

Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee was called to order at 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 15th, 2023.

Present from Land and Forestry Committee: Schneider, Biller, P. Unterschuetz, DuSell

Absent: Kalepp

Others Present: J. Macholl, H. Woldhuis, D. Gravesen, M. Zimmer, D. Jochimsen, N. Stadnyk

D. Mansky, B. Grunseth, J. Waeltz, E. Webster, J. Wappenschmidt, R. Ellwanger, R. Ellwanger, G. Sihsmann, L Klein, T. Bonkrude, B. Roach

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Biller, and second by P. Unterschuetz to approve October 18th, 2023, and November 14th, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried

Public Comment:

Concern regarding ATV access areas, logging operations, and BMP Practices

Comments regarding trail inspection reports to be utilized by the Ad-hoc Public Trails Committee

Comment regarding bridge installation on snowmobile trail

Question asking if ATV Trails will no longer be utilized for logging operations

Comment regarding cost of road repairs and stumpage values

Parks and Recreation Report:

Mike reported

- All docks have been pulled for the winter
- Potato Lake snowmobile bridge has been installed
 - Arch bridge accommodates fishing as requested by the Lake Association
- Thornapple grade – Ladysmith Snowmobile Club cleaning up from December Storm Damage
- Weirgor ATV Trail bridge
 - Bridge is near completion and ready for transport
 - Big Weirgor as a trout stream has regulations regarding disturbing the stream
 - Bridge to be hauled and delivered to the area this fall/early winter
 - South Side graveling – Haas will do a pre-construction site visit soon. Waiting for frozen ground to begin hauling
- Bucks Lake ATV Trail
 - Toured trail area with ATV Club president
 - Trail will be altered to include more scenic areas
- Campgrounds have slowed down
 - Some reservations during hunting season

Timber Sale Report:

Dane reported

- Cumberland
 - Firelane
- Strzok Logging
 - Dejung, Betty Lake, Wagner Rd.

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- Hardwood pulp on multiple sales to haul
- NWHW
 - Hauling
 - Opening sale near Wilson Town Hall
- Wojcik
 - Hackett Rd.
 - Shut down due to soft roads, will be repairing the damage

Administrator Report:

Jerrad reported on the following:

- Bruce Club Snowmobile Club still missing the Contract for the 2023-2024 season
- 2024 Forestry Work Plan completed, passed by County Board
 - Required for applying for County Forest Administrator Grant
- BMP Monitoring completed last week within County Forest Lands
 - 3 randomly selected timber sales
 - No issues found regarding the County
 - 1 logging operation error was found, but the logger was shut down and corrected
 - Wetland areas were monitored. Action by the County was deemed appropriate for repairs
- Bat Habitat Plan
 - Endangered bat concerns
 - Updates to plan submitted to the State
 - Prescribed burning
- 1 job shadow
 - Local individual interested in Forestry employment
 - 2 additional individuals with interest in job shadows
- Hackett Road Sale
 - 2 wetland crossing
 - Logger was shut down due to damage
- Trail Committee Report
 - Worked with Land Conservation to develop a trail inspection form

Request by a forestry committee member to review and discuss the trail committee report form at the Ad-Hoc Public Trails Committee Meeting next week. Forest Administrator to bring proposed report as designed by Forestry and Land Conservation Departments as well as the inspection form for Timber Sale sites.

3:30 PM Fall Timber Sale Bid Opening:

Motion by Biller, second by Unterschuetz to close bids at 3:32 pm.

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RUSK COUNTY FOREST ADMINISTRATOR

311 Miner Ave. E.
S-115
Ladysmith, WI 54848



PHONE (715) 532-2113
FAX (715) 532-2138

Timber Sale Final Bid Results

Bid Open Date
November 15, 2023

Tract: 11-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
J and J Logging	112,214.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allen Suzan	112,040.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kendall Logging	110,850.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tract: 12-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
J.W Logging	142,745.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allen Suzan	120,974.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tract: 13-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
J.W Logging	143,760.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allen Suzan	93,702.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tract: 14-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
S & S Forestry Plus/Strz	61,825.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tract: 15-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
Lionel Klein	8,775.75	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tract: 17-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
J.W Logging	67,905.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allen Suzan	54,416.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
T&R W Logging LLC	53,299.60	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tract: 18-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
J.W Logging	56,640.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Weaver Forest Products	41,037.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tract: 19-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
J.W Logging	100,280.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tract: 20-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
J.W Logging	115,405.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tract: 22-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
J.W Logging	65,415.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
T&R W Logging LLC	51,445.75	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allen Suzan	48,088.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tract: 23-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
S & S Forestry Plus/Strz	42,185.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Weaver Forest Products	31,567.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tract: 24-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
Weaver Forest Products	19,725.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lionel Klein	18,625.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tract: 25-23

Contractor	Bid Total	WB	Inc
S & S Forestry Plus/Strz	103,846.25	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flannel Fleet Logging L	98,056.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

WB=Winning Bid Inc=Incomplete Bi

Motion by Biller, Second by DuSell to accept all high bidders if no conflicts. Motion Carried

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Public Trail Committee Report:

reported on the following:

- No meeting this past month
- Working with the public regarding trail conditions

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION

Trail Recommendations:

