

The regular monthly meeting for Jackson County Forestry & Parks Department was held at 9:00am on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. Those present were: Karen Thayer, Ed Chamberlain, Tom Clark, Jerold Schmidt, Norman Stoker, James Zahasky, Jeremy Breheim

The regular meeting was called to order at 9:00am

A motion was made by Norm Stoker seconded by Ed Chamberlain to approve the February minutes, all members voted in favor.

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

Chamber Director Amanda Gunn was present via zoom and gave an update.

Scott Roepke and Zach Clausing from the WI-DNR were present and gave updates.

Jeremy Breheim presented the Parks and Trails report. He has been working with Kevin Babcock from Jackson Electric about the idea of putting electric car chargers in the parks. There are no future plans for an inmate crew for the upcoming season and an ad for seasonal employees has been posted. Trails are now closed for the winter season, they will re-open May 15.

Several items were discussed as additions to the 2021 budget. Jackson County will be taking over grooming of the State trails and will received an additional \$30,000.00 in revenue. Estimated expenses to take over the trails is approximately \$23,000.00 Upgrades to the existing reservation are estimated at \$10,000.00 Seal coating the entrance of Wazee Lake as well as electrical upgrades to both East and West Arbutus are projected to be \$50,000.00. A motion to approve using fund balance to increase the 2021 budget by \$72,000.00 was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor.

The parks department went out for bids on a dump trailer. After review a motion was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by Norman Stoker to approve Frenchville Trailers as the low bidder at \$11,750.00. All members voted in favor.

A motion was made by Norman Stoker to sign the resolution for the Designation of the Jackson County ATV/Snowmobile Trail Coordinator position. The motion was seconded by Tom Clark, all members voted in favor. This resolution needs to be signed annually for grant funding purposes.

Jim presented a request to re-instate an already existing driveway permit as the owner wishes to sell the property. A motion to approve was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor. The cost of the permit is \$500.00.

The Black River Forever land sale was discussed. The 4.2 acre parcel in Brockway appraisal was discussed. Jeff Polzin representing Friends of the Black River would like it to be stipulated that convenient public access be left and a green space not be developed. Ed Chamberlain made a motion that the discussion be tabled until a meeting with the owner of Black River Forever could take place to discuss access issues. The motion was seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor with the exception of Tom Clark who abstained from voting due to lack of information on the topic.

Jim requested permission to designate \$20,000.00 for the township road grant program. A motion to approve was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Ed Chamberlain. Tom Clark, Karen Thayer, Ed Chamberlain and Norman Stoker voted in approval of the motion. Jerrold Schmidt voted in opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the Emergency Fire Warden list was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Ed Chamberlain, all members voted in favor. Karen Thayer will sign the approval as Committee Chair.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30am

Next regular meeting date: April 13, 2021
These minutes will be approved at the April Meeting