

# Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee

## Meeting Minutes

### September 16, 2020

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The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Forestry Committee was called to order at 8:00 am, Wednesday, September 16, 2020.

**Present from the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee:** Phil Schneider, Lyle Lieffring, Alan Rathsack and Terry Dusell. Jerry Biller is absent.

**Also present:** Jeremy Koslowski – Forest Administrator, Connie Meyer – Clerk III, Mike Zimmer – Parks Manager, Jerrad Macholl – Assistant Forest Administrator.

**Present from the Public:**  
George Sihsmann, Bob Grunseth, Don Mansky and CJ Cordell – Project Appleseed.

**Approval of Minutes:**  
Motion by DuSell/Lieffring to approve August 19, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion carried

**Public Comment:**  
George and Bob gave an update on the Rusk County ATV Trails.

**Parks and Recreation:**  
Mike gave his report on the following:

- Twin creek bridge is complete
- RBF funded Potato Lake boat ramp has been completed.
- ATV/Snowmobile trail was completed by the Moose Ear Bridge.
- Funding meeting is next week for \$600,000.00 in Rusk County applications.
- Graveled Betty Lake road.
- Camping attendance is staying very good in Rusk County Parks.
- Pulling docks and shutting the water off is scheduled for October.

**Timber Sales:**  
Jerrad gave his report on the following:

- 3 active sales.
- Report on shelter wood to regenerate Oak.
- Report on other sales starting in the Rusk County Forest.
- 12 sales for the Fall Bid Opening.

**Administrators report:**  
Jeremy gave his report on the following:

- Has not heard much on Verso Mill closure.
- Partnership meeting with the DNR for 2021.
- 180 acres of Oak scarification.
- Forestry/Finance meeting started and will continue to discuss timber sales.
- Attended Forestry/Parks Budget meetings in Finance.

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**2021-2035 Rusk County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan:**

The Committee reviewed comments received during public comment period. Comprehensive draft needs to be approved and submitted the DNR for a 30 day review.

Motion by Lieffring/DuSell to approve the 2021-2035 Rusk County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan and forward to the DNR. Motion carried.

**Josie Creek Weekend Reservation Request:**

C.J. Cordell representing Trail for Life USA would like to have a youth event in Wisconsin at Josie Creek shooting range. He has requested to rent the Josie Creek Campground for a weekend between mid-April and fall. Discussed the 1st weekend after Labor Day.

Motion by Lieffring/DuSell to approve the weekend after Labor Day. Motion carried.

**Snowmobile Trail Maintenance and Grooming Contracts:**

**GRANT # S-5509 2020-2021 SNOWMOBILE FUNDS 316.1 MILES @ \$300.00 PER MILE**

CLUB NAME	MILES GROOMED	TOTAL FUNDING
BRUCE CLUB	97.8	\$ 29,340.00
HAWKINS	49.9	\$ 14,970.70
LADYSMITH	85.0	\$ 25,500.00
SHELDON	24.2	\$ 7,260.00
WEYERHAEUSER	59.2	\$ 17,760.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>316.1 MILES</b>	<b>\$94,830.00</b>

Motion by Rathsack/DuSell to approve. Motion carried.

**Loggers Relief Package:**

No report

**Fall Tour of Rusk County Forest:**

The Committee will take 2020 off and Jeremy will prepare drone videos.

**Out of County Travel:**

All meetings have been scheduled virtual.

**Budget Review:**

Report on Timber Sales and report on vehicle repairs.

**Review and Approve Bills:**

Motion by DuSell/Lieffring to approve September AP report. Motion carried.

**Adjourn:**

Motion by Lieffring/DuSell to adjourn at 9:00 am. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. at Law Enforcement Government Center.