

Forestry and Recreation Committee

November 1, 2013

8:30 a.m.

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

Members Absent: Michael Klimoski

Others Present: Dave & Judy Peterson, Terry Poltrock, and Drew Kelly of WATK-WACD

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 Solin, seconded by Bina, to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2013 meeting. 4 ayes, 1 absent. Motion carried.
3. Discuss Ken Sackman Access Permit - Rantala informed the committee that Ken Sackman of Appleton, WI had contacted him requesting an access permit to use an all season logging road on county land that goes through Section 36, T32N-R12E (Price) to access his property located in the SW1/2 SW1/4 of Section 25; T32N-R12E. They have been using the existing road for many years to reach their cabin and do not intend to make any changes to the road. Motion by Solin, seconded by Hardin to approve the access permit for Ken Sackman. 4 ayes, 1 absent. Motion carried.
4. Update Mishler Survey Issue – Rantala informed the committee that this issue was last discussed in January, 2012. Jackson had contacted Mr. Mishler to see if Langlade County could purchase a perpetual easement to cross his property for the approximately \$4,800 plus interest that was owed on the timber sales. There were questions if a perpetual easement could be purchased as there are other judgments against this property. Stowe stated that one option would be to have Dave Tlusty survey and extend the lines of the property for the omitted land. Once this is done, the county would meet with Mishler. Stowe and Rantala have met with Ken Mishler and he would like to get this issue resolved. Langlade County needs to resolve survey issues and rectify ownership issues by issuing quit claims between Langlade County and Mishlers to clear up omitted land issue then pursue easement across Mishler property. Motion by Solin, seconded by Bina to allow Rantala to move forward with Tlusty and Stowe to resolve this issue to the best of interest of Langlade County. 4 ayes, 1 absent. Motion carried.
5. Update on Jack Lake Restroom Project – Rantala informed the committee that he spoke with Nate Heuss and progress on the restroom is moving along on schedule. The roof and doors are on. The sidewalk is in. Still need to shingle roof and install windows and then will be working inside installing plumbing and electrical.

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The old storage tanks have been removed, and the pad is poured. The new storage tanks should be installed within the next two weeks.

The cabin is rented for deer hunting season.

6. Update on Moose Lake Boat Landing and Park – Rantala stated that the Friends of Moose Lake have been working on the walking trail, are putting up signs to identify tree species, and have installed a small lending library. The progress on the restroom is going very well. The Mattoon Sportsmen’s Club takes the dock in and out. Langlade County appreciates the work that the Friends of Moose Lake and the Mattoon Sportsmen’s Club do.
7. Discuss WCFA – Discover Wisconsin Segment – Rantala informed the committee that the Wisconsin County Forests Association (WCFA) is working with Discover Wisconsin to put together a segment on Wisconsin county forests. All counties involved would share the cost of the \$36,000 segment. On November 19, the WCFA executive committee will be meeting with the producers to discuss production and discuss the number of counties interested in participating. The segment would feature county forests and trails and a history of logging. The Discover Wisconsin segment would be eligible for a Sustainable Forestry grant, if funds were available. A request could also be made to Hotel/Motel for funding assistance. Rantala will report back at the December meeting.
8. Marking Camp Update – Rantala informed the committee that the 24th annual marking camp was held October 22-24 with 35 foresters in attendance. Over the three days, approximately 500 acres were marked with a value of approximately \$250,000. Timber was marked in the Elcho area, Augustyn Springs, and Sherry Road. All the timber has been marked for the fall timber sale.
9. Review Payment of Paid Bills – The committee reviewed the paid Forestry and Recreation Department bills for September and October.
10. Review Budget Summary Report - Rantala reviewed with the committee the budget summary report of the forestry department revenues and expenditures through October 31, 2013.
11. Set Next Meeting Date – Fall Timber Sale Bid Opening - The fall timber sale bid opening will be scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2013, at 8:30 a.m., in the forestry office conference room, Fairgrounds, Antigo.
12. Any Other Matters – The committee and Rantala had received letters from Dave and Judy Peterson regarding the proposed surface for the hiking/biking trail on the Wolf River State Trail. This segment of the trail is 11.2 miles. A conditional use permit for this work was approved a week ago from the Board of Adjustment. In September, 2012, an RTA grant for \$99,500 was received for this project; but Langlade County is still waiting to hear from the DNR regarding a funding source for the additional \$99,500, which is needed for the surfacing project. Yesterday, Rantala spoke with Cameron Bump of the DNR, who stated that any additional funding for this project beyond the \$199,000 in order

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to surface the trail with limestone instead of crushed gravel is not available at this time. Estimates for limestone cost 3-4 times what crushed gravel costs. Also, for the initial covering of the ballast, a crushed gravel surface is recommended by DNR trail specs. Langlade County does not own the Wolf River State trail, but Langlade County will be responsible for maintenance costs as DNR grant funding may not be available. Dave and Judy Peterson also addressed the committee regarding their concerns regarding this segment of the Wolf River State Trail. Information only.

13. Closed Session – At approximately 9:10 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, to discuss possible land purchase. Motion by Hardin, seconded by Solin to go into closed session at 9:27 a.m. Roll call vote: Solin – aye, Nye – aye, Bina – aye, and Hardin - aye. Motion carried.

14. Open Session – Motion by Hardin, seconded by Bina to return to open session at 9:50 a.m. 4 ayes, 1 absent. Motion carried.

Motion by Bina, seconded by Solin to allow Rantala to negotiate a purchase price with Plum Creek Timber Company as discussed in closed session. 4 ayes, 1 absent. Motion carried.

15. Adjournment – Motion by Hardin, seconded by Bina to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Poltrock
Recording Secretary