

Forestry and Recreation Committee

April 9, 2014

9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman Ronald Nye, Michael Klimoski, David Solin, Rick Bina, and Sam Hardin

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Erik Rantala, Tom Lazars, Tim Rusch, Ted Ave'lallemant, Pete Pennington, Dave Peterson, Elmer and Sally Mulhollan, and Terry Poltrock

Location: Conference Room, Forestry Office, Fairgrounds, Antigo

1. Call to Order – Chairman Nye called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Minutes - A motion was made by Klimoski, seconded by Hardin, to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2014 meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. Approve Memorandum of Agreement for Stewardship Grant on County Forest – Rantala informed the committee that the State revised their Memorandum of Agreement for Stewardship Grants for land purchases. The original MOA was approved at the September, 2012 county board meeting. The MOA is held on file by the DNR and does not obligate the County to a land purchase. Changes to the MOA include: 1) Funding for county forest projects – funding mechanism has changed (sharing SF allotment or DNR easement, whichever is greater) – state budget change; 2) the ranking team for the grants – they removed the State Forest Specialist; 3) they added an additional application deadline, which is October 15; 4) the ranking criteria/threshold – need to score 5 out of 10; 5) the revised MOA will be in place until 2020. The revised MOA must be approved by both the forestry committee and county board. Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Hardin to approve the revised MOA for Stewardship Grant on the County Forest and forward a resolution to county board. All ayes. Motion carried.
4. Investigate Funding Opportunities for Posted Roads – Dave Solin explained that they are looking for funding opportunities so that County Hwy. TT could be repaired and open year-round instead of being posted. Many loggers in both Langlade and Forest Counties

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use County Hwy. TT and must find alternate/longer routes when it is posted or not haul during that period. County Hwy. TT to Hwy. 55 is in good shape. Solin will be speaking with Forest County, the Menominee tribe, and the State of Wisconsin regarding funding. Eventually he would like to see a joint resolution from the Highway and Forestry Committees supporting this measure. Information only. Will be on the agenda as new information becomes available.

5. Approve Funding for Discover Wisconsin episode featuring County Forests - Rantala stated that this is being brought back from last month when the committee made a commitment of \$2,000 toward this episode of Discover Wisconsin featuring county forests. Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Hardin to approve \$2,000 towards the project. All ayes. Motion carried.
6. Discuss/Approve Lead Reclamation Project - Rantala informed the committee that he had been in touch with K & S Jack Enterprises LLC regarding the lead reclamation project and was informed that Langlade County is slated to be the first project in 2014, which weather permitting would be in May or June. The project would take approximately two weeks, and they would work around trap club activities. There are approximately 200,000 lbs. of lead at the range and the price of lead in 2013 was \$.85-\$.90/lb. The split is 70-30 with 30% going to the landowner. Rantala is requesting that the contract be extended for one year. Motion by Bina, seconded by Solin to extend the contract of K & S Jack Enterprises LLC for the lead reclamation at the bow and gun range for one year. All ayes. Motion carried.
7. Recognition of Rick Bina for Serving on Forestry & Recreation Committee – The committee and Rantala thanked Rick Bina for the last two years serving on the forestry committee.
8. DNR Liaison Report – Ave'lallemant informed Solin per last month's request that in Florence County 100 damage permits were given. Ave'lallemant also report on deer management advisory committees. A deer management advisory committee will be established in each county in 2014 that will hold "herd status" meetings to evaluate local data regarding the deer herd. The committee will begin making recommendations to the Department for the 2015 deer seasons. Membership may vary by county based on interest with potential membership including: Conservation Congress, local group representing deer hunting interests, agricultural, forestry, tourism, transportation, urban, and tribal representative. The population goal for each DMU will switch from a specific overwinter population goal of deer per square mile (e.g., 25 deer/mi²) to an objective of increase, maintain or decrease that would be evaluated every three years. All northern and central forest DMUs will have an increase objective for 2014 and all central and southern farmland DMUs will have a maintain objective for 2014. The recommendation for the DMU objective would be based on a variety of metrics or categories of data that might include: deer health indicators, deer impacts on other natural resources, societal impacts, information provided from hunters (deer seen/hour of effort), and population. Three members of the county deer management advisory committee are required to have held a license authorizing deer hunting in seven of the previous 10 years.

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Ave'lallemant also informed the committee that the severity rating for this winter was 143.

9. Review Payment of Paid Bills – The committee reviewed the paid Forestry and Recreation Department bills.
10. Review Budget Summary Report - Rantala reviewed with the committee the budget summary report of the forestry department revenues and expenditures through March 31, 2014.
11. Closed Session – At approximately 10:15 a.m., consider moving into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(e), Wisconsin Statutes, deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons required a closed session, land purchase. Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Bina to go into closed session at 10:15 a.m. Roll call vote: Klimoski – aye, Nye – aye, Bina – aye, Hardin – aye, and Solin - aye. Motion carried.
12. Open Session – Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Solin to return to open session at 10:20 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Solin, seconded by Klimoski to forward a resolution to county board to purchase land as discussed in closed session. All ayes. Motion carried.
13. Set Next Meeting Date - The next meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, May 7, 2014, at **8:00 a.m.**, in the forestry office conference room, Fairgrounds, Antigo.
14. Adjournment – Motion by Bina, seconded by Klimoski to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Poltrock
Recording Secretary