

Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2021

The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee was called to order at 8:00 am, Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Present from the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee: Phil Schneider, Lyle Lieffring, Alan Rathsack, Terry DuSell, Jerry Biller

Also present: Jeremy Koslowski – Forest Administrator, Heidi Woldhuis – Office Manager, Mike Zimmer – Parks Manager, Jerrad Macholl – Assistant Forest Administrator, Derek Jochimsen – DNR Rusk County Forest Liaison, Andy Albarado – Administrative Coordinator, Dane Gravesen – Forester (Phone)

Present from the Public:

George Sihsmann, Lionel Klein, Bob Grunseth, Chad Ducommun, Don Manske, Pat Schreiner (phone)

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Biller/DuSell to approve September 15, 2021 meeting minutes. No Opposed, Motion carried

Public Comment:

- ATV – 2 guided rides with over 100 people in attendance
- Contract extension requests for Timber Sales
 - 2547, 2545, 2546
- Question regarding paint colors used within timber sale areas

Parks and Recreation Report:

Mike reported on the following:

- Fall has been favorable for ATV use, Camping, trail development
- Water is being turned off at campgrounds
- Pulling docks and buoys
- Gate replacements updates
- Felix reroute is going under public review
- Weirgor ATV trail updates
 - On schedule and budget

Timber Sale Report:

Jerrad reported on the following:

- Updates on active sales
- Updates on completed sales
- Timber Sale establishment and marking updates

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- Discussed Beaver Control updates

Administrator Report:

- Shared minutes from annual partnership meeting with DNR
 - Discussion regarding regeneration
- Shared minutes from WCFA meetings
- Town of Murry updates on roadwork through the Firelane Rd area
- Washouts along the Ski Trail areas
- Bluesource meeting updates
- Land swap and land purchase are completed
- Discussion of Highway Dept billing concerns and costs

Summer Tour Planning 2022:

- June 21-24th
- Calling for quotes – hotels, banquet, meeting spaces, transportation
- Coordinating with internal departments regarding usage of supplies
- Establishing budget of needed supplies not available through County departments

Access Permits:

- Steve W. – access through property off Felix Rd along Highline
- Lionel K. – temporary access
- Gary B. – access near Lea Lake

Motion by Biller/Lieffring to grant access permits – No Opposed, Motion Carried

Recognition for Hatch Property Landowner:

- Discussion of options

Timber Sale Prospectus:

- Discussion of updates

Motion by DuSell/Biller to accept the changes to the Prospectus - No Opposed, Motion Carried

Advertise for Fall Timber Sale:

- Reviewed Fall Timber Sales individually

Motion by Biller/DuSell to Advertise for the Spring Bid Opening – No Opposed, Motion Carried

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Gravel Pits:

- Highway request to crush in Hwy W gravel pit
- Discussion regarding future of gravel pits and department responsibilities
 - Hwy W, Hwy F, Deer Lake
 - Forest Administrator working alongside Administrative Coordinator in regards to gravel pit transfer of ownership

Campground Policy:

- Group usage of campground rentals outside of camping season

Motion by Lieffring/Rathsack to allow for group sales of campgrounds outside of the defined camping season to be approved by the Forest Administrator. No opposed, Motion carried.

Out of County Travel:

- FAA license 10/5/2021 – Marshfield, Jerrad Macholl, Dane Gravesen, Brody Fischer

Motion by Biller/Lieffring to approve proposed out-of-county travel. No opposed, Motion carried.

Budget Review:

- Updates on Stumpage Revenue

Review and Approve Bills:

Motion by Biller/Lieffring to approve the September AP report. No Opposed, Motion carried.

Closed Session: Timber Sale Contracts

Motion by DuSell/Lieffring to go into closed session 9:42 a.m. Motion carried, no opposed.

- Roll Call: DuSell, Lieffring, Schneider, Biller

Motion by Lieffring/Biller to go out of closed session 10:23 a.m. Motion carried, no opposed.

- Roll Call: DuSell, Rathsack, Lieffring, Schneider, Biller

Motion by DuSell/Lieffring to approve 6-month extensions at 40% increase and close sale at end of extension regardless of completion of contracts - 2545, 2546, 2547.

Roll Call vote. Yes, DuSell, Rathsack, Lieffring, opposed – Biller, Schneider. Motion Carried.

- Request for Timber Sale contract review in November meeting

Adjourn:

Motion by to adjourn at 10:30 am. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 17th, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.