N/A

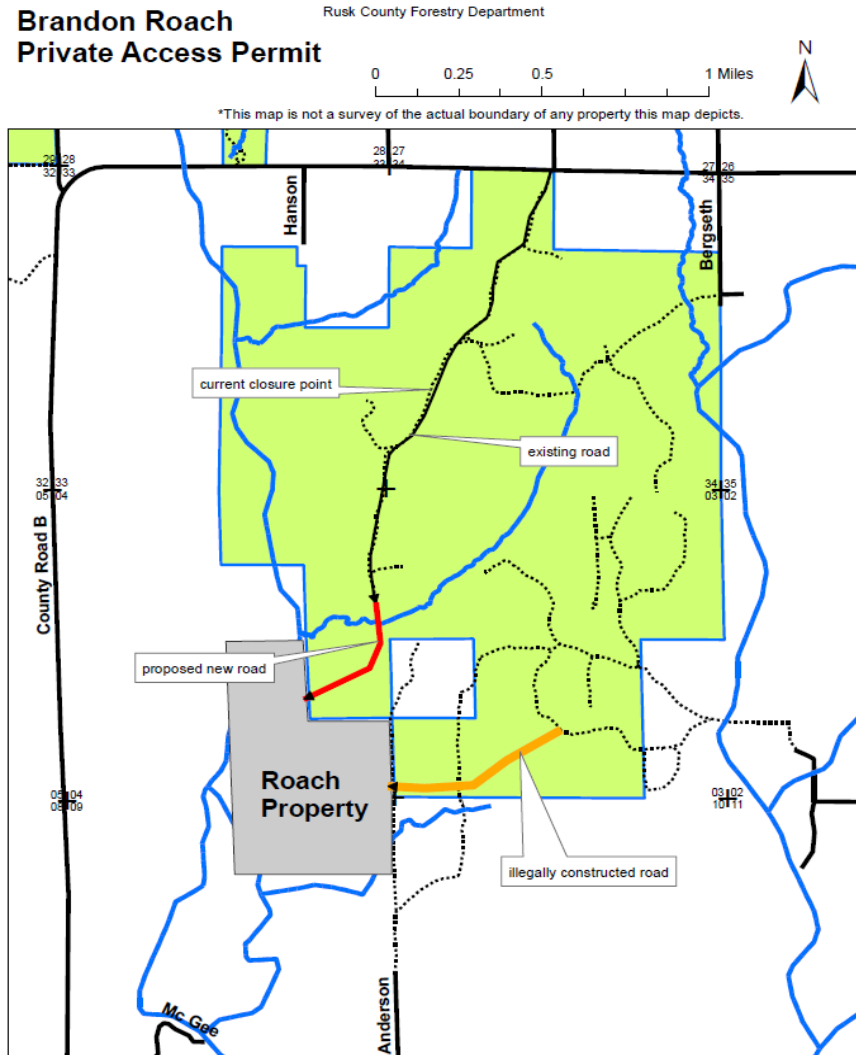
Timber Sale Contract Review:

Discussed language updates

*Motion by Biller, Second by Unterschuetz to approve updated timber sale contract language as presented.
Motion carried.*

Access Permit:

Brandon Roach Private Access Permit



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Motion by DuSell, second by Biller to approve access permit provided B. Roach obtains required permits necessary to open access area. Motion Carried

B. Roach inquired about temporary crossing over streams.
A temporary bridge permit would be required to cross the stream.

Motion by DuSell, second by Biller to approve temporary access to B. Roach until 12/31/2023 to access property using the southern highlighted route. All damage must be repaired by B. Roach. Motion Carried

Murphy Pavilion Use:

Ice Age Trail Association request for pavilion use
11/04/2023, 5/15/2024-5/19/2024, 10/2/2024-10/6/2024

Motion by Biller, second by Unterschuetz to approve pavilion use. Motion Carried

Wisconsin County Forest Association Snowmobile Council Letter:

Presented letter sent by Rebekah Luedtke to the governor regarding the State of WI Snowmobile Council regarding the proposed Snowmobile bridge in Sauk County across the Wisconsin River.

The Forest Administrator drafted a letter in support of the WCFA Letter sent to the governor.

Motion by DuSell, second by Schneider to send a support letter to representatives as presented. Motion Carried.

Motion by DuSell, Second by Unterschuetz to enter into closed session at 4:32 PM. All answered Yes.

Closed Session – Timber Sale Contract Extension and Closeouts

Chair announces closed session for 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).

Open Session – Possible Motion on Topic of Closed Session.

Present: Schneider, Biller, P. Unterschuetz, DuSell, J. Macholl, M. Zimmer, D. Gravesen, D. Jochimsen, H. Woldhuis

Motion by DuSell, Second by Biller to return to open session at 4:56 PM.

Motion by DuSell, Second by Biller 2570, 2583- 1-year extension to haul, 2597,2600 1-year extension Motion Carried

Motion by DuSell second by Unterschuetz to hold the letter of credit until hauled and road work completed. 2635 Bond and sale be returned. Motion Carried

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Out-of-County Travel:

- BMP Monitoring – Clark County, 11/07/2023
 - D. Gravesen, J. Moore
- BMP Monitoring – Jackson County, Eau Claire County, Trempealeau County
 - D. Gravesen, J. Moore

Motion by Biller, Second by DuSell to approve out-of-county travel. Motion Carried.

Review and Approve Bills:

Motion by DuSell, second by Schneider, to approve the October AP report as presented. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 20th, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. LEC Board Room.

*Minutes prepared by:
Heidi Woldhuis, Forestry Department Office Manager*