

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Tuesday, April 7, 2009 @ 8:00 A.M.
Lincoln County Service Center, Conference Room 158
801 N. Sales Street, Merrill, WI 54452Phone (715) 539-1034**

Members Present: Graham Rankin, Richard Berndt, David Fox and Richard Eisenman

Members Absent: Carl Short, excused

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

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Tuesday, April 7, 2009 in Conference Room 158, Lincoln County Service Center. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Graham Rankin. Carl Short was excused.

2. Approve minutes of March 3, 2009 meeting. Motion by Eisenman, second by Berndt to approve minutes of March 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, addressed the issue of opening roads to ATV travel to Otter Lake Park and requested this item be placed on next months meeting agenda. Kevin said the townships have authority over the use of that road and Dave Fox suggested she approach the townships with her request.

5. Approve budget modifications. Kevin explained the budget modifications. Motion by Berndt, second by Eisenman to approve the 2008 Forestry Department budget modifications. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. Shared office staff. Kevin informed the Committee that he attended a meeting with several department heads to discuss sharing staff. As a result of that meeting, the Forestry Department has restructured some of its office duties and will share the Administrative Secretary with Commission on Aging 2 days a week contingent on our ability to meet our workload. Discussion was held regarding the elimination of flex time and sharing staff.

7. Award contract for Harrison Dam Hydraulic Study. Five (5) bids were received to conduct a hydraulic study on the Harrison Dam to secure a hazard rating. The results were distributed and discussion followed. Motion by Eisenman, second by Fox to award contract for Harrison Dam Hydraulic Study to Northern Environmental for \$8,400.00. All ayes. Motion carried.

8. Advertise for quotations for multi-use building restrooms. Kevin said the restrooms will be fully funded through ORV dollars. Motion by Berndt, second by Fox to approve advertising for quotations for the construction of restrooms by the multi-use building. All ayes. Motion carried.

9. Park shelter fees. Kevin suggested raising the park shelter fees \$10.00 starting next year. Discussion followed. Motion by Eisenman, second by Berndt to approve park shelter rental fees to increase \$10.00 beginning January 1, 2010. Voice vote taken: 3 ayes, 1 nay (Fox). Motion carried.

10. Firewood permit fees. Kevin suggested raising firewood permit fee from \$10.00 to \$15.00. Discussion followed. No action taken.

Brief break taken at 8:50 a.m. Meeting reconvened at 8:55 a.m.

11. Summer intern. Kevin requested hiring a summer intern to be funded by grant dollars. Motion by Rankin, second by Berndt to authorize Forest Administrator to hire a summer intern. All ayes. Motion carried.

12. Set date for Committee Tour and/or viewing tax delinquent lands. The Committee will tour and view tax delinquent lands on May 13, 2009 after the timber sale.

13. Basswood policy. Kevin informed the Committee that the market for basswood is poor and suggested a policy be put in place as follows: The disposition of this specie will be determined by the Lincoln County Forestry Department at the time of harvest with consideration for sound silvicultural practices that includes which designated trees will be cut. Discussion followed. Motion by Eisenman, second by Berndt to approve Basswood Policy. All ayes. Motion carried.

14. WDNR Report – Bill Groth. Bill Groth, Forestry Liaison, distributed copies of a report depicting estimated and sold values of timber sales for comparison purposes.

15. Review Administrator’s written report. Kevin reported that there are 14 jobs for the upcoming spring timber sale. He also added that there is a possibility of ATV trails opening later than usual due to the late spring. The Administrator’s written report was reviewed and placed on file.

16. Close timber sales.

T023-06	DeBoth Brothers Logging	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T025-07	Wiitala Vozka Logging	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T006-06	Smola Brothers	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T017-08	NewPage Corporation	Close and refund Bond
T033-05	NewPage Corporation	Close and refund Bond
T022-06	Greg Lukes	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T014-06	Johnson Brothers Forest Prod.	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T015-08	Rick Graap	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit

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

17. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land and Parks Committee meeting dates are set as follows:
Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room 156
Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. in Conference Room 158

18. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Eisenman, second by Berndt to adjourn meeting at 9:35 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.