

**FORESTRY AND RECREATION  
PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND THE 5 YEAR OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN  
MINUTES**

COMMITTEE: FORESTRY AND RECREATION  
DATE: April 22, 2024  
TIME: 4:30 P.M.  
PLACE: County Board Room

**CALL TO ORDER.**

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

**ROLL CALL.**

Members Present: Chaney, Dehart, Karl, Lukas, Miller, Tallier, Wirtz.

Members Absent:

Others Present: Ron Skallerud, Mark Truymen, Winnie May, Gary Mueller, Sam Blake, Travis Wollenberg, and Erin Lane

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA.**

Motion by Karl to approve the agenda, second by Miller. All Present voting AYE. Motion carried

**CONFIRM COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING REQUIREMENTS**

Notice was given to Forest Republican for 3-week posting and posted at Courthouse at designated locations.

**INFORM THE PUBLIC OF HEARING PROCEDURES (THE TIME FOR EACH SPEAKER)**

Each speaker will receive 5 minutes

**OPEN PUBLIC HEARING**

Motion by Dehart to open the public hearing, second by Karl. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

**CHANGES TO 5 YEAR OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN**

Change to the plan would be under section 6.5 Local Government Capital Improvements, 2022-2026 Town of Wabeno to add in "Refurbishing of recreational playing areas, including ball field, basketball court, tennis court, pickleball court and playground and basketball court."

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No one present and no letters were submitted.

**COMMENTS FROM THE TOWN**

none

**FINAL QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

None

**MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING**

Motion by Dehart to close the public hearing, second by Lukas. All present voting AYE. Motion Carried

DELIBERATION AND DECISION, ANNOUNCE DECISION.

Motion by Karl to move the amendment to the 5yr Outdoor Recreation Plan to the Forestry and Committee Meeting for approval, second by Tallier. All present voting AYE. Motion Carried.

ADJOURN

Motion by Dehart to adjourn, second by Tallier. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

*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.*

## **FORESTRY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

COMMITTEE: FORESTRY AND RECREATION  
DATE: April 22, 2024  
TIME: Immediately Following the Public Hearing  
PLACE: County Board Room

CALL TO ORDER.

Chairperson Chaney called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

ROLL CALL.

Members Present: Chaney, Dehart, Karl, Lukas, Miller, Tallier, Wirtz.

Members Absent:

Others Present: Ron Skallerud, Mark Truymen, Winnie May, Gary Mueller, Gordy Mouw, Sam Blake, Travis Wollenberg, and Erin Lane

APPROVE AGENDA.

Motion by Karl to approve the agenda and move order of items on the agenda as needed, second by Miller. All Present voting AYE. Motion carried

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON MARCH 18, 2024 FORESTRY AND RECREATION MEETING.

Motion by Dehart to approve the minutes from the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting and public hearing of Forestry and Recreation, second by Lukas. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON DISCONTINUING METONGA LAKE ASSOCIATION DONATION.

There are projects that the Forestry and Recreation Department would like to complete at the park and now with a failed referendum and the financial situation the county is in the Forestry and Recreation Committee is considering discontinuing the 5% donation to the Metonga Lake Association. The donation is around \$4,000-\$4,500 per year. Members of the Lake Association were present to discuss the importance of the donation to help fight and prevent further milfoil spread in the Lake Metonga. The Lake Association asked if there is a possibility that there could be a fee charged on top of the campsite reservation charge. The County needs to make sure that required services are funded first and this should be discussed further in finance. Motion by Tallier to move the Metonga Lake Association Donation discussion to finance committee, second by Wirtz. All present voting AYE. Motion Carried.

