

# Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee

## Meeting Minutes

### March 20, 2024

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**Land and Forestry Committee Present:** P. Schneider, T. DuSell, J. Kalepp, J. Biller

Excused: P. Unterschuetz

**Others Present:** J. Macholl, H. Woldhuis, M. Zimmer, A. Heath, D. Jochimsen, B. Grunseth, G. Sihsmann, R. Ellwanger, R. Ellwanger, D. Mansky

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee was called to order at 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*Motion by DuSell, and second by Kalepp to approve the February 21, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried*

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Public spoke on agenda items and concerns

#### **MONTHLY REPORTS**

##### Parks and Recreation Report:

Mike reported on campground reservations and usage, snowmobile trails, dock placement, and the intern application process.

##### Timber Sale Report:

Jerrad reported on active timber sales and completed sales.

##### Administrator Report:

Jerrad reported on the bat habitat compliance report, re-certification forest pre-audit, safety updates, spring timber sale work, trail meeting update, and ANEW communication.

##### Public Trail Committee Report:

R. Ellwanger reported committee recommends a June 25<sup>th</sup> opening date for the county trails, Excelsior Road discussions, and ski trail area use.

#### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION**

##### Trail Recommendations:

None at this time.

##### Josie Creek Rifle Range Open/Close Schedule 2024:

*Motion by Biller, Second by DuSell to approve the Josie Creek Rifle Range Open/Close Schedule 2024. Motion Carried*

##### 2024 Recreational Grant Approval:

The Committee discussed the grants as presented.

*Motion by DuSell, second by Kalepp to approve the 2024 Recreation Grants as presented. Motion Carried.*

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Off-Road Vehicle Use Ordinance Updates:

The Committee discussed updates as presented

*Motion by DuSell, second by Kalepp to update closure of wood roads to March 15 – June 15. Motion carried.*

County Forest Law Entry:

The Committee discussed

*Motion by Kalepp, second by Biller to approve County Forest Law entry as presented. Motion Carried*

*Motion by DuSell, Second by Biller to enter into a closed session at 4:09 PM. All responded Yes.*

**Closed Session – Announced by Chair**

Timber Sale Contract pursuant to WI Stats 19.85(1)(e). 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.

**Open Session** at 4:24 p.m.

Out-of-County Travel:

*Motion by Biller, second by DuSell, to approve the Elk Advisory Committee Meeting for the Forest Administrator in April to Wausau. Motion carried.*

Review and Approve Bills:

*Motion by DuSell, second by Kalepp, to approve the February AP report as presented. Motion carried.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by DuSell, second by Kalepp to adjourn.*

The meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. LEC Board Room.

*Minutes prepared by:*

*Heidi Woldhuis, Forestry Department Office Manager*