

Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2024

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

Others Present: J. Macholl, H. Woldhuis, A. Heath, D. Jochimsen, B. Grunseth, G. Sihsmann, R. Ellwanger, D. Mansky, G. Searfoss, R. Ellwanger, L. Dobrowolski, J. Waeltz, B. Wieckowicz, K. Westlund, C. Chatterton, H. Chatterton, J. Paulson, T. King, P. Zimmer, D. Willingham, J. Carol, E. Webster

CALL TO ORDER

The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee was called to order at 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 10th, 2024.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by DuSell, and second by Kalepp to approve the March 20, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried – Unterschuetz abstains

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public spoke on agenda items and concerns

MONTHLY REPORTS

Parks and Recreation Report:

Jerrad reported on 2024 grant applications, summer LTEs, permits, campground host applications

Timber Sale Report:

Jerrad reported on active timber sales.

Administrator Report:

Jerrad thanked T. DuSell for his time on the board. GPS/inspection form for trails, MOUs for user agreements, Elk Advisory updates, Spring Timber sale updates, open access signing, County Government day, County Forest Law application was submitted, summer audit updates

Public Trail Committee Report:

Trail committee meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, agenda includes a review of the trail inspection form

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION

Trail Recommendations:

Committee reviewed trail inspection for submissions for BH1286, BH108, and BH65

Motion by DuSell, Second by P. Unterschuetz to approve opening trails BH1286, BH108, and BH65 as presented. Motion carried.

Blue Hills Trail Association Presentation:

Presentation by T. Paulson and J. Waldron

ATV Trail opening and closing dates:

No discussion held

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Allocation of Carbon Credit Revenue:

Discussion regarding moving to the Forestry May agenda

Capital Improvement Plan:

The Committee discussed

Motion by Biller, second by Kalepp to forward to Finance. Motion carried.

Summer LTE Wages:

The Committee discussed

Motion by DuSell, second by P. Unterschuetz to approve a \$1 wage increase for returning Parks and LTEs. Motion carried.

Off-Road Vehicle Use Ordinance Updates:

The Committee reviewed updates as presented

Motion by Kalepp, second by DuSell to approve and forward to County Board. Motion carried.

Chapter 46 Ordinance Updates:

The Committee reviewed updates as presented

Motion by Schneider, second by Kalepp to approve and forward to County Board. Motion Carried

Spring Timber Bid Packets:

Motion by Biller, second by Kalepp to accept spring bid packets as presented. Motion carried

Motion by Biller, second by Schneider to advertise Spring Timber Sales. Motion Carried.

Motion by Biller, second by Kalepp to schedule Spring Bid Opening on May 14th at 11 am. Motion carried.

Motion by Biller, Second by DuSell to enter into a closed session at 4:45 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 5:18 p.m.

Out-of-County Travel:

Motion by Biller, second by Kalepp, to approve out-of-county travel. Motion carried.

Review and Approve Bills:

Motion by Biller, second by Kalepp, to approve the March AP report as presented. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Biller to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 15th, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. LEC Board Room.

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