

**Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Tuesday, August 5, 2008 @ 9:00 A.M.
Forestry Meeting Room, Land Resource Center**

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

Visitors: Joan Giusto, Bob Kunkel, Bill Groth, Brandon Rochon, Kevin Kleinschmidt, Sherrie Zortman

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Tuesday, August 5, 2008 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 July 8, 2008 meeting. Motion by Short, second by Eisenman to approve minutes of July 8, 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. No comments.

5. City of Merrill tax delinquent lot. Bob Kunkel, County Clerk, appeared to inform the Committee that the City of Merrill has expressed interest in a tax delinquent strip of land adjacent to the water tower for the purpose of putting a storm sewer there. This parcel was offered to the City in 2006 but was not pursued at that time due to encroachment issues and location of the property. Discussion followed. Motion by Fox, second by Berndt to forward resolution to County Board for conveyance of real estate to the City of Merrill at the cost of \$1.00 plus recording fees. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. Hiawatha Trail Permit – John Henning. Mr. Henning was not present at the meeting so Kevin conveyed his concerns regarding dock storage by members of the Clear Lake Condominiums. Kevin notified the president of the Condominiums regarding this issue, and it was resolved that docks will not be stored on County property per the terms of the Hiawatha Trail Permit.

7. Sale of Annex. Several options were discussed regarding the possible sale of the Annex to include selling by the County or through a realtor, renting the building, or converting to a shop for the Maintenance Department. Motion by Eisenman, second by Short to present draft resolution for sale of the Annex to the County Board for discussion. All ayes. Motion carried.

8. Recreation Officer review. The review of the Recreation Officer that was to be held on June 11, 2008 at the Law Enforcement Committee Meeting was postponed due to lack of grant information. Carl Short attended that meeting and requested mileage and per diem. Motion by Rankin, second by Eisenman to approve mileage and per diem for Carl Short for attendance at the June 11, 2008 Law Enforcement Committee Meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

9. Equipment rate update. Due to increased fuel prices, Kevin requested that equipment rates be increased. Discussion followed. Motion by Short, second by Berndt to increase pickup truck mileage rate from .50¢ to .60¢ per mile and increase platform truck mileage rate from \$1.50 to \$1.75 per mile effective 8/5/08. All ayes. Motion carried.

10. WDNR Report – Bill Groth. Bill Groth, Forestry Liaison, reported that the new Ranger Station is open but is not a Service Center due to budget constraints. Kevin said that a meeting will be held tomorrow with DNR personnel to discuss grant projects and available funding. Wildlife Habitat Grant funding for 2009 will be decreased. The old Ranger Station will be appraised by a State Archeologist before it may be sold. The Emerald Ash Borer was found in Wisconsin, the area being quarantined and surveyed.

11. Review Administrator's written report. Kevin reported that Pichler's Direct Sale was sold to and completed by Futurewood Corporation. Our department is tentatively scheduled to move to the new Service Center in early September. Joel Wendt informed Kevin that some landowners with property by the jail expressed interest in selling their property to the County. This item will appear on next month's agenda. A Committee tour was discussed. Richard Berndt will present the Normal Park Lease Agreement with the City of Merrill for possible updates at the next Public Property Committee Meeting. The Administrator's written report was reviewed and placed on file.

12. Close timber sales.

T036-05	Futurewood Corporation	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T011-07	DeBoth Brothers Logging	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T012-07	Biewer Wisconsin Sawmill	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit

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

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

Tuesday, September 9, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. in the Forestry Meeting Room, Land Resource Center
(with tour to follow)

Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at 8:00 a.m.

14. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Rankin, second by Eisenman to adjourn at 9:55 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.