

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Monday, January 15, 2024 @ 9:00 A.M.
Lincoln County Service Center, Room 156
801 N. Sales St., Suite 106, Merrill, WI 54452 **715-539-1034**

Members Present: Greg Hartwig, Norbert Ashbeck, Ken Wickham, William Bialecki, Don Wendorf

Absent:

Members Excused:

Visitors: Dean Bowe, Amy Krueger, Phil Kriesel, Grant Peterson, Larry Rydberg, David Bethel JR, Aaron Wullner, Kevin Koth, Diana Smith (virtual), Christine Vorpapel (virtual), Kurt Schmidt (virtual)

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, January 15, 2024, in Conference Room 156, Lincoln County Service Center. The meeting was called to order by Bialecki at 9:00 a.m.
2. Approve minutes of December 11, 2023. Motion by Wickham, second by Ashbeck to approve minutes of December 11, 2023 meeting as printed. All Ayes. Motion Carried. 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. Diana Smith asked to speak regarding the proposed ATV trail near Essex Road. Diana expressed safety concerns of additional ATV/UTV traffic on Essex and Half Moon Lake Roads and developing a trail crossing on Highway 8
5. Open and award Timber Sale Bids. None
6. Award Tree Planting Bid. Received one bid from Superior Forestry for \$75/acre. Motion by Wendorf with a second by Hartwig to accept bid. All ayes. Motion carried.
7. Discuss engineering expense quotes for Highway 8 ATV trail. Dean explained some of the background of this item and where we are at. Members of the Nokomis ATV Club and representatives from REI, Becher Hoppe and MSA were present for discussion. A lengthy discussion followed. The committee requested that the Nokomis ATV Club work with an engineering firm on a feasibility study to explore a route for an ATV trail from Derleth Rd to Highway U with the goal of providing the Forestry Department with enough information to submit an application to the ORV Council for trail development funding. Motion to remove the short trail options from consideration by Hartwig, with a second by Wickham. All ayes. Motion carried.
8. Accept donation of \$2,000 from Tug Lake District. Dean informed the committee that a donation was received from the Tug Lake District in response to a request by the A&L Committee to ask for support of a proposed ARPA Project at Tug Lake Park. Dean mentioned that a resolution must be approved by the full board as well. Motion by Hartwig to accept donation with a second by Wickham. All ayes. Motion carried.

9. Update on Jeep ride proposal. Dean informed the committee that he had a conversation with Corey Nowak about the Jeep ride. The main question at this point is in regards to whether an Organized Event Permit is required. The opinion of Corp Counsel has been requested. Discussion followed.
10. Approve addition of an ADA accessible dock and kayak launch to the ARPA Request for Camp New Wood. Dean informed the Committee that over the past summer installing a dock and ADA kayak launch were explored for Camp New Wood with grant money from a different department. Sue to the high cost, one site each in the City of Merrill and City of Tomahawk were chosen instead of Camp New Wood. Discussion followed. Motion by Hartwig to approve adding ADA accessible dock and kayak launch request to the Camp New Wood ARPA request, with a second by Wickham. Motion carried. All ayes.
11. Approve purchase of a new dump box for quad axle dump truck. Dean explained that because no bids were received for the dump box replacement he requested quotes from three vendors. Discussion followed. Motion by Wickham to approve quote from Casper, with a second by Hartwig. All ayes. Motion carried.
12. Approve committee member attendance, mileage and per diem for WCFA Spring Meeting in Madison, Feb. 13-15, 2024. Dean explained this meeting is in Madison this year. Motion to approve expenses by Wickham, with a second by Ashbeck. All ayes. Motion carried.
13. Approve Administrators timesheets. Motion by Ashbeck with a second by Wendorf. All ayes. Motion carried.
14. WDNR Report. Bill Groth was not present due to the holiday.
15. Review Administrator's written report. Dean talked about Prairie Dells bridge, New Wood Park restrooms and free trail pass weekend. Dean stated that the Report placed on file.
16. Close timber sales.

Schreiber	T008-21	Close and return Letter of Credit.
Futurewood	T012-19	Close and refund bond.
Schrieber	T002-20	Close and return Letter of Credit.

Dean recommended closing and refunding bonds. Motion by Ashbeck, second by Wickham to close sales per Dean's recommendation. All ayes. Motion carried
17. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land & Parks Committee Meeting are set as follows:
Monday, February 12, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., LCSC Conference Room 156
Monday, March 11, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., LCSC Conference Room 156
18. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn meeting by Ashbeck, second by Bialecki at 11:22 a.m.