

LINCOLN COUNTY FORESTRY, LAND & PARKS COMMITTEE
Minutes of Monday, April 7, 2008 @ 9:30 AM
Forestry Meeting Room, Land Resource Center

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

Members Absent: James Alber

Visitors: Joan Giusto, Mike Lietz, Bill Groth, Kevin Kleinschmidt, Sherrie Zortman

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, April 7, 2008 in the Forestry Meeting Room, Land Resource Center. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Graham Rankin. James Alber was excused.
2. Approve minutes of March 10, 2008 meeting. Motion by Short, second by Saal to approve the minutes of March 10, 2008 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. Mike Lietz, WDNR, informed the Committee that the Conservation Congress County Meeting for Lincoln County will be held on April 14th at Tomahawk High School. Proposed changes in the MFL Program are one topic to be discussed.
5. 2007 Forestry Department budget modifications. Kevin explained the budget modifications. Motion by Berndt, second by Saal to approve the 2007 Forestry Department budget modifications. All ayes. Motion carried.
6. Update on vacant positions. Kevin informed the Committee that interviews were held on March 31st for the forester position, and Jerrad Macholl has been offered the position. The deadline for applications to fill the shop foreman position is April 18th. Also, a summer intern has been hired to assist in maintaining/renovating wildlife openings.
7. Timber Sale Default Policy. Kevin contacted several counties to see what policies, if any, they have in place when a contractor refuses to renew, extend or cut an active contract in good standing. Often times this happens when a contractor bid too high and can't afford to pay the stumpage. Kevin offered several options and discussion followed. Motion by Saal, second by Short to enact a policy stating that if a contractor defaults on their job, Lincoln County will re-advertise the sale and keep a portion or all of the performance bond to cover the difference between the old bid rate and the newly established rate as well as assess re-establishment and re-advertising costs, and disallow the contractor in default to bid on that job. All ayes. Motion carried.
8. Sustainable Forestry Conference. Kevin informed the Committee that the Sustainable Forestry Conference will be held on April 17th in Florence and the registration deadline is April 11th. Discussion followed. Motion by Rankin, second by Berndt to authorize mileage and per diem to any Committee member attending the Sustainable Forestry Conference on April 17, 2008. All ayes. Motion carried.
9. Update on Light Utility Vehicle Program. Kevin said that he sent in the grant application for \$2,000.00 designated for this program. He also stated that a senate bill, if passed, will enable state trails to participate in this program.
10. WDNR Wildlife Report – Rick Weide. Rick Weide, Wildlife Biologist, was not present at the meeting, but Bill Groth reported that the Learn to Hunt Program, a turkey hunt for kids, was held last weekend.
11. WDNR Forester's Report – Bill Groth. Bill Groth, Forestry Liaison reported that the timber sales are approved for the May 14th sale.

12. Review Administrator's written report. Kevin reported on the following:

- The invasive plant training session for County Forest user groups and County staff was well attended and informative.
- 4 Control, Inc. has signed a 2-year contract and will begin spraying garlic mustard this spring.
- New ATV trail maps will be printed this year using a State grant.
- Distributed a map showing how other counties in Wisconsin are certified.
- Distributed information on Trout stocking quotas for Lincoln and Langlade Counties.
- Answered questions regarding Snowmobile Council.

The Administrator's written report was reviewed and placed on file.

13. Close Timber Sales.

T033-06	Greg Schenzel	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T042-04	Wiitala Vozka Logging	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T041-05	Schreiner Trucking	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit

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

14. Set next meeting date – May 14, 2008, 9:00 a.m. The next Forestry, Land and Parks Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14, 2008 @ 9:00 a.m. in the Land Resource Center Meeting Room, with the Timber Sale bid opening to begin at 10:00 a.m.

15. Adjourn meeting. Motion Saal, second by Berndt to adjourn at 10:15 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.