

The regular monthly meeting for Jackson County Forestry & Parks Department was held at 8:30am, on Monday, August 11, 2014. Those present were: John Chrest, Norm Stoker, Merlin Fredrickson, Karen Thayer, Jerrold Schmidt, Jim Zahasky, Jon Schweitzer and Ashley Stetzer.

Chairman Merlin Fredrickson called the regular meeting to order at 8:30am

Motion made by Karen Thayer, seconded by John Chrest to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, all members voted in favor.

Motion made by John Chrest, seconded by Norman Stoker to approve the bills as presented for payment. All members voted in favor.

Forestry Report:

Several Logging Contractors were present at the meeting to express concerns they have regarding sales they hold with Jackson County. Questions were raised regarding chemical spraying, hauling on Town and County roads as well as slashing requirements. Loggers expressed their concerns about the transportation of logging equipment and permits required by the Townships for hauling. Loggers expressed need for more money going to Townships to help offset these costs. John Chrest expressed that these issues could be discussed at budget time and the County could help with the cost of chemical. No motion was made and this will be revisited at the September meeting.

Jim presented the Farmland Management Services pipeline agreement to the Committee. Motion to approve the agreement was made by Karen Thayer, seconded by John Chrest. The agreement will be passed on to the full County board after name corrections are complete by Corporation Counsel.

A special budget meeting was set for *Thursday, September 4, 2014, at 8:30am.*

Parks & Trails Report:

Jon updated the Committee about projects that are taking place in the parks. Aerial spraying was done at Wazee and the entrances to East Arbutus and Wazee Lake were seal coated. Financial figures show an increase in camping fees and reservation fees from 2013. Gravel royalties are down but a timber sale that was cut at Wazee Lake will help offset the shortage of gravel.

Jon has submitted the completed snowmobile claim. He will be in Wausau August 18th and 19th for a snowmobile council meeting. The intern, Don Houser, continues to work with Jon developing the ATV Master plan and a draft should be presented at the October meeting.

The parks department continues to recruit for seasonal staff. Motion to approve the hire of Grace Curran was made by Karen Thayer, seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor.

On the evening of August 27th the Elk Advisory Committee will be at Wazee Lake for a picnic. Jon requested permission to wave the \$3.00 entrance fee for the committee members. Motion to exempt 13.12(1) in regards to entrance fees was made by John Chrest, seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 am was made by John Chrest, seconded by Norman Stoker All members voted in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:40am

Next regular meeting date: September 9, 2014

These minutes will be approved at the September meeting