

Forestry and Recreation Committee

July 20, 2011

8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman Ronald Nye, Tom Schultz, Richard Olsen, Dave Solin, and George Bornemann

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Steve Jackson, Erik Rantala, Ted Ave'lallemant, Terry Poltrock, Dave Peterson, Tom Anderson, Holly Luerrsen, Russ Cook, and Bud Bradford

Location: Conference Room, Forestry Office, Fairgrounds, Antigo

1. Call to Order – Chairman Nye called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. Minutes – A motion was made by Schultz, seconded by Olsen, to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2011, meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. Parrish Highland ATV Club to Address Committee – Bud Bradford addressed the committee regarding the cemetery trail, which is becoming quite dangerous. Jackson stated that they are planning to reroute from River Road to Hwy. H on the snowmobile trail. Bradford also stated that Lily Mill to Hwy. Q is becoming quite rocky. Jackson stated that a contractor will be repairing both ends. Bradford also again expressed concern about the gates installed by the Knights Templar property. He stated that he spoke with Don Schoonenberg of the Knights Templar, and they would be amenable to a land trade if it was advantageous to both sides. Jackson also informed the committee that there are new regulations for new ATV trails; and if any new trails are developed, they would be closed to pick-up trucks.
4. Discuss Request by Parrish Highland ATV Club to open up part of Hwy. U to Access ATV Trail – Russ Cook addressed the committee regarding creating a new ATV route from Clear Lake Road to Isle of Pines Road to access local businesses in the area. The Town of Elcho would need to establish Clear Lake Road as an ATV route. Cook stated that donations have been received for signage for this new route. Schultz expressed

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concern as this new ATV route would not meet the criteria set up by the Highway Committee. A new route must link up with an established ATV route or trail. New routes cannot be established just to allow residents of the area the privilege of taking their ATVs to local businesses. After discussion, motion by Bornemann, seconded by Schultz to deny the request of the Parrish Highland ATV Club to open up part of Hwy. U to access an ATV trail. 4 ayes, 1 nay. Motion carried.

5. Discuss Request to Use Range by 4-H – Tom Anderson explained to the committee that 4-H would like to have a 4-H shooting tournament at the Langlade County Bow & Gun Range on Saturday, September 17. 4-H is requesting that the range be closed to the public except for viewing this 4-H event. This would be an event for 4-Hers to participate in shooting and archery competition. Currently there are 50 youth in archery and 20-25 youth in shooting. This would be a statewide event that would give youth one more opportunity to apply for nationals. 4-H would like the range closed to the public by 3 p.m. on Friday, September 16 and all day on Saturday, September 17. Anderson also inquired if the range could be open by 6 a.m. on September 17 for set-up. Jackson explained to the committee that the range has been closed to the public for other events in the past. Dale Carlson will work with the 4-H to set up picnic tables, etc., for the event. Motion by Schultz, seconded by Bornemann to approve the 4-H event at the bow and gun range and to allow the range to be closed to the public for this event. All ayes. Motion carried.
6. Discuss Proposal to Reclaim Shot at Range – Jackson informed the committee that he was contacted by a group called Lead Us Reclaim LLC from Augusta, Wisconsin that recovers lead shot from ranges. After taking a sample, they believe that there is an average of 3.75 lbs/sq. ft. The current price for lead is \$.88/lb. The split of the payment would be 70% (theirs) and 30% for the county. The same split would also apply for the trucking fee to the foundry. Clearing and screening would take 10-15 dry days, and they would work around the shooting schedule. After screening, they replace any soil removed from the woods. This would be done either next summer unless we have a very late and dry fall. Jackson will investigate if any permits would be required and will have the corporation counsel review the sample contract. Motion by Schultz, seconded by Solin to have Jackson pursue the proposal to reclaim shot at the range and report back at the August meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.
7. Discuss Request by Friends of Moose Lake – The Friends of Moose Lake are requesting Langlade County's support in applying for a grant, which would enable them to develop a lake management plan. A lake management plan would allow them to be pro-active and prepared to deal with water quality issues, aquatic invasive species, and fish management. Motion by Bornemann, seconded by Solin to have Jackson draft a letter in support of the Friends of Moose Lake grant application for a lake management plan. All ayes. Motion carried.
8. Discuss Action by Highway Committee regarding Augustyn Springs Gravel Pit – Jackson informed the committee that approximately 10 years ago, the forestry department withdraw land from the County Forest Law Program so that the highway department

