

The regular monthly meeting for Jackson County Forestry & Parks Department was held at 8:30am, on Tuesday, February 10, 2015. Those present were: Merlin Fredrickson, Norm Stoker, Karen Thayer, Jerrold Schmidt, John Chrest, Jim Zahasky and Jeremy Breheim

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

Motion made by Norman Stoker, seconded by John Chrest 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.

Jackson in Action coalition member Nicole Schweitzer was present at the meeting to discuss the upcoming Pace and Pedal event. The race will take place on May 30 at Wazee Lake County Park. A motion as made by John Chrest to approve Pace and Pedal at Wazee Lake County Park and wave the vehicle admission fee for the morning of the event. The motion was seconded by Jerry Schmidt, all members voted in favor.

#### **Forestry Report:**

Planting of 85,000 containerized red pine trees went out for bid. Northwoods Forestry bid \$5,100.00, and Superior Forestry came in at \$3,884.50. A motion was made by Norm Stoker to go with the low bidder, Superior Forestry. The motion was made by John Chrest. All members voted in favor.

Jim informed the Committee that the town of City Point recently approached him about the possibility of dredging Spaulding Pond. The township leases Spaulding Pond Park from the County and would take care of the majority of the cost. A motion was made by Norman Stoker to allow the Town of City Point to dredge the pond, seconded by Karen Thayer, all members voted in favor.

Permission to return to 4, 10 hour week days by the Forestry staff was requested. This would take place the last week in February to align with the pay period. A motion to approve the work schedule to 10 hour days was made by Karen Thayer, seconded by Jerry Schmidt. All members voted in favor.

Wood is currently being cut along the gas pipeline that runs down the current ATV trail. The hardwood will be taken into the parks for firewood. The remaining species of pine and aspen will be sold for revenue. Jim approached three different contractors and received prices back from Drangstveit Logging and Delaney Forest Products. Drangstveit's price included all skidding and hauling, while Delaney Forest Products price would change if skidding was required. A motion was made by John Chrest to go with Drangstveit Logging because they have a firm price; the motion was seconded by Karen Thayer. All members voted in favor except for Jerry Schmidt who was opposed to the motion.

#### **Parks & Trails Report:**

Jeremy Breheim was present at the meeting for Jon Schweitzer. Jeremy informed the committee that Roger Castle had started hauling gravel on 2 different ATV trails. Jon Larkin, the current LTE, was running the brush mower that was leased from the Hwy Department on the ATV trails. A small amount of grooming had been done on the snowmobile trails. Revenue at Wazee Lake has seen an increase this winter due to successful ice fishing reports.

Permission to advertise for seasonal parks staff was requested. A motion was made by Karen to go ahead with advertising for seasonal staff; the motion was seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor. Interviews will take place in early April.

The parks department allots for a new truck purchase in the 2015 budget. The Sheriff's Department sought out bids from local dealers and none were comparable to the state bid that is currently held by Ewald Automotive Group out of Oconomowoc, WI. Parks would be purchasing the same truck quoted by the Sheriff's Department. A motion was made by John Chrest to go forward along with the Sheriff's Department and purchase a 2015 Dodge Ram 1500 SSV pick-up. The motion was seconded by Karen Thayer, all members voted in favor. Final cost for the truck is \$25,742.00.

Jeremy requested permission to advertise for a 14 foot tandem axel dump trailer. The trailer will be used in the Parks for hauling leaves, equipment, etc. A motion was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by John Chrest to go forward with advertising for bids. All members voted in favor. The dump trailer is also listed in the 2015 Parks budget.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 am was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by John Chrest, all members voted in favor.  
Meeting was adjourned at 10:00am  
Next regular meeting date: March 10, 2015  
These minutes will be approved at the March Meeting