

Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee

Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2021

The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee was called to order at 8:00 am, Wednesday, June 16, 2021

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

Also present: Jeremy Koslowski – Forest Administrator, Heidi Woldhuis – Office Manager, Mike Zimmer – Parks Manager, Jerrad Macholl – Assistant Forest Administrator, Andy Albarado – Administrative Coordinator, Connie Meyer – County Clerk, Dane Gravesen – Forester III (by phone), Derek Jochimsen – DNR Rusk County DNR Liaison (by phone), Josh Strauss - VP of Bluesource (by phone)

Present from the Public:
George Sihsmann, Bob Grunseth,

Approval of Minutes:
Motion by Rathsack/Lieffring to approve May 19, 2021 meeting minutes. No Opposed, Motion carried

Public Comment:

- Commentary regarding ATV trail maintenance updates
- Updates regarding road conditions

Parks and Recreation Report:
Mike reported on the following:

- Campgrounds are busy
- Online reservations are up through the online system
- Updates on maintenance of campgrounds
- Wilson Meadow trail updates
- Wiergor ATV trail development updates
- Spring Creek bridge rock placement
- Road washout on Perch Lake Road

Timber Sale Report:
Jerrad reported on the following:

- 3 active sales in the forest
- 20 sales have wood to haul

Administrator Report:

- Hired new Forestry Technician, Brody Fischer
- 2 sales did not sell at Spring Bid Opening
 - Direct sell to R. Hoeft

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- Verso Mill updates
- Knolls Nelson Stewardship grant – Hatch Landing property updates
- Land trade, east side of the county – working out details
- Update on shop improvements

Summer Tour Planning 2022:

- Reminder Rusk County will be hosting in 2022
- Plan a meeting with P. Schneider, A. Albarado, and D Willingham
- 2021 Tour is next week in Villas County

Forest Carbon Presentation:

- Moved to Closed Session

Closed Session – County Forest Carbon Project Assessment and Development

- Motion by Lieffring/DuSell to go into closed session at 8:19 AM; No opposed, Motion carried
- Roll Call: DuSell, Rathsack, Lieffring, Schneider
- Present: Andy Albarado and Jarred Macholl

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).

- Motion by Dusell/Lieffring to sign Nondisclosure Agreement with Bluesource. No Opposed, Motion carried.
- Motion by DuSell/Rathsack to return to open session at 9:08 AM; No opposed, Motion carried
- Roll Call: DuSell, Rathsack, Lieffring, Schneider

Open Session

- Motion by Dusell/Lieffring to forward Bluesource presentation to the County Board.

Out of County Travel:

- Summer tour is in June 22nd – 24th in Eagle River

Budget Review:

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Review and Approve Bills:

Motion by Rath sack/Dusell to approve May AP report. No Opposed, Motion carried.

Adjourn:

Motion by Lief fring/Dusell to adjourn at 9:22 am. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 21st, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. in the small conference room, Government Center 1st Floor.