

The regular monthly meeting for Jackson County Forestry & Parks Department was held at 8:30am on Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Those present were: Karen Thayer, Jerrold Schmidt, Norman Stoker, Ed Chamberlain, John Higgins, Jim Zahasky, Jon Schweitzer.

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Department Head Jim Zahasky.

Norman Stoker nominated Karen Thayer as Chairperson of Jackson County Forestry & Parks Committee. Jerry Schmidt seconded the nomination. A motion was made by Norman Stoker to close nominations and elect Karen Thayer as Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt, all members voted in favor.

Karen Thayer nominated Norman Stoker as Vice-Chairman of Jackson County Forestry & Parks Committee, the nominated was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt. Ed Chamberlain made a motion to close nominations and elect Norman Stoker as Vice-Chair, the motion was seconded by John Higgins, all members voted in favor.

Motion made by Norman Stoker seconded by John Higgins to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, all members voted in favor.

Motion made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Jerrold Schmidt to approve the bills as presented for payment. All members voted in favor.

The Committee discussed the request to trade land with Derek Kunding owner of the Bunkhouse. After discussion a motion was made by Jerrold Schmidt, seconded by Norman Stoker to deny the request, all members voted in favor.

Several timber sales will be expiring in 2018. A motion was made by Jerrold Schmidt, seconded by Ed Chamberlain to grant a one-year free extension to all Contractors that worked in Jackson County over the winter months. All members voted in favor.

Dive revenue has been on a steady decline since 2011. Jeff Zilliox, owner of Marineland Dive Center, said the number one complaint is the cost to dive. After discussion a motion was made by Norman Stoker to lower the daily dive fee from \$10.00 to \$5.00. The motion was seconded by John Higgins. Karen Thayer, Norman Stoker, Ed Chamberlain and John Higgins voted in favor of the motion. The motion was opposed by Jerrold Schmidt.

Jon presented the Parks & Trails report. All bathrooms are up and running. The installation of a handicap fishing dock is complete at Wazee Lake and work continues at the boat landing at West Arbutus. The Jackson County ATV Club completed their annual trail clean up just in time for the opener on May 15. The new interactive ATV map will launch before the trail opener.

The Committee discussed how to use the ATC (American Transmission Company) money that will be given to Jackson County for the installation of the power lines. A motion was made by Norman Stoker to approve the prioritized list placing a flush system at Wazee Lake for \$85,000 first. Setting aside \$250,000 for the Parks future projects second, and \$50,000 for forest road improvements third. The motion was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt, all members voted in favor.

Because Lake Arbutus will be drawn down for the summer of 2018 the Parks Department would like to take the opportunity to move forward with the shoreline improvements at East Arbutus and add a plank to the West Arbutus boat launch. Cost to pay for core sampling and removal of approximately 1400 cubic yards of fill at East Arbutus is \$8,000.00. The plank for West can be purchased from Huffcutt for \$1,500.00. The mower that was in the budget for 2018 will be removed and added to the 2019 budget to make up the cost difference. A motion to approve the shoreline and add the plank was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by Jerrold Schmidt. All members voted in favor.

The spring 2018 timber sales were presented. Of the 17 sales placed for bid 10 were sold. A motion was made by Norman Stoker to accept the high bid on the 10 sales sold. The motion was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt, all members voted in favor.

A motion to re-advertise the sales that did not sell was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by John Higgins, all members voted in favor.

Jim discussed with the Committee the upcoming Spring moss sales. A motion was made by Norman Stoker to advertise for the spring moss sales, the motion was seconded by Ed Chamberlain, all members voted in favor. A motion to allow Deli to directly purchase a moss sale close to one of their existing sales was made by Jerrold Schmidt, seconded by Ed Chamberlain. All members voted in favor.

Jim presented the 2018 Town Road Grant requests. A motion was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by John Higgins to approve the request based on the recommendation of the Forestry department. All members voted in favor.

Representative from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) will be at Wazee Lake on June 16 for a presentation. A sign will be erected at Wazee acknowledging the 360 parcel that was purchased to improve the elk habitat with help from RMEF. Jim has been working to create a sign and bench with a cost around \$1,000.00. A motion to approve the sign was made by Jerrold Schmidt, seconded by Ed Chamberlain. All members voted in favor.

A resolution to purchase a 43-acre parcel was presented. Total purchase amount will be \$77,400.00 and be paid for through the land acquisition account and the Knowles Nelson Stewardship Grant. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by Jerrold Schmidt, all members voted in favor.

A motion was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Jerrold Schmidt to allow for 4-5 Committee members to attend the Summer Tour, all members voted in favor.

Motion to adjourn at 12:20pm was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Ed Chamberlain. All members voted in favor.

Next regular meeting date: June 12, 2018

These minutes will be approved at the June meeting