

Unofficial Until Approved

Forestry & Parks Committee Minutes

April 9, 2019; 9:00 a.m.

Courthouse Auditorium, Room 101, Neillsville, WI

Call to order 9:00 a.m.

Supervisors Present: Tom Wilcox, Al Bower, Joe Waichulis, Dean Zank, and Allen Krause, Jr

Supervisors Absent: None

Others present for all or some of the meeting: Rick Dailey – Forestry and Parks Administrator; John Wendorski – Forestry Manager; Marcus Aumann – Parks & Programs Manager; Daryn Horn – Facilities Supervisor; Mary Olson-Back – Office Business Manager; Einar Fransen – DNR Liaison; Wayne Hendrickson – County Board Chair; Chris Straight – West Central Regional Planning Commission; Laura Delaney – Delaney Logging; Daniel Borchardt – MSA

Chris Straight, West Central Regional Planning Commission discussed a FEMA mitigation grant for a fairgrounds safety shelter. West Central Regional Planning Commission would be able to assist the department with the FEMA application process if the committee decides to pursue the funding opportunity in the future. No action taken.

John Wendorski presented timber sale contract extensions and associated stumpage increases for committee approval. John explained that first and second extensions are automatic as written in the contracts and that the committee is only acting on extensions that are beyond the second extension. Laura Delaney addressed the committee regarding timber sale contract extensions. Laura asked the committee to consider extending all timber sale contracts without stumpage increases. Motion by Tom Wilcox to approve the timber sale contract extensions with associated stumpage increases as presented. Motion failed for lack of a second. Motion by Al Bower, seconded by Joe Waichulis to extend all fifth and sixth timber sale contract extensions for one year with no stumpage increase and as final extensions. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried. Motion by Joe Waichulis, seconded by Al Bower to approve all third extensions for one year with 15% stumpage increases as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Daniel Borchardt with MSA presented bids for the Russell Memorial Park stormwater project for committee approval. The low bid was received by Janke General Contractors. Motion by Dean Zank, seconded by Joe Waichulis to award the bid for the Russell Memorial Park stormwater project to Janke General Contractors, contingent upon approval by the Finance Committee. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

The Administrator presented the March 12, 2019 minutes for committee approval. Motion by Joe Waichulis, seconded by Al Bower to approve the March 12, 2019 minutes as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

The Administrator presented the March 19, 2019 minutes for committee approval. Motion by Dean Zank, seconded by Al Bower to approve the March 19, 2019 minutes as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

The Administrator presented the March 29, 2019 minutes for committee approval. Motion by Joe Waichulis, seconded by Allen Krause to approve the March 29, 2019 minutes as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Year-end 2018 revenue summaries were reviewed. The December 2018 financial report was not available. No action taken.

Mary Olson-Back presented the 2019 year to date financial report for committee review. Motion by Joe Waichulis, seconded by Al Bower to receive and file the 2019 year to date financial report as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Daryn Horn presented the inmate labor report for committee review. Inmate crews have been cleaning the chalet at Bruce Mound and splitting firewood at the shop. No action taken.

John Wendorski presented the spring 2019 timber sale prospectus for committee approval. John reported that there will be some minor edits to some sale maps. Motion by Joe Waichulis, seconded by Tom Wilcox to approve the spring 2019 timber sale prospectus as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Discussion held on proposed Turkey Stamp grant application. Motion by Dean Zank, seconded by Al Bower to approve the Turkey Stamp grant application as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Discussion held on proposed Sustainable Forestry grant application. Motion by Joe Waichulis, seconded. By Dean Zank to approve the Sustainable Forestry grant application as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Discussion held on proposed request for quotes for the delivery of gravel for Bald Peak forest road. Motion by Dean Zank, seconded by Al Bower to approve the request for quotes for the delivery of gravel as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

John Wendorski reported that he had been contacted by Mark Roohr regarding timber sale contract #1529. The contract will expire on May 1, 2019, is about 50% complete and no stumpage is owed. Mark indicated that he does not intend to complete the sale and does not wish to extend the contract. Motion by Joe Waichulis, seconded by Dean Zank to cancel Mark Roohr Logging contract #1529 and

retain the entire performance bond for failing to complete the contract. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Marcus Aumann reported that the Thorp snowmobile trail bridge project was not completed on time. The contractor intends to install the bridge as soon as ground conditions permit. The committee had no concerns about extending the timeline of the project as long as it gets completed prior to next winter. No action taken.

