

Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
June 27, 2017

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The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Forestry Committee was called to order at 4:00 P.M., Monday June 26, 2017.

**Present from the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee were:** Arian Knops, Lyle Lieftring, Jerry Biller, Pete Boss and Phil Schneider.

**Also present:** Paul Teska – County Forest Administrator, Derek Jochimsen - DNR Liaison Forester and Mike Zimmer – Parks Manager.

**Present from the Public:**  
Bob Grunseth, George Sishman, Don Mansky, Daryl Kinnear and Dave Williams.

**Approval of Minutes:**  
Motion by Schneider/Biller to approve May 8, 2017 meeting minutes. Motion carried.  
Motion by Boss/Biller to approve the June 12, 2017 Public Input meeting minutes. Motion carried

**Public Comment:**  
Bob Grunseth commented on Public Input Meeting.

**Dodson Road Demolition Project Bids:**  
The following Bids were submitted to the Rusk County Forestry Department for the demolition project.

Russ Thompson Excavating Inc.	\$11,975.00
Gudis Sand and Gravel	\$21,349.00
Vern Chandler Bulldozing	\$19,870.00

Motion by Biller/Lieftring to award the Bid to Russ Thompson for removal of structure on Dodson Road. Motion carried.

**County Forest Aids Budget Resolution:**  
Rusk County Finance Committee passed a motion to take up to \$100,000 from 2016 excess stumpage revenue to complete ATV projects. In addition to the \$100,000 there is \$39,006 in additional prior year funds to use for these road projects including the \$9,065 that was included in the 2017 approved budget.

Motion by Lieftring/Schneider to approve the Amend 2017 Budget for Road Aid Resolution and send to County Board. Motion carried.

**County Forest (PILT) Resolution:**  
Discussion on Payment in Lieu of taxes (PILT) for County Forest Land Resolution. The impact that it would have on Township roads to increase from .30 cents to \$2.00 per acre.

Motion by Biller/Schneider to approve the Payment in Lieu of taxes (PILT) for County Forest Land Resolution send to County Board. Motion carried.

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**ATV Trail Projects:**

Discussed progress on the ATV trail projects. Due to sensitive weather construction the Forestry Department would like to bid out the remaining gravel ATV rehab Project project and a portion of Serley Camp Trail west project.

Motion by Biller/Schneider bid out the gravel on the ATV rehab project and a portion of the Serley Camp trail west projects. Motion carried.

**Forestry Department Equipment Trailer Price Quotes:**

The Committee requested Paul to get 8,000 lb. axels trailer price quotes. The quote Paul received would be over budget. He would like to carry forward the money that was budgeted for the 2017 in the County Forest/equipment budget line to 2018 Budget. Discussion was held. Finance will go through the 2018 Forestry Cost Proposals so the Committee can see what will be approved/proposed for the County Forest 2018 Budget before a decision can be made.

**2018 Forestry Department Cost Proposals:**

Perch Lake Campground Proposals, Parks and Forestry Technician, Community Park Electric, County Forest Equipment, Roads and Trail Development Maintenance were proposed to the Forestry Committee.

Motion by Boss/Lieffring to forward the Cost Proposals presented to the Forestry Committee to Finance. Motion carried.

**Off Road Use Policy on County Forest Land:**

The Committee set the date for a Public input meeting on the Off Road Use Policy on County Forest Land. It will be on July 19<sup>th</sup> at LHS at 6:30 p.m. at the Ladysmith Auditorium.

**Timber Sale Contracts, Closeouts and Renewals:**

None

**Amacoy Lake Boat Landing/Salvage Timber Sale:**

The May tornado did timber damage to Amacoy Lake Boat Landing and Paul had a Roger Hoyt salvage the timber from the blow down.

Motion by Schneider/Biller to sell Direct Contract 2017-A to Roger Hoyt. Motion carried.

**Review 2017 Forestry Budgets:**

Committee reviewed the budgets.

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**Closed Session – Announced by Chair:**

*Possible Land Acquisition – Purchase or Trade*

Chair announces closed session for negotiating sale of city/county owned property: Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, WI Stats 19.85(1) (e).

Motion by Liefkring/Biller to enter into closed session. Roll Call: Voting Yes – Boss, Biller, Knops, Liefkring and Schneider. Motion carried.

Also Present: Derek Jochimsen – Liaison Forester, Mike Zimmer – Parks Manager

Entered into Closed Session at 5:32 p.m.

Motion by Liefkring/Biller at 5:55 p.m.to return to Open Session. Motion carried.

**Review and Approve Bills:**

Motion by Liefkring/Schneider to review and approve the bills. Motion carried.

**Adjourn:**

Motion by Liefkring/Schneider to adjourn at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be July 19, 2017 at 10:30 p.m. at the Law Enforcement Center.