

Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2019

The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Forestry Committee was called to order at 8:00 A.M., Wednesday, July 17, 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, Dane Gravesen – Forester, Derek Jochimsen - DNR Liaison Forester and Mike Zimmer – Parks Manager.

Present from the Public:
Bob Grunseth, Greg Lazar, George Sihsmann, Arian Knops and Don Mansky.

Approval of Minutes:
Motion by Biller/Lieftring to approve June 18, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion carried

Public Comment:

- Public comment was received on timber markets, parks development funds and Perch Lake Campground.

Parks Report:
Mike reported the following:

- Wilson Meadow ATV trail wetland delineation is completed and submitted to DNR for the storm water permit.
- 2 new pedestals and lights for the bathroom are being installed in the back campsites at Josie Creek Park.
- Jump River Electric will be trenching a line in soon at Community Park. This is necessary to add electricity to the pavilion.
- Perch Lake pavilion is just about complete. The interns will stain the building. There is also a potential water leak.
- Nick has been mowing with the skid steer. He completed the ski trails, spillways, and Chippewa property.
- The bridge is just about ready to put in on the Little Soft Maple.
- Bid will be put out for the bridge on Wilson Meadow Trail.
- Big Bend supervisor, Bob DeVoe contacted Mike about replacing the ramp at the east boat landing on Potato Lake. Trying to get some land donated to the County to square off the property to update the landing.

Timber Sale Report:
Dane reported the following:

- Ted Strzok, Futurewood and Lionel Klein are working on sales.
- Oak Wilt restrictions have lifted so additional contractors should start cutting if it stops raining.
- Working on establishment for the fall timber sale and fall marking.
- Will be looking for oak wilt in the county forest.

Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2019

Administrators Report:

Jeremy reported the following:

- Jeremy and Phil gave a report on the Jackson County summer tour they attended.
- EAB traps will be checked next week and bait will be refreshed.
- The Lea Lake elk grant is finished which consisted of mowing trails and shearing alder.
- The Ice Age Trail Association held a work week and stayed at Murphy Park the last week of June.
- Jeremy wrote a letter supporting Rusk County Public Health Dept's application for a tick borne disease study.
- Approximately 1 mile of Betty Lake Road was resurfaced with gravel.
- Garbage dumping complaint in the county forest.
- Tom Paulson reported 2 miles of truck ruts on the non-motorized ski trail system which has been forwarded on to the Rusk County Sheriff's Dept.

Elk Grant Application and Acceptance:

DNR Wildlife Biologist Josh Spiegel has received \$4,627 towards access improvements on the county forest. He is also applying for another grant for an additional \$9,000. The new woods road will come off of Hervas Road thru state land and into county forest. This will allow us to establish a large block of aspen for sale and simultaneously provide great elk habitat.

Motion by DuSell/Rathsack to accept the current funds and support the application for the Elk Grant. Motion carried.

Advertise for Crushing:

Jeremy would like to advertise for crushing in Murphy and Deer Lake pits for the Wilson Meadow ATV Trail. Town of Murphy would like to include crushing in the bid to improve Firelane Road.

Motion by DuSell/Lieffring to advertise for crushing in Murphy and Deer Lake pits. Motion carried.

Road Improvements:

Murry Township - Firelane, South Fork Township - Hackett Road, would like to dump the stumps on county forest.

Motion by DuSell/Rathsack to allow the road improvement debris to be dumped on county forest. Motion passed.

Clubhouse Update:

An estimate from Huffcut for 2 showers would be \$63,000, 2 full service bathrooms would be \$83,000.

Out of County Travel:

Dane, Nick, Jerrad and Jeremy have training for Forest Metrix Pro in Spooner (23rd) and Phillips (25th).

Motion by Lieffring/Schneider to approve out of County travel. Motion carried.

Budget Review:

No comment

Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2019

Review and Approve Bills:

Motion by DuSell/Lieffring to approve June and July AP reports. Motion carried.

Adjourn:

Motion by Lieffring/DuSell to adjourn at 9:06 a.m. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be August 21, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at the Law Enforcement Center.