Marcus Aumann reported to the committee that there is an opportunity to apply for an off-highway motorcycle trail maintenance grant to reroute and improve sections of the Knobby Ridge motorcycle trail. Marcus indicated that he would like to apply for a \$9,000.00 grant. Motion by Joe Waichulis, seconded by Al Bower to apply for the off-highway motorcycle trail maintenance grant. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

The Administrator reported to the committee on the fairgrounds revitalization project. Since the last meeting several grant applications have been submitted, a Facebook page was created to spotlight the project and a large private donation was received. No action taken.

Discussion held on Russell Park concessions lease. Motion by Al Bower, seconded by Joe Waichulis to approve the Russell Park concessions lease as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Discussion held on the Bruce Mound customer survey, several years of attendance numbers and expense and revenue reports. Discussion held on policy regarding carry-ins, moving the ticket window, adding lockers, days of operation, and free wi-fi. The committee asked for cost estimates for several of the facility upgrade ideas. No action taken.

The Administrator reviewed the proposed county class and compensation plan being presented at the upcoming County Board meeting. No action taken.

The Forestry and Parks Administrator flex schedule was presented for committee approval. Motion by Joe Waichulis, seconded by Tom Wilcox to approve the Forestry and Parks Administrator flex schedule as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Under General Department Updates, the Administrator reported that shop employees will be switching to ten hour days next week and thanked administrative staff for doing a great job while he was gone.

Under Forest Management Update, discussion held on availability of RGS and PR wildlife grant moneys, adopt a dumpster program for deer carcasses, DNR bear management plan, WCFA spring meeting and DNR time standards.

Under Parks Management Updates, Marcus Aumann reported that campground new-hire staff meetings will be next week. Discussion held on a bench donation for the top of Wildcat Mound. The donor will

build, place and maintain the bench. Although this request is outside the bench policy, the committee had no concerns. A request to expand the beach at Sherwood Lake was discussed. Previous committee action taken in 2014 to no longer maintain Sherwood and Snyder beaches will be adhered to. The committee reviewed pictures of shoreline damage at Sherwood Park caused by ice action resulting from the higher lake levels. Damages at the boat landing and pier foundations will be repaired this spring.

Under Trails Management Update, Marcus Aumann reported that a grant was submitted to pay for new ATV/UTV maps, a court hearing is schedule for an individual who damaged a snowmobile trail last spring and new brochures for Levis will clarify hiking policy on trails being groomed for other users. The Administrator passed out a flyer for a Rails to Trails presentation being held at the Courthouse on April 18, 2019.

Under Fairgrounds Management Update, Daryn Horn reported that the coin operated showers have been installed, the horse auction is this week, camping rates proposed by the committee were approved by the Fair Board, winter storage pullout was completed, and the electric upgrades in the dairy barn will be installed soon.

Under Bruce Mound Management Update, Marcus Aumann presented a request from a part-time employee for the department to help pay for a chairlift seminar he will be attending. The committee gave the department authorization to pay for some or all of the registration fees if they felt the employee would bring back information that would be useful for Bruce Mound operations.

Under Dams Management Updates – The Administrator reported that an unknown individual attempted to reinstall stop logs at Sherwood Lake that had been removed by the dam operator to lower the lake level. The stop logs got wedged and required assistance from this department to remove them.

The committee reviewed the department wage rate changes as presented in written format.

Vouchers for March 2019 were presented for committee approval. Motion by Joe Waichulis, seconded by Dean Zank to approve vouchers for March 2019 as presented. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

The Committee Chair opened the floor for public comment. No comments received.

Next meeting date was set for May 14, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courthouse Auditorium.

Motion to adjourn at 3:27 p.m. by Joe Waichulis, seconded by Dean Zank. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Rick Dailey, Secretary