

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Monday, February 12, 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, Christine Vorpapel, Bill Groth, Jeni Burton (virtual), Mike Huth, Tony Dallman

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, February 12, 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 January 15, 2024. Motion by Wickham, second by Ashbeck to approve minutes of January 15, 2024 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. Christine Vorpapel introduced herself and stated that she is running for County Board in District 9.
5. Open and award Timber Sale Bids. None
6. Approve Engineer quote for Hydraulic and Hydrologic Study for Prairie River Bridge location. Dean said quotes were included in the packet. Dean contacted the firms about the timeframe for completion and they were all similar and weather conditions dependent. Discussion followed. Motion by Hartwig to accept quote from Becher Hoppe for \$7,000 with a second by Wickham. All ayes. Motion carried.
7. Approve 2023 Forestry Department Annual Report. Dean asked if there were any questions regarding the report. He stated that a resolution would be going to County Board for approval next week. Motion by Ashbeck, with a second by Wickham. All ayes. Motion carried.
8. Review Forestry Shop Facilities Evaluation Report by Funktion Design Studio and take any action necessary. Dean stated that the full report was included with the packet but had made a summary table for the short term needs. Dean went through the short term needs, explaining that some were required by code. These items should be done within the next five years. He also explained that this assessment was based on placing excess money from the 2023 timber sale revenue into an account to pay for these repairs or upgrades. Discussion followed. Motion by Hartwig to hold \$165,000 for work on the top two items for the main building, with a second by Wickham. All ayes. Motion carried.
9. Approve assisting Land Services Department in purchasing survey equipment. Dean informed the committee that he had a conversation with the Land Services Department about new surveying equipment. Forestry has an account for purchasing air photos but

now gets them from Land Services and the DNR so has not had to purchase any for many years. The forestry department works with the county surveyor to survey county forest property lines for timber sale establishment. Dean recommended using the funds that are in the Photo fund listed in the budget. Discussion followed. Motion by Wickham to use Photo account 0115, to help with purchase of new survey equipment. Second by Ashbeck. All ayes. Motion carried.

10. Approve advertising for contractor to pour concrete aprons for new toilets at Hay Meadow and New Wood Park. Dean informed the Committee that concrete aprons need to be poured at the new vault toilets and must meet ADA standards. This was part of the ARPA request for these locations. Discussion followed. Motion by Wickham to approve, with a second by Hartwig. Motion carried. All ayes.
11. Approve advertising for contractor to provide gravel, haul and spread on Swamp Road. Dean explained that the ARPA project to crush gravel on Armstrong Creek Road did not use the full amount due to a lack of quality material. Dean requested that an entity be contracted to purchase, haul and spread gravel on Swamp Road to use the rest of the ARPA funding for gravelling. Discussion followed. Motion by Wickham to approve advertising for a contractor, with a second by Wendorf. All ayes. Motion carried.
12. Approve organized event permit to Distance Riders for a ride June 7, 8 & 9, 2024. Dean explained that this event has been done in the past with no issues. Motion to approve by Ashbeck, with a second by Hartwig. All ayes. Motion carried.
13. Approve advertising for contractor to spray garlic mustard. Dean stated that Lumberjack RC&D grant approved our garlic mustard spraying grant request last Thursday. But that may be due to more funds than grant requests. Discussion followed. Motion to approve by Hartwig, with a second by Ashbeck. All ayes. Motion carried.
14. Approve Administrators timesheets. Motion by Ashbeck with a second by Wickham. All ayes. Motion carried.
15. WDNR Report. Bill Groth said they started staffing for fire season a month early this year.
16. Review Administrator's written report. Dean asked if anyone had any questions on the report. Discussion followed. Report placed on file.
17. Close timber sales.

Wilson Forestry	T025-22	Close and return Letter of Credit.
Wiitala Vozka	T018-21	Close and return Letter of Credit.
Northwest	T004-23	Close and refund bond.

Dean recommended closing and refunding bonds. Motion by Wickham, second by Ashbeck to close sales per Dean's recommendation. All ayes. Motion carried
18. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land & Parks Committee Meeting are set as follows:
Monday, March 11, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., LCSC Conference Room 156
Monday, April 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., LCSC Conference Room 257
19. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn meeting by Ashbeck, second by Hartwig at 10:05 a.m.
Minutes prepared by Amy Krueger and Dean Bowe