

**Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee**  
**Minutes of Monday, March 11, 2024, 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, Carissa Knab, Jeni Burton (virtual), Diana Smith (virtual), Don Friske

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, March 11, 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 February 12, 2024. Motion by Wickham, second by Ashbeck to approve minutes of February 12 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. None.
5. Set date and authorize advertising for Spring 2024 Timber Sale. Timber Sale date set for May 13, 2024. Motion to approve advertising by Wickham with a second by Hartwig. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
6. Approve organized bike and running event for August 17, 2024. Dean stated that Ironbull has have been sponsoring this event for several years and it brings in a lot of people. Motion by Ashbeck to approve event with a second by Hartwig. All ayes. Motion carried.
7. Approve organized horse ride August 24 & 25, 2024. Dean stated the event has been held the last couple of years. The event brings quite a few people in for the weekend. Motion by Wickham, with a second by Ashbeck. All ayes. Motion carried.
8. Award bid for Garlic Mustard Spraying. Dean stated that two bids were received. Dean recommended taking the lower bid from 4-Control. 4-Control has done the spraying several times in past years. Discussion followed. Motion by Hartwig to award bid to 4-Control, with a second by Wickham. All ayes. Motion carried.
9. Approve advertising to replace brush hog mower with skid steer mounted style. Dean stated that the current mower, pulled behind the tractor, was purchased in 1981 and would like to replace it with a new medium duty skid steer mounted mower. This would allow cutting on trails and road ditches where the ground may be too soft or difficult to maneuver with the tractor. The old brush hog would be sold through Integrity Sales south of Merrill. Motion by Wickham to approve advertising. Second by Wendorf. All ayes. Motion carried.

10. Discussion Memorandum of Understanding between Lincoln County, Marathon County and River District Development Foundation and take possible action. Dean informed the committee that an agreement was drafted by Marathon County for development of a Master Plan for the trail between Merrill and Wausau. The agreement would be between Lincoln and Marathon County and the River District Development Fund. Dean stated that both our Corporation Counsel and Marathon County Corporation counsel are still reviewing the document. The Master Plan will be funded by the River District Development Foundation through Marathon County. This item will be carried over to next month.
11. Timber sale T031-18 – Discussion and take possible action. Dean explained that the job was several years old and the contractor no longer intends to cut the sale. Discussion followed. Motion by Wickham to close sale and follow Lincoln County Policy, with a second by Ashbeck. All ayes. Motion carried.
12. Approve travel expense report for February 2024. Dean stated that the report was for parking and meals. Motion to approve by Wickham, with a second by Wendorf. All ayes. Motion carried.
13. Approve Administrators timesheets. Motion by Ashbeck with a second by Wickham. All ayes. Motion carried.
14. WDNR Report. Bill Groth not present due to fire staffing. Carissa Knab introduced herself as the wildlife Biologist for Lincoln and Langlade County. She intends to come to more Forestry Committee Meetings. She notified the committee that the Conservation Congress meeting will be held in Merrill on April 8, and a CDAK meeting will be May 2.
15. Update on proposed Highway 8 ATV trail. Dean has been in contact with ATV Club members. REI Engineering will do the design for the proposed long route with an April 1, 2024 goal to be able to apply for development funding.
16. Update on restricting timber sale revenue for shop repairs. Dean said at the March Finance meeting the committee recommended Forestry keep \$500,000 to make repairs on the Forestry Shop structures. Dean stated that he wanted to start by bringing them up to code and progress from there. Motion by Wickham, with a second by Hartwig to hold \$500,000. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
17. Review Administrator's written report. Dean asked if anyone had any questions on the report. Dean talked about ARPA Project progress. He also talked about the WCFA Summer Tour being held in June. Discussion followed. Report placed on file.
18. Close timber sales.

Wilson Forestry	T029-19	Close and refund bond.
Smola	T011-21	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
19. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land & Parks Committee Meeting are set as follows:  
Monday, April 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., LCSC Conference Room 257  
Monday, May 13, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., LCSC Conference Room 257
20. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn meeting by Ashbeck, second by Wendorf at 9:40 a.m.