

Forestry and Recreation Committee

July 16, 2015

8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman Ronald Nye, Michael Klimoski, Sam Hardin, Donald Scupien, and Joe Novak

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Erik Rantala, Tom Lazars, Dave Solin, Robin Stowe, Mike Lietz, Chuck McCullough, Josh Waukau, Carl Kakes, Dave Peterson, and Terry Poltrock

Location: Conference Room, Forestry Office, Fairgrounds, Antigo

1. Call to Order – Chairman Nye called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Minutes - A motion was made by Klimoski, seconded by Scupien, to approve the amended minutes of the June 18, 2015 meeting, which are corrected to state under the DNR Report – Regarding the State budget, Forestry will lose nine positions, five from **greenhouse Forest Nursery** positions and four from regions. The DNR will be filling the liaison position once the budget is finalized. A **Wildlife Biologist** position in this area will not be filled **immediately but it will be at a later** date. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. Discuss Horse Trail Pit Toilet – Rantala informed the committee that he had been contacted by the Triple RRR horse riding club regarding building another pit toilet, which would be ADA accessible at the north end of the parking lot. The current pit toilet is on the south end of the parking lot, is not ADA accessible. The Triple RRR will fund the building of the pit toilet and maintain it as they have the current pit toilet facility. Carl Kakes stated that both the horse club and sled dog club maintain the current horse/sled dog trail. Motion by Novak, seconded by Klimoski to approve the Triple RRR horse club building an ADA pit toilet at the trail head of the horse trail. All ayes. Motion carried.
4. Update on Encroachment in Perch Lake Area - Rantala updated the committee regarding an encroachment that was found in the Perch Lake area. The garage on the property is approximately 6' onto county property. The garage has been there approximately 30 years and is not in very good shape. Rantala had contacted the landowner regarding issuing a

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land use agreement for the encroachment, which states that there can be no further encroachments and if the garage was destroyed, it could not be rebuilt in the same place. The landowner has not contacted Rantala to date regarding moving the building, if possible, which Rantala does not believe is possible. Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Scupien to approve the land use agreement and request that the permit be returned by August 1. All ayes. Motion carried.

5. Discuss Moose Lake Bench Donation – Rantala was contacted by someone from the Moose Lake area who would like to donate 2-3 benches for Moose Lake Park as a memorial. An Aldo Leopold bench-style was suggested. Motion by Novak, seconded by Klimoski to approve the bench donation for Moose Lake. All ayes. Motion carried.
6. Discuss Spychalla Donation – Lazars updated the committee on the donation request of the James Spychalla family. A plan has been prepared for a warming shelter at the trail head of the cross country ski trail, which would be 18' x 24' and very similar to the warming shelter at Gartzke Flowage. A materials list has been prepared and now are ready to solicit quotes to the build the shelter. Robin Stowe, corporation counsel, stated that if the county buys the materials and only bids out the construction of the warming shelter that it would not fall under the criteria for prevailing wage and could solicit RFP's. The Spychalla family would like construction to begin in August-September so the building was ready for use for the upcoming ski season. The warming shelter would have a propane heater. Motion by Hardin, seconded by Novak to accept the donation of the James Spychalla family and to ensure that the donation covers the entire cost of the warming shelter. All ayes. Motion carried.
7. Discuss Post Lake Playground – Rantala informed the committee that he was contacted by the Post Lake Improvement Association regarding providing playground equipment for the Post Lake wayside. Rantala discussed possible site location, etc., with the committee. Information only.
8. DNR Report – Mike Lietz, NR region team supervisor for the DNR, stated that he was happy to report that the DNR again exceeded the time standards for Langlade County. He also introduced Josh Waukau, who will be the new DNR liaison for Langlade County. Waukau provided the committee with a little history of his career with the DNR. Lietz stated that once everything with the State budget is determined that there should be some new hires by late August.

Chuck McCullough, NR area supervisor, provided some wildlife notes for the committee.

1) Shelby Hiestand left for another job in Michigan as field biologist. Vacancy should be filled when budget is sorted out with the agency. They are working on a new test to be offered for national recruitment, very soon. 2) This has been a good spring/summer for turkeys, grouse and deer. Game bird broods are showing up, and they expect a better grouse season this fall. Probably the best fawn crop in at least three years. 3) CDAC recommended zero antlerless quota for 2015 in Langlade County. This means for both archers and gun hunters. Crossbows are still legal during archery season if you have the correct permit. Hunters can opt for either vertical or cross bow when they buy license or pay extra \$3 to use both. 4) Young hunters (under 17) will still be able to shoot antlerless

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deer with their archery and/or gun license. Disabled hunters and active service armed forces can do this, too. 5) 2014 bear season summary: Statewide – 108,000 applicants for 10,340 tags. Harvest was 4,526 statewide, 738 in Zone B and 1,024 in Zone C. 2015 – permits up 15% for Zone B and down 3% for Zone C. 6) Harvest registration for turkey, bear and deer will be done by telephone or by computer this fall. Tags will have an 800 number to call, and/or a website to enter data. Some businesses are planning to offer a phone or computer for customers to register big game. Bear teeth will be gathered by mail with some help from taxidermists and meat lockers. Deer aging has not yet been sorted out, but it may be done at meat processors.

9. Administrator Report – Rantala stated that regarding the State Budget that the Governor vetoed the \$50,000 allocation of funds that provided Counties 50% reimbursement of WCFA dues. Equals about \$3,800 annually for our budget. Rantala discussed the Good Neighbor Authority (GNA), which allows the DNR to assist with management on the National Forest using State policies and procedures, not Forest Service. There will be an opportunity for Counties to subcontract through DNR to get work accomplished. Counties would be reimbursed for time and materials, though those rates are not yet known. We are interested in participating and may ask for committee approval to work under these agreements in the future. Also have been working with Chris Arrowood to come up with agreement on how we can utilize his help with inventory, monitor and control of invasives on the county forest and associated recreational trails. Will be incorporating into budget for 2016. Bathroom building is going well and looks to be on schedule. Organized a day of hand pulling garlic mustard, had 10 working and filled two pick-up trucks. Foresters (staff and DNR) have put in many hours spraying this summer. As Mike Lietz stated, the DNR met their hours for time standards (exceeded by 88 hours) and this was greatly appreciated with all of their vacancies. Projects at the range will be getting underway and there may need to be some closures to complete the work. Timber sales have been hit and miss due to the wet weather.
10. At approximately 9:30 a.m., consider moving into closed session pursuant to §19.85 (1)(c), Wisconsin Statutes, considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, to discuss department re-organization – Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Hardin to go into closed session at 9:38 a.m. Roll call vote: Klimoski – aye, Hardin – aye, Nye – aye, Novak – aye, and Scupien – aye. Motion carried.
11. At approximately 9:45 a.m., return to open session with possible action on any matters discussed in closed session – Motion by Hardin, seconded by Klimoski to return to open session at 10:05 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Hardin to have Rantala to come up with a plan for staffing and re-organization. All ayes. Motion carried.
12. Review Payment of Paid Bills - The committee reviewed the paid Forestry and Recreation Department bills for June.

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13. Review Budget Summary Report - Rantala reviewed with the committee the budget summary report of the forestry department revenues and expenditures through June 30, 2015.
14. Set Next Meeting Date - The next meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, August 13, 2015, at 8:00 a.m., in the forestry office conference room, Fairgrounds, Antigo.
15. Adjournment – Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Scupien to adjourn at 10:15 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Poltrock
Recording Secretary