

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Monday, July 11, 2011 @ 8:30 A.M.
Lincoln County Service Center Conference Room 107
801 N. Sales St., Suite 106, Merrill, WI 54452 **715-539-1034

Members Present: Graham Rankin, Dave Fox, Richard Berndt, Don Nelson and John Bailey

Visitors: Bill Groth, Joan Giusto, Kevin Kleinschmidt and Deb Gerdes.

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, July 11, 2011 in Conference Room 107, Lincoln County Service Center. The meeting was called to order by Chair Graham Rankin at 8:30 a.m.

2. Approve minutes of June 13, 2011 meeting. Motion by Berndt, second by Nelson to amend the motion for Item 6 in the June 13, 2011 minutes to read: to allow club members who receive weekend camping passes to transfer unused passes at club member's discretion. 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 reported on ATV trail intersection signs. The Harrison Hills ATV Club will meet to set a date to place signs. Their club rally was a success. New regional ATV maps were discussed. Kevin will look into placing advertisements on new ATV maps to supplement state funding. Options for handling equine waste at the Underdown was discussed. A complaint was received about geese at Tug Lake Park. Discussion followed.

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

6. DNR Strategic Direction. The DNR has developed a strategic direction designed to re-allocate state resources to more effectively support DNR's Forestry role in Wisconsin. A 5% reduction of funding is being cut from county level forestry state-wide which equates to \$276,200. Kevin handed out and explained various options considered for reducing DNR input to counties and prioritized programs. Discussion followed. Motion by Fox, second by Berndt to address reductions with Option 2 as discussed. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. Sustainable Forestry Grant. Kevin requested approval to submit application for Sustainable Forestry Grant money to make repairs on Krueger Firelane for timber and recreational access to the County Forest and to implement proper BMP's for water quality due to forest certification issues. Krueger Firelane is utilized by logging contractors, recreationalists and private landowners. Motion by Bailey, second by Berndt to approve application for grant monies to improve Krueger Firelane. All ayes. Motion carried.

8. Annosum Policy. Kevin described Annosum Root Rot and explained the policy he would like to implement for our spring 2012 timber sale. Motion by Nelson, second by Bailey to bring this item back to committee for approval with additional items discussed. All ayes. Motion carried

9. WDNR Report – Bill Groth. Bill reported they have finished setting up a timber sale on Lincoln County Forest and are working on setting up sales on storm damaged areas of DNR properties.

10. Review Administrator's written report. Kevin informed the committees that gravel was placed in 2 sites at the Underdown Campground to improve drainage and will continue to improve sites each year as needed. The Mobile Skills Crew of the Ice Age Trail Alliance will be working on the segment of the Ice Age Trail north of Newwood Park this week. The Flood Plain Zoning Ordinance which includes the Harrison Dam study will be presented for approval at County Board this month. The vault at Larson Lake will be pumped and inspected. Committee viewed ATV regional map that is being developed for ATV clubs with assistance from the Lincoln County GIS Department.

11. Close timber sales.

T029-10	T&T Quality Cutting	Close and refund bond
T027-09	Graap Logging	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit

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

Motion carried.

16. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land and Parks Committee meetings are set as follows:
Monday, August 8, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Lincoln County Service Center, Conference Room 107
Monday, Sept. 12, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Lincoln County Service Center, Conference Room 107

17. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Fox, second by Nelson to adjourn at 10:15 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Kevin Kleinschmidt, Deb Gerdes