

The regular monthly meeting for Jackson County Forestry & Parks Department was held at 8:30am on Tuesday, February 11, 2020. Those present were: Karen Thayer, Ed Chamberlain, John Higgins, Jerrold Schmidt, James Zahasky, Jon Schweitzer.

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Chairperson Karen Thayer.

Motion made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by John Higgins to approve minutes from the January meeting with one grammatical correction, all members voted in favor.

Motion made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by John Higgins to approve the bills as presented for payment. All members voted in favor.

Amanda Gunn, Black River Chamber Director, was present at the meeting and gave an update on the 2020 visitor guides and upcoming banquet.

Jon gave an updated parks report. Interviews were conducting for the Parks & Trails Laborer position. Advertising for seasonal positions will begin next month. Trail rehab work was done the month of January and grooming of trails continues.

The Parks department has \$15,000 budgeted for a new skidsteer. The current machine is a Gehl 190 and is leased for \$10.00/hour. The department is looking to purchase a RT185 with a rubber track system. The new lease would go up to \$15.00 but would have the tracks. After discussion a motion was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by John Higgins to purchase the Gehl 185 from Portland Implement, total cost would be \$13,610.00. All members voted in favor.

An open house for the Wazee concession building was set for Friday, May 15 for County board and employees. The grand opening to the public will be Saturday, May 16.

Jim reviewed with the Committee the equipment trailer bids. After discussion a motion was made by Ed Chamberlain to re-bid the trailer with new specifications and include only paver trailers. The motion was seconded by John Higgins, all members voted in favor.

Attorney Samuel Bach was present at the meeting to discuss current land issues. Jim discussed the possibility of creating an affidavit that would be filed in the Register of Deeds office regarding any land disputes or permits in the future.

A motion to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat 19.85 (g) Conferring with legal counsel for the government body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involve was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by John Higgins. All members voted in favor by roll call.

A motion to adjourn at 10:40am was made by Karen Thayer, seconded by John Higgins, all members voted in favor.

Next regular meeting date: March 10, 2020

These minutes will be approved at the March Meeting