

FORESTRY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

COMMITTEE: FORESTRY AND RECREATION
DATE: December 20, 2023
TIME: 8:00 A.M.
PLACE: County Board Room

CALL TO ORDER.

Chairperson Chaney called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL.

Members Present: Campbell, Chaney, Dehart, Karl, Lukas, Miller and Tallier.

Others Present: Tom Tiffany, Cindy Gretzinger, Nora Matuszewski, Brian Piasini, Lloyd Fulcer, Ron Skallerud, Tony Weber, Bonnie Evans, Eric Rempala, Travis Wollenberg, and Erin Lane

DISCUSSION WITH TOM TIFFANY ON LAND OPTIONS, POSSIBLE ACTION.

Gretzinger and Lukas welcomed Tom Tiffany and explained the situation the County is in with going for a 2-million-dollar referendum for operating expenses and wage increases to hopefully retain employees. With only 18% taxable lands it is hard to make ends meet. The County is looking at potential land options to manage for timber harvest and recreation. If the County could get more land to manage this could increase our revenue to cover expenses.

Tallier presented a question about coordination with the Federal Government on land management and how that has not been done. Tom Tiffany discussed the coordination between all levels of government, he explained the importance of putting this in the County's Comprehensive Plan and then to push to make sure it is implemented. He suggested the County should hire a land use attorney to help develop the county's comprehensive plan, the name of an attorney who has experience in coordination was provided.

Tom Tiffany brought up a few ideas, the possibility of a pilot program where the County manages some Forest Service acres and the possibility of the County GNA.

Other discussion points included the roads maintained by the Forest Service, PILT payments, lack of Timber Harvest on Forest Service Lands.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Tallier to adjourn, second by Dehart. All Present voting AYE. Motion Carried.

Adjourned 9:00am

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