

The regular monthly meeting for Jackson County Forestry & Parks Department was held at 8:30am on Tuesday, November 13, 2018. Those present were: Karen Thayer, Jerrold Schmidt, 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 Norman Stoker seconded by Ed Chamberlain to approve the minutes from the previous 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 Chamber of Commerce Director gave the Chamber report.

Zach Clausing was present from the WI-DNR and gave a Forestry update. Scott Roepke, DNR Wildlife Biologist gave a wildlife report.

A resolution was presented to increase the seasonal base wage and offer weekend differential pay for the park's seasonal employees. This is to improve recruitment by offering a more competitive wage and an incentive to work weekend shifts. A motion was made by John Higgins to reclassify the Seasonal Parks Employee from a grade 21 to a 19 and offer a \$2.00 weekend differential starting at noon on Friday until 11:59pm on Sunday on the same weekend as well as any Holiday between May 1 and October 31. The motion was seconded by Ed Chamberlain, all members voted in favor.

The Committee discussed a floating schedule for the Parks Laborer positions to avoid stepping outside of the Chapter 4 boundaries. The schedule would be based on seasonal demand and consist of 40 hours on the floor. A motion to adapt the new floating schedule was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by John Higgins, all members voted in favor.

Garret Nix, Jackson County Corporation Counsel, was present at the meeting to discuss the request to gift a shelter by the Evangelical Lutheran Church and in turn allow them to hold church services there every Sunday. After discussion a motion was made by John Higgins to deny the Church's request, the motion was seconded by Norman Stoker, all members voting in favor the motion were Karen Thayer, Ed Chamberlain, John Higgins and Norman Stoker. Jerrold Schmidt voted in opposition to the motion.

A motion to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat 19.85(e) to negotiate the purchase of public properties was made by Norman Stoker, all members voted in favor via roll call.

A motion to reconvene in open session was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Ed Chamberlain, all members voted in favor.

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Jim read the motions in open session.

A motion was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by Jerrold Schmidt to purchase the property located on Starlight road, all members voted in favor.

A motion was a made to ask RMEF for assistance in purchasing the property by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by John Higgins.

A motion was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by John Higgins to use a General Engineer to complete a phase 1 environmental assessment on the 30-acre parcel that contains a building and a well. The cost to complete the assessment is not to exceed \$2,350.00.

A motion was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by John Higgins to approve changing the blocking boundaries in the forest. All members voted in favor.

Jon presented the amended resolution to use ATC funds to construct a concession building at Wazee Lake County Park. A motion was made by Jerrold Schmidt to approve the resolution requesting up to \$350,000 of ATC money to build a concession building at Wazee Lake, the motion as seconded by Norman Stoker, all members voted in favor.

Jon presented the Parks and Trails report. One shower house remains open at East Arbutus through the gun deer season. Jon replaced the park signs along Hwy 54 and will be meeting with engineers regarding the new concession building. Work is being done to repair the groomer for the upcoming snowmobile season. Jon is still waiting on final approval from the DNR for the new grant projects.

The Committee reviewed the results from the fall bid opening. 14 of the 20 sales were sold totaling \$641,992.45. A motion was made by Norman Stoker to approve the sales that were sold, the motion was seconded by Ed Chamberlain. All members voted in favor.

A motion to re-bid the 6 sales that did not sell was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by John Higgins, all members voted in favor. These sales will be re-bid in December.

A request to renew an existing driveway permit was discussed. The current owner of the permit would like to sell the property with the guarantee the driveway permit will be renewed. A motion to approve renewing the driveway permit was made by Ed Chamberlain, seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor.

A motion to adjourn at 11:00 was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by John Higgins. All members voted in favor.

Next regular meeting date: December 11, 2018

These minutes will be approved at the December 2018 meeting