THE COMMITTEE WILL GO INTO CLOSED SESSION: WISCONSIN STATUTE 19.85 (1)(F) "CONSIDERING FINANCIAL, MEDICAL, SOCIAL OR PERSONAL HISTORIES OR DISCIPLINARY DATA OF SPECIFIC PERSONS, PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATION SPECIFIC PERSONNEL PROBLEMS OR THE INVESTIGATION OF CHARGES AGAINST SPECIFIC PERSONS EXCEPT WHERE PAR. (B) APPLIES WHICH, IF DISCUSSED IN PUBLIC, WOULD BE LIKELY TO HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE EFFECT UPON THE REPUTATION OF ANY PERSON REFERRED TO IN SUCH HISTORIES OR DATA, OR INVOLVED IN SUCH PROBLEMS OR INVESTIGATION." THIS CLOSED SESSION RELATES TO:

CONTRACTOR TIMBER SALE EXTENSION.

Motion by Lukas to convene into Closed Session, second by Tallier, All Present voting: Chaney(AYE), Dehart(AYE), Karl(AYE), Lukas(AYE), Miller(AYE), Tallier(AYE), Wirtz(AYE), Skallerud(AYE). Motion Carried.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION TO TAKE ACTION, IF APPROPRIATE, IN MATTERS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION.

Motion by Miller to reconvene into open session, second by Tallier. All present voting AYE. Motion Carried.

Motion by Miler to approve a 1-year Timber Sale Extension with 0% penalty for contract #505-20, second by Karl. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 5YR OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN TO ADD IN TOWN OF WABENO PROJECTS – REFURBISHING OUTDOOR PLAY AREAS INCLUDING BALL FIELD, BASKETBALL COURT, TENNIS COURT, PICKLEBALL COURT AND PLAYGROUND.

Motion by Lukas to approve a resolution amending the 5yr outdoor recreation plan to add in Town of Wabeno projects – refurbishing outdoor play areas including ball field, basketball court, tennis court, pickleball court and playground, and move on to County Board, second by Tallier. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF OHM TRAIL MAINTENANCE RESOLUTION.

This resolution allows the Forestry and Recreation Department to apply for Grant funding to maintain the OHM trails. Motion by Dehart to approve the OHM Trail Maintenance Resolution and move on to County Board, second by Lukas. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON OLD GROWTH FORESTS

Wollenberg explained that there is not much information out on what the plan is for Old Growth Forest within the National Forests. There is suppose to be a draft from the Forest Service coming out in June with a 60- day comment period. LCC is drafting a letter and the County will be working with WCA on putting together a resolution. Wollenberg will keep the committee updated as more information becomes available.

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

Wollenberg attended a second meeting in Mole Lake discussing the potential of motorized recreational trails. There is a possibility of two ATV routes, one would go through tribal land but would have a lot of requirements for protecting the land. The other option would be to use town roads and the Town of Nashville is in the process of opening their town roads to ATV/UTV use and that would allow access to Mole Lake. The other discussion was Snowmobile trails and the possibility of trying to reopen an existing trail that was closed in the last few years. They will continue to meet monthly on this project.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

- A. ATV TRAILS AND BRIDGES: The ATV/UTV Ordinance change was approved and trails are now open. 8 Mile Loop section is not open yet because it is still soft in that area and needs to be brushed. Maintenance grants are submitted and one

bridge replacement grant for the Forest Service. Argonne to Crandon trail segment will be pushed out another year due to the State not having the Master Plan and MOU done. There is grant funded rehab work being completed on the Valley Trail by the school so it doesn't continue to wash out. Discussion on charging the admin fees for the maintenance grants

- B. TIMBER SALES: The 2024 Timber Sales went out for bid. Bid opening will be May 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am in the Forestry Office, and bids will be awarded at Forestry and Recreation meeting May 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm.
- C. COUNTY PARK: Park is on schedule for the May 1<sup>st</sup> opening. LCC is applying for the Boat Launch rehab grant. Future Park projects would be a flag pole and ADA walking path.
- D. LAND PURCHASE: Still looking for property to purchase. Nothing is available at this time and Wollenberg will see if the State would grant an extension for using the funds

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS.

None

#### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND SETTING NEXT MEETING DATE.

Next Meeting will be May 13th, at 4:30pm at the County Board Room.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Karl to adjourn, second by Dehart. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

Adjourn 6:10pm

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