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could construct a gravel pit in the Town of South Ainsworth- NESW, Section 34; T33N-R12E. Over the last ten years, the highway department has used this gravel pit very infrequently and would like to return it to the forestry department. There would be a cost of \$250 annually for a permit from zoning. There is also an agreement in place with the Town of Ainsworth that if gravel is hauled down Augustyn Springs Road that the highway department must grade the road. The forestry department would be responsible for that if the pit is returned to forestry department ownership. Jackson will check with the corporation counsel regarding the legalities of selling gravel from the pit to loggers. Motion by Schultz, seconded by Bornemann to accept the Augustyn Springs gravel pit from the Highway Committee. All ayes. Motion carried.

9. Discuss Status of Proposed Land Purchase with Plum Creek Timber Company – Jackson informed the committee that Langlade County has received preliminary project approval of the stewardship grant for the proposed land purchase with Plum Creek Timber Company. Jackson stated that Langlade County is now at Step #8, which requires that the county get appraisals approved and second appraisals ordered. Jackson has contacted Mike Augustyn regarding completing the appraisal. Jackson stated that the process will also need to be started to sell the landlocked properties, which need to be sold to assist us in meeting our obligation for the 50% of the purchase price. Motion by Schultz, seconded by Solin to have Jackson begin the process to sell the landlocked properties and to contact the corporation counsel to review what the proper process would entail. All ayes. Motion carried.
10. Discuss Strategic Direction of DNR Division of Forestry – Ave'lallemant informed the committee that nine program area were looked at: county forests, fire protection, forest health, nurseries, privately owned forest lands, state lands, urban forests, utilization and marketing, and cross-program activities. Ave'lallemant stated that the DNR Division of Forestry is looking to redirect the work force. Counties will still have the option of selecting increases or decreases in the DNR hours or grants to best fit their county's needs. If a county elects no change in DNR hours then the 2008 time standard hours will continue to apply. The forest administrator grant is to remain whole each year. Langlade County will receive 2,800 time standard hours, which includes 700 "flex" hours. Langlade County could also receive a sustainable forestry grant of \$2,674 and the wildlife habitat grant of \$6,357. Motion by Solin, seconded by Bornemann to accept the strategic director for Langlade County. All ayes. Motion carried.
11. Discuss Dump Station Fees at Veteran's Memorial Park – Chairman Nye stated that he had requested that this item be added to the agenda as he had heard a few complaints regarding having to pay the \$5 dumping fee as well as paying \$20/night for camping. The committee discussed costs charged at other campgrounds as well as fees incurred for pumping at the dump station, and stated that camping at Veteran's Memorial Park is actually very economical and there would be no changes in fees at this time.
12. DNR Liaison Report – Ave'lallemant informed the committee that Langlade County has nine State Natural Areas: Flora Spring Pond; Oxbow Rapids, Upper Wolf River; Bear Caves; Bogus Swamp; Minito Lake; Lawrence Lake; Hunting River Alders; Kelly Lynn

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- Bog; and Swamp Creek Fen. Ave'lallemant stated that where it is possible he would like to provide informational signs and a viewing area to showcase the natural areas.
13. Review Payment of Paid Bills - A motion was made by Olsen, seconded by Bornemann, to approve the paid Forestry and Recreation Department bills. All ayes. Motion carried.
 14. Review Budget Summary Report - Jackson reviewed with the committee the budget summary report of the forestry department revenues and expenditures through June 30, 2011. Motion by Olsen, seconded by Bornemann, to accept the budget summary. All ayes. Motion carried.
 15. Comp Time Balances - The committee discussed that due to the Kronos timekeeping system that monthly comp time balance reports would no longer be necessary. Motion by Solin, seconded by Bornemann that the comp time balances reports would no longer be required. All ayes. Motion carried.
 16. Other Matters – Jackson informed the committee that there will be a mountain bike workshop at the Bear Paw Inn on Friday, August 26 and that he would like Tom Lazars and Tammy Kubiaczyk to attend if their schedule allows.
 17. Set Next Meeting Date - The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 22, 2011, at 8:30 a.m., in the Forestry Office Conference Room, Fairgrounds, Antigo.
 16. Adjournment - A motion was made by Olsen, seconded by Solin, to adjourn at 10:03 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Poltrock
Recording Secretary