

Forestry and Recreation Committee

October 22, 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, Robin Stowe, Josh Waukau, DNR liaison; Sam Blake, Andy Neveln, Chuck McCullough, Brian Braun, Jack Andraschko, Andy Kostelny, Rus Cook, Dave Peterson, Pete Resch, Drew Kelly, 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 minutes of the September 17, 2015 meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. DNR Liaison Report – Josh Waukau, DNR liaison, introduced two new Antigo DNR staff members, Sam Blake and Andy Neveln to the committee. Chuck McCullough, NR area supervisor, updated the committee on the Chippewa night hunting.
4. Discuss Resolution to Oppose Changes to the Registration of Deer and Bear – Mike Klimoski is introducing a resolution, which will be on the consent agenda, opposing changes to the registration of deer and bear. Deer or bear can now be registered either on-line or by phone. Klimoski would like registration returned to station registration as it was before as he is concerned this will lead to more hunting violations. Motion by Hardin, seconded by Novak to support Mike Klimoski's resolution to oppose changes to the registration of deer and bear. All ayes. Motion carried.

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5. Discuss ATV Trail Proposal - Pete Resch, Chairman of the Town of Upham, updated the committee on the Town of Upham opening all the roads in the Town of Upham to ATV/UTV travel and looking to have an ATV route from Bass Lake Road to Augustyn Springs Road. ATVs would have to travel on Hwy. B for approximately 2,200' to the railroad grade to Koepenick Road to Hwy. J to Pence Lake Road to Hwy. A. ATVs would have to cross Hwy. A twice. After discussion, the committee requested that Rantala continue to work with this group toward possible implementation and report back to the committee.
6. Discuss Ron Piela Easement Request in the Town of North Langlade - Rantala informed the committee that Ron Piela is requesting an easement to cross county land in the SESE of Section 32; T33N-R13E. Robin Stowe, corporation counsel, explained to the committee that an easement is recorded through the Register of Deeds and is recorded against the property and is perpetual. An access permit can be given or taken away and is only in effect for the current landowner. The forestry committee policy has been to offer access permits instead of easements on county land. Stowe also explained that in this instance an easement is not needed and that an access permit would give Mr. Piela the same access to his property. Motion by Scupien, seconded by Hardin to approve an access permit for Mr. Ron Piela to cross county land in the SESE of Section 32; T33N-R13E (Township of North Langlade). 4 ayes, 1 abstain. Motion carried.
7. Discuss Roehrig Road - Rantala informed the committee that he contacted Mike Kennedy, Chairman of the Town of Ackley, regarding transferring ownership of Roehrig Road. Roehrig Road is approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. It is a main hauling road for forest products in the winter, which is in very poor condition. Rantala was informed that the town board will be discussing the road again in November. This issue will be tabled until more information is available.
8. Discuss Lands for Sale – Whitetail Properties – Rantala informed the committee that he was contacted by a representative of Whitetail Properties regarding some properties that he has for sale in the Township of West Elcho. He also recently contacted Rantala regarding some additional properties in the Township of West Elcho that Rantala has not had an opportunity to review for stumpage. After discussion, motion by Scupien, seconded by Novak to hold off on these properties at this time. All ayes. Motion carried.
9. Discuss Expired Timber Sale Contract #1116-10 – Rantala explained to the committee that Whitetail Logging has had difficulty cutting this job located on the Moccasin Lake Ski Trail due to wet conditions and not being allowed to cut during x-c ski season. Rantala recommended extending the contract until December with no increase. After discussion, motion by Klimoski, seconded by Scupien to extend the contract until December 1, 2015 with no increase, and after December 1, the contract will be increased by 10% and must be completed by December 1, 2016. All ayes. Motion carried.
10. Discuss Increasing Fee for Firewood Permits – Rantala informed the committee that firewood permits have not been increased since 2007. These permits have been \$15.00

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for 10 standard cords of wood. Rantala would like to increase the permits to \$20.00 for 2016. Last year, 160 permits were sold. Motion by Novak, seconded by Hardin to increase the firewood permits to \$20.00 for 10 standard cords of wood for 2016. All ayes. Motion carried.

