

Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2019

The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Forestry Committee was called to order at 8:00 A.M., Wednesday March 20, 2019.

Present from the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee were: Phil Schneider, Jerry Biller, Lyle Lieftring, Allan Rathsack and Terry Dusell.

Also present: Jeremy Koslowski – Forest Administrator, Mike Zimmer – Parks Manager, Jerrad Macholl – Assistant Forest Administrator and Derek Jochimsen - DNR Liaison Forester.

Present from the Public:

George Sishman, Bob Grunseth and Owen Martin.
Bid opening: Jeff and Dana Eby, Janke Construction

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Biller/Lieftring to approve February 20, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion carried

Public Comment:

No comments

Timber Sale Report:

Jerrad, Assistant Forest Administrator gave an update on timber sales.

- Things are slowing down due to spring weather and road bans being implemented.
- Sales were very steady all winter.
- Contracts will be expiring on a few sales this spring and fall.

Parks Report:

Mike, Parks Manager gave an update on parks.

- 2018 grant work projects update.
- Stormwater permit application is being worked on for the Meadow Dam ATV trail project. A wetland delineation will need to be done.

Administrators Report:

Jeremy, Administrator gave an update on the Forestry Department.

- NoRTAC meeting was attended by Mike and Jeremy, strategic planning meetings will be held.
- 2nd iPad was received from a WCFA grant. Will be used for timber cruising.
- County Forest Road Aid Funding was received and prorated at 92.7%.
- WCFA Spring Administrators meeting was held in Marshfield March 13, 14 and 15th, discussed the following topics.
 - DNR time standards.
 - 15 year planning process. Current plans due to expire at the end of 2020.
 - A Resolution for support of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship will be submitted to committee in a future meeting.
 - Ice Age Trail agreement discussion on County Forest.
 - The new DNR Secretary nominee spoke at the meeting.

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Island Lake Dam Inspection:

The Forestry Department has multiple dams underneath Forestry's administration. These dams require periodic inspections by professional engineers. Island Lake dam inspection is due in 2019 and Jeremy presented 2 cost proposals inspect the dam and provide the DNR report;

Morgan and Parmley \$1,250.00
Ayres and Associates \$1,500.00

Motion by DuSell/Lieffring to have Morgan and Parmley do the inspection on Island Lake Dam for the cost of \$1,250.00. Motion carried.

Bridge Bid Opening 8:30a:

Motion by Rathsack/Biller to close out Bridge bids at 8:00 a.m. Motion carried.

The bids for Little Soft Maple Bridge are as follows:

CWI	\$30,000.00
Eby Fabrication	\$30,000.00
Custom Manufacturing	\$35,900.00
Anderson Bridges	\$35,000.00
Janke Construction	\$74,360.00

The bids for Moose Ear Creek Bridge are as follows:

CWI	\$31,000.00
Eby Fabrication	\$30,000.00
Custom Manufacturing	\$35,900.00
Anderson Bridges	\$35,000.00
Janke Construction	\$74,360.00

Discussion on tie bid for the Little Soft Maple Bridge – Both bidders were in attendance and agreed to a coin toss with CWI calling the flip. Coin was flipped by Jeremy Koslowski; CWI called heads and won the bid for Little Soft Maple Bridge.

Motion by DuSell/Rathsack to award Little Soft Maple Bridge to CWI and Moose Ear Creek Bridge to Eby. Motion carried 4-0. Biller abstained.

Recreation Grant Summary:

Mike – Parks Manger gave a summary of the 2019 Forestry Grant Applications.

SNOWMOBILE APPLICATIONS:

Snowmobile Maintenance – 333.4 Miles @ \$300.00/mi.	\$100,020.00
Hawkins Snowmobile Corridor 12 – Cedar Rapids Discretionary Reroute	\$ 5,200.00
Hawkins Snowmobile Trail 116 – Mill Pond New Bridge	\$ 159,000.00
Bruce Corridor 31 – Booth Reroute	\$ 4,050.00
Weyerhaeuser Trail 113 - Extension New Miles (2.75)	\$ 2,600.00
Ladysmith Corridor 27 – Twin Crk. Bridge Replacement	\$ 15,500.00

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ATV APPLICATIONS:

ATV/UTV Maint. – (26.6 mi. @ \$600.00/mi. + \$450.00(Insurance) \$ 19,070.00
(26.6 mi. @ \$100.00/mi.)

ATV Trail New Miles

-Spur #1 (Breakneck Trail - 0.4mi.)

-Spur #2 (Million \$ Trail – 0.8mi.)

-Spur #3 (Tractor Tire Trail – 1.0mi.)

(2.2 mi. @ \$600.00/mi. + 2.2 mi. @ \$100.00/mi.) \$ 1,540.00

TROUTE MAINTENANCE APPLICATIONS:

Betty Lake Rd. (6.5 mi.), Serely Camp Rd. (1.5 mi.) @ \$287.96/mi. \$ 1,871.74

RECREATIONAL BOATING FACILITIES: (50/50%)

Perch Lake Boat Landing Dock Replacement \$ 5,000.00

COUNTY CONSERVATION AIDS: (50/50%)

\$ 2,452.00

Total 2019 Forestry Grant Application \$316,303.74

Motion by Lieftring/Rathsack to approve 2019 Forestry Grant Applications. Motion carried.

Timber Sale Closeouts:

Jeremy discussed timber sale contracts which are not completed and are expiring next month. These will be on the April agenda for action.

Aerators:

Jeremy and Mike looked into any agreements for the aerators at Lea Lake and Audie Lake. The local DNR Fisheries Biologist provided written comments discussing the benefits (or lack thereof) of continued aeration. Audie Lake had a contract with the DNR to run aeration for 10 years beginning on March 14, 1990. The contract hasn't been renewed and the DNR no longer provides funding/support for local aeration services.

Discussed pulling the electric meter at Lea Lake.

Review 2019 Forestry Budgets:

Reviewed the Budget – no report until May.

Review and Approve Bills:

Motion by Lieftring/Rathsack to review and approve the bills. Motion carried.

Adjourn:

Motion by Biller/Lieftring to adjourn at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be April 17, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at the Law Enforcement Center.