

The regular monthly meeting for Jackson County Forestry & Parks Department was held at 8:30am on Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at the Jackson County Courthouse. Those in attendance were: Ed Chamberlain, Jerrold Schmidt, Dale Hoff, John Higgins, Tom Clark, James Zahasky, Dave Spaude, Jeremy Breheim and Ashley Stetzer

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Chairman Ed Chamberlain

A motion was made by John Higgins to approve the minutes from the November meeting. The motion was seconded by Dale Hoff, all members voted in favor.

A motion to approve the bills for payment was made by John Higgins, seconded by Dale Hoff. All members voted in favor.

Christina Kizewski, DNR wildlife biologist and Zach Clausing also from the WI-DNR were present and gave updates.

Dave Spaude presented the Forestry report. No field work is done during the 9-day gun deer hunt. Currently sales are being laid out for the 2023 spring bid opening. Jeremy Breheim informed the Committee that parks reservation totals for 2023 are very much the same as 2022 to this point. Annual stickers for 2023 are also available to purchase. Jim Zahasky updated everyone on the trails. Rock is being hauled and trails will potentially open over the weekend.

Timber sale Tract 24-22 received a minimum bid from D&D Mechanized Pulping during the recent re-bid opening. A motion to approve and sell to D&D Mechanized Pulping was made by John Higgins, seconded by Tom Clark. All members voted in favor.

Jeremy discussed with the Committee the 2022 year end purchases. After discussion a motion was made by Dale Hoff to purchase a quick attach stump grinder to replace the one that is currently out of commission. The motion was seconded by John Higgins. The cost will be \$8,322.00. Tom Clark, Ed Chamberlain, John Higgins and Dale Hoff voted in favor of the motion, Jerry Schmidt was opposed. Motion carried.

Dave Spaude requested permission to solicit bids for the 2023 tree planting. The motion was approved by Tom Clark, seconded by John Higgins. All members voted in favor.

The Forestry department budgeted for a new truck in 2023. Gross Motors out of Black River Falls submitted a quote for a Dodge Ram in the amount of \$40,292.50. Bids were done before the start of 2023 to ensure a truck would come due to supply shortage. Motion to approve the purchase was made by John Higgins, the motion as seconded by Tom Clark. Ed Chamberlain, John Higgins and Tom Clark voted in favor of the motion. Dale Hoff and Jerry Schmidt were opposed, motion carried.

The Forestry department would also like to purchase a used John Deere 611SD tractor with a side mount mower to replace the current mower. Jerry Schmidt questioned why mowing couldn't be contracted out. After discussion a motion was made by John Higgins to purchase the John Deere 611SD for \$69,500.00. The motion was seconded by Dale Hoff. Tom Clark, Ed Chamberlain, Dale Hoff and John Higgins voted in favor of the motion, Jerry Schmidt was opposed. The motion carried.

A motion to go into closed session was made by John Higgins, seconded by Tom Clark, all members voted in favor.

A motion to reconvene in open session was made by John Higgins, seconded by Dale Hoff. All members voted in favor.

A motion to go forward with the carbon credit program was made by John Higgins, seconded by Jerry Schmidt, all members voted in favor.

A motion to approve the employee evaluation was made by John Higgins, seconded by Tom Clark, all members voted in favor.

A motion to adjourn at 11:00am was made by Tom Clark, the motion was seconded by Dale Hoff. All members voted in favor. The next meeting will be at the Jackson County Courthouse at 8:30am on January 10, 2023.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00am

Next regular meeting date: January 10, 2023

These minutes will be approved at the January Meeting