

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Monday, August 8, 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, Jerry Jagmin, Kevin Kleinschmidt and Sherrie Zortman

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, August 8, 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 July 11, 2011 meeting. Motion by Bailey, second by Nelson to approve minutes of July 11, 2011 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. Jerry Jagmin, Highway Commissioner, appeared to discuss possible job sharing that he and Kevin have been looking into between Highway and Forestry Shop employees, as two Highway Department workers will be retiring. Kevin advised the local snowmobile clubs may be doing all trail grooming, making it possible to share employees in the winter, similar to what is currently being practiced in the summer between the Highway and Forestry Departments. Discussion followed. This item will be placed on next month's agenda.

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

6. Green Tree Retention Policy. Kevin advised Forest Certification Auditors required that a Green Tree Retention Policy be developed on State and County forestlands that are certified. This policy addresses the ecological benefits of cavity, mast, snag and reserve tree retention to plants and animals, and provides guidelines regarding implementation. County guidelines are similar to guidelines developed by the State. Kevin reviewed and explained proposed policy. Discussion followed regarding the policy and Forest Certification. Motion by Fox, second by Berndt to adopt Green Tree Retention Policy. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. Annosum Root Rot Policy. Kevin explained this item is on the Agenda as a follow-up to last month's meeting. Twenty-three Counties in the State have found Annosum Root Rot to date. Discussion followed regarding policy and fungicide application costs. Motion by Fox, second by Nelson to approve Annosum Root Rot Policy and if any necessary changes arise, to give Kevin authority to implement those changes. Discussion followed. All ayes. Motion carried.

8. Request to change contract holder name – Weyerhaeuser T006-11. Kevin advised the request came because the division of Weyerhaeuser responsible for the sale has now changed to Northwest Hardwoods. Contractual requirements and bond will remain the same and Corp. Counsel reviewed this request. Motion by Rankin, second by Nelson to approve request to change contract holder's name from Weyerhaeuser to Northwest Hardwoods for Timber Sale Contract T006-11. All ayes. Motion carried.

9. Harrison Dam hazard rating. Kevin explained that the flood shadow developed for the Harrison Dam was part of the Floodplain Zoning Ordinance that was approved by County Board and will go into effect August 16, 2011. Once the Floodplain Zoning Ordinance goes into effect, the County can request that the DNR lower the hazard rating from high to low because there were no developments in the flood shadow below the dam. The lower rating would mean the County would only have to hire an engineer every 10 years as opposed to every 2 years to inspect the dam, and the spillway capacity would have to meet the requirements for a 100-year flood as opposed to a 1000-year flood with the higher rating. Kevin would like approval to request that the DNR lower the hazard rating. Discussion followed. Motion by Fox, second by Berndt to approve Kevin's request to the DNR to lower the hazard rating for the Harrison Dam. All ayes. Motion carried.

10. Update Lincoln County 5-Year Recreation Plan. Kevin explained purpose of the Recreation Plan and advised surveys will be sent out by the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

- a. Set Open House date – Dates set for October 11 and 13 to be held in the Tomahawk and Merrill areas.
- b. Establish list of groups to receive surveys – Kevin informed Committee of past recipients of surveys.

Motion by Rankin, second by Bailey to approve Open House dates as October 11 and 13, 2011 and approve surveys to be sent to established list of groups as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

11. WDNR Report – Bill Groth. Bill reported they are working on spring timber sale marking, mowing, wildlife openings and will be reviewing the fall timber sales.

12. Review Administrator's written report. Kevin informed the Committee that a DNR News Release advised Hayward Nursery will be closing. Discussion was held regarding ATV mapping which included funding and advertising. Other topics of discussion included the geese problem at Tug Lake Recreation Area, credit card uses with the Forestry Dept. and recent vandalism at Otter Lake Campground. The Administrator's written report was reviewed and placed on file.

13. Close timber sales.

T009-10	Futurewood Corp.	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T026-09	Graap Logging	Close and return Irrevocable Letter of Credit
T029-11	Graap Logging	Close and refund bond

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

14. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land and Parks Committee meetings are set as follows:
Monday, September 12, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Lincoln County Service Center, Conference Room 107
Monday, October 10, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Lincoln County Service Center, Conference Room 107

15. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Berndt, second by Nelson to adjourn at 10:00 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.