

The regular monthly meeting for Jackson County Forestry & Parks Department was held at 8:30am on Tuesday, May 12, 2020. Those present were: Karen Thayer, Ed Chamberlain, Tom Clark, Jerrold Schmidt, Norman Stoker, James Zahasky, Jon Schweitzer.

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:30am by James Zahasky.

Motion made by Norman Stoker to nominate Karen Thayer as Chairman of the Forestry & Parks Committee. The motion was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt, all members voted in favor.

A motion to nominate Ed Chamberlain as Vice-Chairman was made by Norman Stoker, the motion was seconded by Tom Clark. All members voted in favor; motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Chamberlain to approve the minutes from March, the motion was seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor. There was no meeting held in April.

Motion made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by Norman Stoker to approve the bills for the months of March, April and May as presented for payment. All members voted in favor.

Zach Clausing was present representing the WI-DNR. He discussed fire season, and the cancelling of all burning permits.

Jon presented the parks and trails report. Camping and trails will re-open on May 15. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic there has been approximately \$5,000 in cancellations for camping reservations. The new concession building at Wazee Lake county park is expected to open on June 1.

Jon updated the Committee on the changes and safety precautions that have been put into place due to COVID-19. All Staff will have face shields, coveralls and rubber boots for cleaning purposes. Cleaning schedules will be increased to 4 times a day on the weekends.

A request to allow any seasonal camper to take the 2020 summer off without losing their site if they return 2021 was discussed. A motion to approve the request all campers to skip the 2020 camping season and return to the same site in 2021 was approved by Tom Clark, seconded by Jerrold Schmidt. All members voted in favor.

Jon handed out a bridge tabulation from Anderson Bridges and Custom Manufacturing for the Committee to review. The tailings pile that was previously at Wazee Lake has been moved to the Hwy 54 location. Trees and grasses will be planted for reclamation at the site.

Jim presented the Committee with the 2020 annual increases. A motion was made by Tom Clark, seconded by Ed Chamberlain to approve the increases, all members voted in favor.

Attorney Sam Bach was present at the meeting to discuss with the Committee implementing an affidavit for driveway permits and encroachments. No action was taken.

The town of Brockway submitted the only grant application for the 2020 Town Road Grants. Each year \$20,000 is allocated to improve township roads used for logging. A motion to approve Brockway's request for \$5,000 was made by Tom Clark, the motion was seconded by Ed Chamberlain. Norman Stoker, Ed Chamberlain, Karen Thayer and Tom Clark approved the motion. Jerrold Schmidt voted in opposition to the motion.

After discussion a motion was made by Ed Chamberlain to extend the Town Road Grant application date until the end of 2020 or until all of the \$20,000 has been used. The motion was seconded Norman Stoker. Tom Clark, Norman Stoker, Ed Chamberlain and Karen Thayer voted in favor of the motion. Jerrold Schmidt voted in opposition to the motion.

The American Transmission Company (ATC) is requesting to extend their current easement 3 acres along the interstate for hazard tree removal. ATC offered to give the County \$1,000.00 for the extension. A motion to go back and negotiate for a higher payout was made by Jerrold Schmidt, seconded by Ed Chamberlain, all members voted in favor.

Jim presented the Committee with the timber sale results for spring of 2020. Two separate sales in question were reviewed. Solberg trucking was the high bidder on tract 11-20 but did not use the bid form included, they wrote their bid on the sale prospectus. Attorney Sam Bach noted that because they were the high bidder and had all the information that is required to bid that it would be in the Counties best interest to accept their bid. Sale 3-20 was also discussed. Sales were read aloud during the bid opening to be \$16.00/ton. Strzok logging submitted a bid that did not compute mathematically after review. After discussing with the agent for the logging company he agreed with the amount read aloud. The owner of Strzok logging stated the amount was not read correctly, and should have been \$17.00/ton. After discussion a motion was made to accept the bid submitted by Delany Forest Products who was the 2nd highest bidder on tract 3-20 due to the inability to read the numbers submitted by Strzok. The motion was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by Tom Clark, all members voted in favor.

A motion was made by Ed Chamberlain to accept all remaining bids and go with the highest bidder. The motion was seconded by Norman Stoker, all members voted in favor.

Jim discussed with the Committee the tractor quotes that were submitted. All quotes were for more than was allocated in the budget. A motion was made by Ed Chamberlain to authorize the purchase of a new or used tractor up to \$30,000.00. The motion was seconded by Norman Stoker, all members voted in favor.

A motion to adjourn at 11:00am was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Ed Chamberlain, all members voted in favor.

Next regular meeting date: June 9, 2020

These minutes will be approved at the June Meeting