

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOREST COUNTY

COMMITTEE: FORESTRY & RECREATION **PLACE:** COUNTY BOARD ROOM

DATE: AUGUST 21, 2017

TIME CALLED TO ORDER: 4:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: BILL CONNORS, BILL CHANEY, DAVE CAMPBELL, STEVE BUNDA, RON KARL, DON DEHART, MELINDA OTTO

OTHERS PRESENT: LIZ WOOD, CRAIG WILLIAMS, DAN PETERS, TOM AND CAROL TALLIER, BILL TORGERSON, DAVE ZIOLKOWSKI, TAYLOR ZIOLKOWSKI, PAUL MILLAN, JUDY SAVARD, AL MURRAY, JAMIE ANDERSON, JANE SEVERT, HILLARY GRABNER, MARY TORGERSON

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Connors. Motion by Campbell, seconded by Chaney to approve the agenda as read. All voting aye, motion carried. Motion by Chaney, seconded by Campbell to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2017 meeting. All voting aye, motion carried. Discussion was held regarding posting the Forest Administrator position or not posting the position. Motion by Bunda, seconded by Karl to not post the position at this time and forward the recommendation to the Personnel Committee. There were 4 members voting aye, Bunda, Karl, Campbell and Chaney, 3 members voting no, Otto, DeHart and Connors. Motion carried. Torgerson reported that park revenues for 2017 to date are \$89,298.75, down \$5,189.25 from 2016. The budgets were explained by Torgerson and there was a lengthy discussion regarding the purchase of a new mower for the County Park. The Forestry budget has \$15,000 in the outlay account for 2017 that has not been spent and the Committee would like that money to be carried over into 2018 to use towards a new truck and/or mower. The decision regarding the \$15,000 will be made by the Finance Committee. Motion by Chaney, seconded by DeHart to approve the Forestry and Recreation budgets. All voting aye, motion carried. There was nothing to report on the 2 land acquisitions since the State of Wisconsin has not adopted a budget. The Committee discussed Forest County's participation in Good Neighbor Authority. Motion by Chaney, seconded by Campbell to enroll Forest County in the assisting of the DNR as part of a marking crew organized by DNR. All voting aye, motion carried. Fall timber sales were discussed. Motion by Karl, seconded by Chaney to wait until spring to advertise sales. All voting aye, motion carried. Connors reported that he was contacted by Chairman Paul Ehlinger from Wabeno regarding the Soperton Bridge. The Soperton bridge has been closed for many years because of structural issues. The 100 Mile Snow Safari snowmobile club and the Town of Wabeno would like to use one of the County's bridges to place on top of Soperton Bridge to use for this snowmobile season. Motion by Campbell, seconded by Karl to not allow the 100 Mile Snow Safari and the Town of Wabeno the use of the County bridge because of

safety and engineering issues. The Forestry Department will contact the 100 Mile Snow Safari and Town of Wabeno and offer their assistance in rerouting the trail. All voting aye, motion carried. Torgerson will organize a ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of Phase I of the Valley Trail. The ceremony will be held on Thursday, August 31 at 10:00 a.m. at the start of the trail at Laona Machine Supply in Crandon. The next meeting date will be September 18 (preferred) or 19, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the County Board Room. Motion by Chaney, seconded by DeHart to adjourn. All voting aye, meeting adjourned.

The minutes are not official and subject to change. They will be officially approved at the next scheduled Forestry and Recreation Committee meeting.