

Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2018

The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Forestry Committee was called to order at 8:00 A.M., Monday July 9, 2018.

Present from the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee were: Phil Schneider. Jerry Biller Lyle Lieftring, Al 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:
Bob Grunseth, George Sihsmann, Lionel Klein, Jason Klein, Tubby (Harold) Flater and Curtis Parish.

Approval of Minutes:
Motion by Biller/Lieftring to approve June 11, 2018 meeting minutes. Motion carried

Public Comment:
Curtis Parish has a complaint about the noise during the week of the 4th of July at the Josie Creek Campground. The Josie Creek Rifle Range was being used during the holiday and quiet hours. The shooting range hours are from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. and closed on Holidays.

George wanted to know if the Murry Trail/Serely Camp trail will be open to Snowmobiles if it's groomed.

Parks update:
Perch Lake campground - The ATV Trail leading into the Campground and campsites has been worked on. Water and Electric will be next and new fire rings and picnic tables will be put on each site.

Serely camp West Trail – The trail is complete but after some repairs had to be completed because of the rain.

Audie Campground - New gravel put on the road and around the loop. Interns are replacing posts for the calendars.

Josie Creek Campground - New gravel around the back loop and up to the Rifle Range.

Boat Landings - Some gravel is needed on Amacoy and Island Lake boat landings. Sand Lake boat landing pads have to be moved and put back from the ice pushing the out of position.

ATV Trails - Betty Lake Road has a culvert that needs replacement. Betty Lake to Pigeon Creek needs gravel which will be done with the 2018-2019 Maintenance grant funds.

Snowmobile Trails – Sheldon Snowmobile Club would like to install a bridge across Dear Tail Creek. Mike needs to meet with DNR Water Quality to get there opinion before applying for bridge grants. . An updated list of the County Snowmobile Bridges will be sent to the DNR.

Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2018

Timber Sale Update:

Oak wilt restriction will be lifted on July 15th. There are 3 current sales being logged at this time. Timber Sales are slow but should be picking up when the Oak Wilt restriction is lifted.

Administrators report:

The Forestry Department listed approved items on the Wisconsin Surplus website for Auction, all items have been sold. Discussion on a resolution to create a budget line to purchase/replace equipment with the money sold Forestry items.

Wisconsin County Forest Association summer Tour was in Florence County. Jeremy, Phil and Lyle gave a report on the tour.

Jerrad, Dane and Jeremy will be going to a training for Oak Regeneration by use of fire in Dodgeville Wisconsin on July 25, 2018.

Parks Bid Opening:

Bids were received for the Water and Electric at Perch Lake Campground.

The Bids were as follows:

- Plumbing Bid – Ron Young Plumbing, \$21,250.00

Motion by Lieftring/Rathsack to accept Ron Young Plumbing bid. Motion carried.

- Electric Bid – Ziegler Electric Inc., \$30,000.00

Discussion held on putting in 2 services and the cost of the monthly charge.

Motion by Biller/Schneider to approve the Ziegler bid contingent on cost of the services. Motion carried.

ATV Trail:

Park and Trail Development fund .4 miles section that is being used heavily by ATV's. Gravel and culvert need to be updated. No permits all on high ground.

Motion by Lieftring/DuSell to approve the .4 mile section (Betty Lake Road) improvement.

Tubby (Harold) Flater would like the Committee to pursue an ATV Trail in the Township of Big Bend which would connect Rusk County to Chippewa County.

Motion by Rathsack/DuSell to pursue the Big Bend ATV trail up to Chippewa County and to send a letter to Chippewa County indicating our intentions. Motion carried.

Invasive Grant Approval:

Jeremy received grant information from Pitman Robertson for grant money for wild life work. Jerrad has put in for a \$15,000.00 grant to spray for garlic mustard and buckthorn.

Motion by Rathsack/DuSell to approve the Pitman Roberson grant. Motion carried.

Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2018

Community Park ATV/UTV Discussion:

Jeremy is waiting to hear from Dairyland Power Company.

Review 2018 Forestry Budgets:

The Committee looked at Forestry Budget Review.

Review and Approve Bills:

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

Adjourn:

Motion by Biller/Liefkring to adjourn at 9:35 a.m. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be August 13, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. at the Law Enforcement Center.