Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Monday, March 14, 2011 @ 8:30 A.M.
Lincoln County Service Center Conference Room 158
801 N. Sales St., Suite 106, Merrill, WI 54452 **715-539-1034

Members Present: Graham Rankin, Richard Berndt, David Fox and John Bailey

Members Absent: Richard Eisenman

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

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, March 14, 2011 in Conference Room 158, Lincoln County Service Center. The meeting was called to order by Chair Graham Rankin at 8:30 a.m. Richard Eisenman was absent and David Fox arrived at 8:35 a.m.

2. Approve minutes of February 14, 2011 meeting. Motion by Bailey, second by Berndt to approve minutes of February 14, 2011 meeting as printed. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. Review year to date budget report. Kevin presented 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 advised that the agenda was not posted on the county webpage. This omission will be directed to the appropriate department.

5. North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission – 5 Year Outdoor Recreation Plan – Fred Heider. Fred Heider appeared to explain and set the timetable to update the 5 Year Outdoor Recreation Plan, which is prepared at no cost to the county. Background information will be gathered, public surveys and comments will be taken and integrated into the plan, and Open Houses will be held. The purpose of the plan is to help the county qualify for certain state recreational grants. Motion by Berndt, second by Fox to authorize update of 5 Year Outdoor Recreation Plan through North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. Open and award any land sale bids. No bids were received.

7. Authorize advertising for quotes to purchase back blade. Kevin explained need and uses for equipment purchase and discussion followed. Funds to purchase will come out of Forestry Equipment Fund and is CIP approved. Motion by Bailey, second by Fox to authorize advertising for quotes to purchase back blade. All ayes. Motion carried.

8. Approve proposed Timber Sale Contract changes. Kevin presented Timber Sale Contract with updated language for new timber sale interest policy. Discussion followed. Motion by Berndt, second by Bailey to approve proposed Timber Sale Contract changes. All ayes. Motion carried.

9. Discuss promoting recreational opportunities in Lincoln County. Kevin advised he has conducted internet research and suggested ways the county can promote recreational opportunities, including the use of Facebook. Discussion followed. Motion by Rankin, second by Fox to authorize Forestry Dept. to develop a Facebook page and to promote recreational opportunities in Lincoln County. All ayes. Motion carried.

10. Sheriff's Department request to use tax delinquent building. Kevin explained request to use the tax delinquent property on CTH S to conduct Sheriff's Office training. The building is currently vacant. Discussion followed. Motion by Fox, second by Berndt to approve Sheriff's Office request to use tax delinquent building. All ayes. Motion carried.

11. Approve Dick Calhoun memorial snowmobile trail. Kevin advised that both of the Tomahawk snowmobile clubs requested a section of trail be designated in honor of the memory of Dick Calhoun, a pioneer of the snowmobile program in Lincoln County. The Snowmobile Counsel supports this request. Motion by Bailey, second by Berndt to approve placement of a sign identifying the Harrison scenic loop as the Dick Calhoun memorial snowmobile trail. All ayes. Motion carried.

12. 2012 budget discussion. Kevin distributed a list of budget considerations including programs, budgeted money and grants. Discussion followed regarding snowmobile trail grooming, equipment needs, prioritization of recreational programs, and the results of possible state-grant reductions.

13. Set date and authorize advertising for spring timber sale. Motion by Berndt, second by Fox to set date of the Spring Timber Sale for May 9, 2011 and authorize advertising. All ayes. Motion carried.

14. WDNR Report – Bill Groth. Bill Groth reported that all paperwork received from the county for the spring timber sales have been reviewed and approved, and planting stock will be delivered on April 29. Mike Leitz discussed retirements, DNR budget and time standard hours.

15. Review Administrator's written report. Kevin reminded the Committee of the WCFA Spring Meeting in Keshena this week and final Snowmobile Supplemental funding for last year was 82.5%. The Administrator's written report was reviewed and placed on file.

16. Close timber sales.

T030-06	DeBoth Brothers	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T016-09	Smith Logging	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T010-08	Graap Logging	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit

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

17. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land and Parks Committee meetings are set as follows:
Monday, April 11, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Lincoln County Service Center, Conference Room 165
Monday, May 9, 2011 at 9:00 a.m., Lincoln County Service Center, Conference Room 165

18. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Berndt, second by Fox to adjourn at 11:15 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Kevin Kleinschmidt and Sherrie Zortman