

The regular monthly meeting for Jackson County Forestry & Parks Department was held at 8:30am on Tuesday, May 14, 2019. Those present were: Karen Thayer, Norman Stoker, Ed Chamberlain, John Higgins, 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 Norman Stoker to approve minutes from the April meeting, 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 Area Chamber Director was present at the meeting and gave an update on upcoming events for the summer.

Jon updated the Committee on the parks and trails. Staff is working to get all parks ready for the Memorial weekend. Seasonal staff are starting and the Pace and Pedal event will take place at Wazee Lake on May 18. Trails will open on Wednesday, May 15 as scheduled. Amanda Gunn from the Chamber of Commerce is working with the Room Tax board to possibly pay for another ATV survey. The Jackson County ATV Club completed a trail clean-up on May 11. Jon noted that due to all the rehab efforts trails are staying in good condition and closures are being prevented. Concrete has been poured on the new Wazee Concession building.

Jeff Zilliox was present representing Buoyant Force Dive Therapy. Buoyant Force Dive Therapy is a non-profit therapy group designed to help public service personnel dealing with PTSD. Currently 80 individuals are waiting to get into the program. Jeff is requesting that the admission fees be waived for this group, a motion was made by John Higgins to approve waiving all fees for participants, the motion was seconded by Ed Chamberlain, all members voted in favor.

Jon presented a resolution for permission to allow him to apply for ATV/Snowmobile funding. The resolution states Jon is the person administering funding. A motion to approve the resolution was made by John Higgins, seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor.

The Parks department had \$6,000 in the budget to install a new on demand water heater at East Arbutus shower building. Halvorson Plumbing submitted a quote for \$6,400.00 and Schoen Plumbing for \$5,800.00. A motion was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by John Higgins to go with Schoen Plumbing out of Neillsville because as they are the low bidder. All members voted in favor.

Currently Wazee Lake contact station has very limit internet access. Jeremy has been working with Kevin Ives, the County representative from Verizon Wireless, at possibly installing a modem for \$840.00 from DH Wireless Service to serve as a booster. Jon also noted that his MDC in his squad truck has an internal modem and may work. A motion was made by John Higgins to first try the MDC and then go forward with the equipment purchase if that doesn't work. The motion was seconded by Ed Chamberlain, all members voted in favor.

Timber sale bids were open on Thursday, May 9. Of the 15 sales, 9 were sold totaling \$410,995.10. A motion to approve the sales that were sold and re-bid the remaining 6 sales was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in Favor.

D&D Mechanized pulping is requesting permission for a free extension on sale 27-16 due to a sale that ran over by 30 loads over the winter months preventing them from completing both jobs. A motion to approve

D&D Mechanized Pulping's request and grant the free extension was made by John Higgins, seconded by Ed Chamberlain, all members voted in favor.

Jim requested permission to look into possible tick prevention methods including permethrin pants and purchasing a washer and dryer to keep at the forestry shop for these items. A motion was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Ed Chamberlain to approve all means of tick prevention. All members voted in favor.

A motion to go into closed session was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Ed Chamberlain, all members voted in favor by roll-call.

A motion to adjourn at 10:05am was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Ed Chamberlain, all members voted in favor.

Next regular meeting date: June 11, 2019

These minutes will be approved at the June Meeting