11. Review Door for Shelter – Rantala shared with the committee pictures of a bi-fold door that the maintenance department had mocked-up for the new shelter at Veteran’s Memorial Park. The new doors would cost \$400/each x 6 doors would be \$2,400.00. The cost of the coiling doors had been an alternate to the bid and would cost approximately \$3,600.00. The doors would be built over the winter and be installed in the spring. Motion by Novak, seconded by Scupien to proceed with the bi-fold doors with the glass to be at eye-level for the new shelter at Veteran’s Memorial Park. 4 ayes, 1 nay. Motion carried.
12. Discuss Increasing Camping and Shelter Rental Fees at Veteran’s Memorial Park – Rantala informed the committee that currently the rate to camp at Veteran’s Memorial Park is \$20/night. The rate has not been changed since 2008. Rantala and Lazars are recommending raising the rate to \$25/night. Tax is included in the rate. After discussion, motion by Klimoski, seconded by Nye to increase the rate for camping at Veteran’s Memorial Park to \$30/night plus the \$5.00 fee for the dump station. 3 ayes, 2 nays. Motion carried.

Rantala and Lazars are recommending setting the fee for the new shelter at Veteran’s Memorial Park at \$100/day. Motion by Novak, seconded by Scupien to set the rental rate for the new shelter at Veteran’s Memorial Park at \$100/day. 4 ayes, 1 nay. Motion carried.

Rantala stated that currently the rate for the cabins at Veteran’s Memorial is \$50/day with a two night minimum for the weekend. Rantala and Lazars are recommending raising the rate to \$60/night with a two night minimum for the weekend. Motion by Scupien, seconded by Novak to raise the rate for renting the cabins at Veteran’s Memorial Park at \$60/night with a two-night minimum for the weekend. 2 ayes, 3 nays. Motion failed. Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Scupien to raise the rate for renting the cabins at Veteran’s Memorial Park at \$65/night with a two-night minimum for the weekend. All ayes. Motion carried.

13. Approve Letter of Recognition to James Spychalla Family – Rantala wrote a letter thanking the Spychalla family for their generous donation of \$35,000 for the ski chalet at Jack Lake, which he would like the committee to sign. Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Nye to approve the letter of recognition to the James Spychalla family. All ayes. Motion carried.
14. Update on Good Neighbor Authority - Rantala updated the committee on 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.

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Counties would be reimbursed for wages, mileage and overhead costs. Several members of the staff have shown an interest in working 4-10's and then on the 5th day, working for the forest service at 1½ time, which would be reimbursed 100% so there would be no cost to the county. Klimoski stated that Rantala should check with the corporation counsel to see if this would need to be approved by the oversight committee, Personnel Committee, and county board as this is the procedure the Highway Department must follow in order to work 4-10's. Rantala will bring this back to the committee once these agreements are available. Any agreement allowing counties to participate in GNA would need forestry committee and county board approval.

Dave Peterson thanked the forestry department for the work that was done on the road at Kettlebowl.

15. Administrator Report – Rantala stated that he has no new information on the DNR lands for sale. Marking for this fall's timber sale should be completed this week. There was no marking camp this year. The sales will be out sooner for the loggers to look at. Also will be incorporating more technology into our sale prospectus, which will make it easier for loggers to find jobs. Rantala informed the committee that people have been using the Hwy. S gravel pit to sight-in guns and have made a mess. The forestry department staff were going to clean it up, but a group of individuals volunteered to clean up the site. The forestry department will be signing it. The range building re-siding will begin today. A larger door opening will be added so the club can get equipment in and out easier. Also adding window openings for more light when building is in use for organized shoots. Have received lots of positive feedback on the work done at the range this year. The retaining wall at the 100 yard range is failing. The highway department will assist us in fixing it within the next few weeks. Projects that have been completed are the Lily parking lot, Kettlebowl, and Swamp Creek. Construction on the ski chalet should start next week. Rantala stated that he would be participating in the school forest program on Friday, October 23. Also, the benches for Moose Lake have been completed.
16. Review Payment of Paid Bills - The committee reviewed the paid Forestry and Recreation Department bills for September.
17. Review Budget Summary Report - Rantala reviewed with the committee the budget summary report of the forestry department revenues and expenditures through September 30, 2015.
18. Set Next Meeting Date – Fall Timber Sale - The next meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, 2015, at 8:30 a.m., in the forestry office conference room, Fairgrounds, Antigo.

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19. Adjournment – Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Scupien to adjourn at 10:40 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Poltrock
Recording Secretary