, and increasing fees, to name a few. Discussion followed.
- 12. WDNR Report – Bill Groth.** Bill Groth, Forestry Liaison, reported that all spring timber sale jobs were reviewed and looked good. DNR may be cutting wildlife 10¢/acre grant in half the next 2 years, and Rhinelander and Spooner will be the only ranger stations to offer counter service beginning next year.

13. Review Administrator's written report. Kevin informed the Committee that the annual Sustainable Forestry Conference will be held in Florence County on April 16, and the WCFA Summer Tour will be held in Clark County June 18-19. A letter relating to access in the Underdown was discussed. Kevin will attend a meeting today regarding the Light Utility Vehicle pilot program. The Administrator's written report was reviewed and placed on file.

14. Close timber sales.

T028-07	Timberline Logging	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T009-08	Futurewood Corporation	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T001-07	Pichler Land & Timber	Close; redeemed Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T021-07	Graap Logging	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit

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

15. Set next meeting dates. The next Forestry, Land and Parks Committee meeting dates are set as follows:

Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. in Conference Room 158

Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room 156

16. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Berndt, second by Rankin to adjourn meeting at 9:08 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.