

The regular monthly meeting for Jackson County Forestry & Parks Department was held at 8:30am on Tuesday, April 12, 2016. Those present were: Merlin Fredrickson, Norman Stoker, Karen Thayer, Jerrold Schmidt, Jim Zahasky and Jon Schweitzer.

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

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

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

Parks & Trails Report:

Rebecca Flege was present representing SEH to present the 3 bidders for the Hwy 54 box culvert project. A motion was made by John Chrest to follow SEH recommendation and award the low bid to Pember Companies, Inc. out of Menominee, WI for \$745,511.61 including both lighting options. The motion was seconded by Karen Thayer, all members voted in favor. This project will be a cast in place design and begin summer 2016.

Captain Kelly Bakken was present on behalf of the Jackson County K-9 Unit requesting a camping donation for Sporting Clay Shoot fundraiser at Woods and Meadows. A motion was made by John Chrest to approve the donation request identical to previous year's requests, the motion was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt. All members voted in favor.

Adams Friendship Lion's Club also requested a donation for a weekend camping pass. A motion was made by Karen Thayer, seconded by Jerrold Schmidt to approve the donation request. All members voted in favor.

Jon updated the Committee on the installation of docks at East Arbutus as well as the clean-up efforts to get the Parks ready for the 2016 camping season. Interviews have been completed for the LTE position as well as the Seasonal hires.

Jon has secured another \$50,000 in TIF money from the City of Black River Falls for the Hwy 54 box culvert project. Jon continues to work on the completion of several grant projects. Applications for DNR grants are due Friday, April 15.

Work has been completed on the ATV Master Plan. The plan was created to identify trails based on rehabilitation needs. A motion was made by Karen Thayer to send the Master Plan to County Board, seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor. Jon will present the plan to the Jackson County Board.

Jon presented the 2015 Parks Annual report. A motion was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by John Chrest to approve the Annual Report. All members voted in favor.

Interviews have been complete and approval was needed to hire 4 parks seasonal workers and 1 LTE position. A motion was made by John Chrest to approve the hiring subject to background and other pre-screenings needed by Personnel. The motion was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt, all members voted in favor.

Thanks to a donation by the Black River Memorial Hospital two AED's will be placed at East Arbutus and Wazee Lake County Parks.

An update was made to the existing Disabled Permit to include transportation by motorized vehicles for personal conveyance in the parks. This would include using a golf cart. A motion to approve the changes was made by Karen Thayer, seconded by Norman Stoker, all members voted in favor.

Forestry Report:

Butch McCumber was present requesting securable and permanent access to his property located on the edge of Clark and Jackson County. He is currently landlocked and at present has a driveway permit for approximately 220 feet. Securable access is needed for him to obtain a loan or sell his property. A motion was made by John Chrest to identify the area that is needed to withdraw from the County Forest to achieve the access. Mr. McCumber would pay for the survey and appraisal of the area. Purchase of the access would be at a rate of 3 times the appraisal. John Chrest then amended his motion to include the removal of the other driveway on the property that will no longer be needed. The motion was seconded by Karen Thayer, all members voted in favor.

23 timbers sales will expire either in May 2016 or November 2016. All of these sales are winter only sales. A motion was made by John Chrest to approve a 1 year extension for all of these sales. The motion was seconded by Norman Stoker, all members voted in favor.

13 timber sales will go out for bid on May 5, 2016. A motion was made by Norman Stoker to approve the sales, the motion was seconded by John Chrest. All members voted in favor.

Moss sales were also discussed. A motion was made by John Chrest to approve advertising 4 tracts of Moss, the motion was seconded by Norman Stoker, all members voted in favor. These sales will also be opened on May 5, 2016.

Jim presented to the Committee the Town Grant applications. 5 townships requested money and consideration was given to those townships that did not receive any money in 2015. A motion was made by John Chrest to approve the grant projects, the motion was seconded by Karen Thayer, all members voted in favor.

Jim presented the 2015 Forestry Annual Report. A motion was made by Karen Thayer, seconded by Norman Stoker to approve the report. All members voted in favor.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:00pm was made by John Chrest, seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:0pm

Next regular meeting date: May 10, 2016

These minutes will be approved at the May Meeting