

## Forestry and Recreation Committee

September 21, 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, Ted Ave'lallemant, Robin Stowe, Terry Poltrock, and Dave Peterson

**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 Olsen, seconded by Bornemann, to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2011, meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. DNR Liaison Report – Update on Fish Management in Langlade County – Dave Seibel, Fisheries Biologist, provided a written report for the committee on 2011 fish management. Warmwater Stocking: Enterprise Lake – 252 muskellunge, Greater Bass Lake – 129 muskellunge, Moccasin Lake – 55 muskellunge, Summit Lake – 2,820 walleye, and Upper Post Lake – 7,570 walleye. Trout Stocking (yearlings are stocked in the spring and fingerlings are stocked in the fall): Jack Lake – 4,000 rainbow trout, Lily River – 5,460 rainbow trout, Pence Lake – 6,000 brown trout, Remington Pond (kids fishing only) – 3,240 rainbow trout and 1,920 brook trout, Shadick Spring – 1,720 rainbow trout, Townline Lake – 3,500 rainbow trout, and Wolf River – 10,000 brown trout and 10,000 rainbow trout.

Karberger Springs Dredging – started in 2011, will complete in 2012; 2.1 acre pond is in Woods Flowage Fishery Area; creating more and better living space for adult trout.

Evergreen River Trout Habitat – about 0.5 miles of trout habitat improvement off CTH P in Evergreen River Fishery Area just above the Menominee Reservation; channel restoration by narrowing and deepening river and adding woody habitat (trees and

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rootwads) as well as boulders and wing deflectors (islands and peninsulas); creating more and better habitat for adult trout.

McGee Lake opened to fishing this year following successful brook trout restoration project.

Rabes Lake now has largemouth bass that appear to be impacting brook trout reproduction and survival of trout less than ~6-8". We continue to monitor the fishery, remove bass by electrofishing, and encourage angler harvest of any bass caught (up to 5 per day per angler). There are still some nice trout out there and it hasn't gotten to the point of where McGee Lake was where we had to kill off the fishery and start over. We hope we don't need to do that. It would be more difficult and costly than McGee was.

Local trout streams are doing very well with good fish numbers and sizes, and good reproduction. 2010 was a record year for numbers on the East Branch Eau Claire River. Streams have benefited by the precipitation the last year or so following 8 years of drought. Spring Brook is still dealing with water quality issues. Trout numbers are still rebounding from some fish kills the last five years out there.

Ave'llement informed the committee that he reviewed the chronic wasting website and it needs some improvement but there is very good information. Partridge and wild turkey brood counts are down 30%.

4. Discuss Setting Date for Public Hearing for Five Year Recreation Plan – Jackson explained that the Langlade County Forestry and Recreation Committee needs to conduct a public meeting on recreation needs for Langlade County for updating the five-year plan for the period 2012 to 2016. The purpose of the meeting is to review a draft of the plan and gather citizen input concerning countywide recreational needs for the next five year.

This plan will assess the existing recreation system in Langlade County, identify recreation needs based upon public input and recreation standards, sets forth goals and objectives to be used as guidelines in formulating outdoor recreation improvements, and establishes recommendations for improving the recreation system over the next five years. Submission of this report to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources establishes eligibility for the County and local units of government for a variety of Federal and State Aids. Non-profit groups, foundations and the general public may also use this document to coordinate their own private efforts for developing outdoor recreation facilities. The committee set a date of Tuesday, October 18 at 7 p.m., County Board Room, Safety Building to hold the public hearing on the Five Year Recreation Plan.

5. Discuss Concealed Carry Law – Jackson addressed the committee regarding he and his employees being allowed to carry a weapon while on duty in the field for personal protection. Bornemann stated that Stowe had contacted County Mutual Insurance and Langlade County would assume no additional liability by allowing this practice. Motion by Schultz, seconded by Olsen to approve open or concealed carry of weapons in the field only, by forestry staff, as long as they have all State required permits. All ayes. Motion carried.

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6. Update and Approval of Salvage Sale Bids – Jackson stated that this sale, which is a 37 acre sale in the Bass Lake area had three bidders:

Marshall Logging, Inc. -	\$8,054.10
Dave Raith Logging LLC -	\$7,376.50
Jacobs Enterprises LLC -	\$3,345.00

Motion by Bornemann, seconded by Schultz to accept the high bid of Marshall Logging, Inc., of \$8,054.10 for the salvage sale in the Bass Lake area. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. Review Payment of Paid Bills - A motion was made by Bornemann, seconded by Schultz, to approve the paid Forestry and Recreation Department bills. All ayes. Motion carried.
8. Review Budget Summary - Jackson reviewed with the committee the budget summary report of the forestry department revenues and expenditures through August 31, 2011.
9. Next Meeting Date - The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, 2011, at 6:30 p.m., in the County Board Room, Safety Building, Antigo.
10. Other Matters – The committee requested that Jackson check into offering a pesticide training course for loggers who need to spray red pine plantations for annosum root rot.

Solin discussed a resolution he had received from Forest County regarding cutting on the Nicolet National Forest.

Motion by Schultz, seconded by Bornemann to excuse Richard Olsen at 9:25 a.m.

11. 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 Wolf River State Trail

Motion by Bornemann, seconded by Schultz to go into closed session at 9:33 a.m. Roll call vote: Bornemann – aye, Schultz – aye, Solin – aye, and Nye – aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Bornemann, seconded by Schultz to return to open session at 10:00 a.m. Roll call vote: Bornemann – aye, Schultz – aye, Solin – aye, and Nye – aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Bornemann, seconded by Solin to place a copy of the letter from Robin Stowe, corporation counsel, to Michelle M. DeBrock-Owens, DNR Environmental Enforcement Specialist, regarding his response to the Notice of Violation on the Wolf River State Trail in both the personnel files of Steve Jackson and Tammy Kubiaczyk. 3 ayes, 1 nay. Motion carried.

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12. Adjournment – Motion by Solin, seconded by Schultz to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Poltrock  
Recording Secretary