

FORESTRY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

COMMITTEE: FORESTRY AND RECREATION
DATE: March 18, 2024
TIME: 4:30 P.M.
PLACE: County Board Room

CALL TO ORDER.

Chairperson Chaney called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL.

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

Members Absent:

Others Present: Sam Blake, Travis Wollenberg, and Erin Lane

APPROVE AGENDA.

Motion by Karl to approve the agenda and waive reading the agenda, second by Dehart. All Present voting AYE. Motion carried

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 12, 2024 FORESTRY AND RECREATION MEETING.

Motion by Dehart to approve the minutes from the February 12 meeting and public hearing of Forestry and Recreation, second by Lukas. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION/UPDATE FROM MEETING WITH MOLE LAKE ON MOTORIZED RECREATIONAL TRAILS.

Discussion Points from meeting:

- *Tribes would like to get snowmobile and ATV/UTV trails that connect and get people into town; Casino and C-Store.*
- *Discussion on grant process for trail development and grant funding for trail maintenance. Where the funding comes from – State provides the maintenance funding through trail passes and a portion of gas tax, trail development is a combination of State and Federal funds.*
- *Discussion on old snowmobile trail that gave a direct route into the Mole Lake.*
- *Discussion on discrepancies on ATV map (Mike B. will work on getting trails updated)*
- *Town of Nashville has ordinance that only allows certain roads open to ATV use, would have to have a meeting with Nashville Town Board on the potential of opening more or all of their roads to ATV/UTV use (Travis will attend a meeting).*
- *Trail Easement would need to be in place that allows clubs to maintain trails through tribal land.*

The Tribal Council will have to meet to discuss where they would like to see trails developed and then meet with Travis to plan connectivity to existing routes.

A small committee will be put together to meet monthly to discuss the trail development progress. They would appreciate assistance with any grant writing that maybe required (yes Travis will help).

Wollenberg will be attending the meetings, there is no need at this time for the whole Forestry Committee to attend.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON DISCONTINUING METONGA LAKE ASSOCIATION DONATION AND REALLOCATING FUNDS INTO A RESERVE ACCOUNT FOR FUTURE PARK PROJECTS.

Currently 5% of all campground reservations are donated to the Metonga Lake Association, which is around \$4,000 per year. There are many projects to still be finished at the park including a new flag pole, ADA walking paths, and boat launch repair and that money could be used to fund those projects. The Lake Association has donated to the campground in the past but at this time with the County not having extra funding it would be beneficial to retain the 5% for the park projects. The Committee would like to have a representative from the Metonga Lake Association at the next meeting to discuss further. Motion by Lukas to take no action and invite a member of the Metonga Lake Association to the next meeting, second by Tallier. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AMENDMENT TO 5YR OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN PER TOWN OF WABENO REQUEST, POTENTIAL BILL TO TOWN OF WABENO FOR THE MEETINGS/RESOLUTION.

Town of Wabeno is applying for a grant for improving their tennis court and park area, this project needs to be listed in the Town's or the County's Outdoor Recreation Plan. It is expensive for the Town to update their plan and asked that the County update theirs instead. An estimated cost for the County to update their plan is anywhere from \$600-\$900. Motion by Campbell to charge a fee for amending the County 5 year Outdoor Recreation Plan, the fee will include meeting cost for public hearing, publishing cost for Public Hearing and cost for Corporate Council to write the Resolution, second by Lukas. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK BOAT LAUNCH RENOVATION RESOLUTION TO GO TO COUNTY BOARD.

The grant for the boat launch renovation is a 50/50 share cost grant. The estimate is around \$27,000 for the new pads and installation. If the grant is received work would not be complete until late fall or early next spring. Motion by Lukas to approve the resolution for the boat launch renovation and send to County Board, second by Miller. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF 2024 TIMBER SALES GOING OUT FOR BID.

A map with the proposed timber sales was provided for review, packets would go out on April 15th with the bid opening on May 13th. Motion by Tallier to approve the timber sales, second by Dehart. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

- A. ATV TRAILS AND BRIDGES: Lukas would like the ATV trails open immediately, he feels businesses are hurting and could use the traffic, he feels the snowmobile clubs are having a shortfall as well because of the lack of snow this winter. Wollenberg explained that there is maintenance that needs to be done on the trails before they can open there is a wash out and culvert replacements that need to happen and no work can start until the road limits come off, there is also the issue of who will maintain them at this point, the ATV Club does not have their equipment yet that is required for trail maintenance. Wollenberg also explained that opening the trails will not help the snowmobile clubs, however a bill was just passed increasing the snow trail maintenance and that should help for next year as long as they budget accordingly.
- B. TIMBER SALES: Tallier took a ride to one of the current Timber Sales and commended Travis and Jared for their work, Great Job! He also noted there should be some type of reflective tape on the gate at the County Park.
- C. COUNTY PARK: Lukas pointed out the potential of a roll out mat for an ADA walkway to the beach. Aaron Nelson will be starting April 15th and the LTE will be

starting at the end of May.

- D. LAND PURCHASE: Still looking for property to purchase. Tallier mentioned the potential of the Forestry and Recreation Department managing two Forest Service Campgrounds, this will be looked into.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS.

None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND SETTING NEXT MEETING DATE.

Next Meeting will be April 22nd, at 4:30pm at the County Board Room, Public Hearing first with Committee Meeting to follow.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Dehart to adjourn, second by Tallier. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.
Adjourn 5:50pm

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.