

Forestry and Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2018

Members Present: Bill Chaney, Kris Houle, Ron Karl, Dave Campbell, Steve Bunda,
Don Dehart, Mike Miller

Others Present: Joan Ginter, Ben Broquard, Kelly Raleigh Moses, Sam Blake, Melinda Otto, Jill Zagar, Gary Bocek, Tannis Bocek, Jamie Anderson, Dennis Rosa

- 1. Call to order:** Meeting was called to order by Bill Chaney at 5:00 p.m.
- 2. Approve Agenda:**
Motion by Campbell and seconded by Karl to approve the amended agenda. All voting aye, motion carried.
- 3. Approve minutes:**
Motion by Dehart and seconded by Bunda to approve the minutes from the April 2nd, 2018 meeting. All voting aye, motion carried.
- 4. March Timber Sales Report:**
Committee received March timber revenue reports. From the 2nd quarter forward timber sale revenues will be reported quarterly to the committee.
- 5. Introduction of Ben Broquard, the Natural Resource Technician:**
Ben was introduced to the new committee members.
- 6. Kelly Raleigh Moses--Northeast District Liaison from the WI DNR to inform committee on Rails to Trails:**
Kelly gave the back ground information on the Rails to Trail program. The segment of rail line from Crandon to Argonne was discussed. An option to acquire the segment could possibly be a "partnership" between the DNR, Forest County and possibly the City of Crandon. This project is in its' infancy and will require more research.
- 7. Update, discussion and possible action on open timber sales:**
Sam Blake, DNR liaison, reported that there are 3 timber sales presently open, however none of these are active at the present time due to the spring break up and unstable ground and road conditions.
- 8. Review, discuss and possible action on awarding 2018 Timber Sales:**
Timber sale tract 1-18 –High bidder Connor Forest Management @ \$33,285.35. Motion by Campbell and seconded by Miller to award tract 1-18 to Connor Forest Management. All voting aye, motion carried.
Timber sale tract 2-18 –High bidder T & T Forest Products LLC @ \$51,956.50. Motion by Dehart and seconded by Mike Miller to award tract 2-18 to T & T Forest Products LLC. All voting aye, motion carried.
Timber sale tract 3-18 –High bidder Connor Forest Management @ \$25,262.50. Motion by Karl and seconded by Bunda to award tract 3-18 to Connor Forest Management. All voting aye, motion carried.

Timber sale tract 4-18 –High bidder T & T Forest Products LLC @ \$31,181.25. Motion by Campbell and seconded by Bunda to award tract 4-18 to T & T Forest Products LLC . All voting aye, motion carried.
Timber sale tract 5-18 –High bidder Connor Forest Management @ \$31,242.60. Motion by Dehart and seconded by Karl to award tract 5-18 to Connor Forest Management. All voting aye, motion carried.

9. Discussion and possible action on sending recommendation to the Personnel Committee for increasing work week hours from 35 hours to 40 hours and waiving the probationary period for the Natural Resource Technician position:

Motion by Houle and seconded by Dehart to send recommendation to Personnel Committee to increase work hours from 35 to 40 hour work week and waive the probationary period for the wage rate for Ben Broquard, Natural Resource Technician. All voting aye, motion carried.

10. Update on Forestry equipment repairs:

Motion by Bunda and seconded by Houle to accept estimate not to exceed \$2400.00 to Bills Gear LLC to do repairs to New Holland tractor. All voting aye, motion carried.

11. Update discussion and possible action on Weber trespass-County land sale:

Department updated committee on progress of land sale. Withdrawal paperwork was forwarded to the State for approval. Committee directed department to assure that deed work completed by Corp counsel (Paul Payant) in this matter will be billed to purchaser and not the county.

12. Update discussion and possible action on Veterans Memorial Park summer help:

We had 1 eligible applicant, will have interview with park manager, department and human resources. No action required.

13. Discussion and possible action on community event at Otter Springs Trail on July 10th and use of county forest land for a Snapshot Wisconsin program (sponsored by UW extension):

Committee requested that an article be drawn up for the local newspapers on these events.

14. Update discussion and possible action on MSA quoted on surveys for Forest Drive and Spring Lake land acquisitions:

Committee directed department to find monies in the budget for the County's portion of the cost (after grant monies) of the project. Approval of quotes will be tabled until next meeting.

15. Discussion and possible action on new land acquisitions:

Department directed to get information from state what funds are available to Forest County for 2018. No action required.

16. Public comments:

Melinda Otto would have like to have had a courtesy call on the fact that she was not on the Forestry and Parks Committee for this term.

17. Set next meeting date: May 23, 2018 at 4:30 pm will be the next meeting.

18. Adjournment: Motion by Houle and seconded by Dehart to adjourn. All voting aye, motion carried.

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

