

The regular monthly meeting for Jackson County Forestry & Parks Department was held at 8:30am, on Tuesday, October 14, 2014. Those present were: John Chrest, Norm Stoker, Merlin Fredrickson, Karen Thayer, Jerrold Schmidt, Jim Zahasky, Jon Schweitzer and Ashley Stetzer.

Chairman Merlin Fredrickson called the regular meeting to order at 8:30am

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

Motion made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Karen Thayer to approve the bills as presented for payment. This also included a bill from West Side Auto that was paid prior to the meeting. All members voted in favor.

**Forestry Report:**

Jim presented the Committee with 15 timber sales that will go out for bid. A motion was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by John Chrest to approve the timber sale and send out for bids. All members voted in favor.

Several logging issues were discussed by the Committee including: review current timber sale contract, annosium treatment in pine stands, oak wilt guidelines, definition of saw logs and contract extensions. The Forestry Department will continue to follow the state guidelines on treating annosium. Currently the logger is responsible to purchase the chemical and apply the treatment to the stumps. A motion was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Karen Thayer stating that on new contracts the County will supply the chemical Cellutreat for application. In order for the Logger to receive the Cellutreat their company must have a valid Commercial Pesticide Applicators license. The Logger would still be responsible for applying the treatment. All members voted in favor.

The Forestry Department will continue to follow the state guidelines on restricting oak harvesting to slow the spread of oak wilt on the County Forest. The Forestry Department will continue to follow the state Chapter NR 46.02(22) definition of a sawlog with the exception on hardwoods will be 11 inches on the small end before it is considered a sawlog.

The Committee reviewed timber sales that will go under penalty starting November 15, 2014. A motion was made by John Chrest to extend the contracts with a 5% penalty, excluding sale JC-2315 by Chad Bergman because he is currently on the sale and should be done cutting near the deadline. This motion was seconded by Norman Stoker, all members voted in favor.

Jim passed out a draft copy of the Town Applications Grant for Road Aids for review. This grant would match up to \$20,000 for the awarded township to use towards forest road repairs. Grants would be awarded in March. A motion was made by John Chrest, seconded by Norman Stoker to go forth with the grant, all members voted in favor. All money would be in the 2015 budget cycle.

A moss marsh was recently sold for .50 a bail totaling \$14,300.00. A motion was made by Karen Thayer, seconded by John Chrest to approve the selling of Moss Marsh #49 to Deli, Inc of Millston, all members voted in favor.

New flooring is being installed at the Forestry office. Two bids were submitted, one by CaPauls floor covering out of Black River Falls for \$9,606.00 which included the cost of embossing. The second bid was submitted by Wesco in Sparts for \$9,038.00 plus \$1,250.00 if embossing is needed. A motion was made by Norman Stoker to go with CaPaul's floor covering of Black River Falls because they are the low bidder; the motion was seconded by Karen Thayer. All members voted in favor.

Jim received 3 bids for a new pull hind mower. Two bids were submitted by Portand Implement. The first was a Landpride RCM5610 at \$13,266.00. The second was a Landpride RCM6610 for \$15,275.00. These both included \$1,000 for trade-in on the old mower. The third bid was submitted by Hundt Implement for a Rhino 6140 at \$21,250.00 and \$500.00 trade-in. After discussion a motion was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Jerrold Schmidt to research possible contractors to hire for mowing to sidestep having to purchase one and table the purchase. Karen Thayer, Jerrold Schmidt, Norman Stoker and Merlin Fredrickson all voted in favor. John Chrest, noted in opposition to the motion, the motion passed.

Jim presented the County Conservation Aid Resolution to the Committee in regards to a snowmobile trail swap with Wood County. A motion was made to approve the resolution by Jerrold Schmidt, seconded by Karen Thayer, all members voted in favor.

Oppelt trucking contacted Jim about the possibility of burying brush. A motion was made by Karen Thayer, seconded by Norman Stoker to allow Oppelt to bury the brush in return for hauling gravel onto the ATV trail. All members voted in favor.

Farmland Management Services contact Jim in regards to using generators to start the wells near Wazee Lake. This would only be done a few times of year as needed. A motion was made by John Chrest to allow them to use the generators. The motion was seconded by Norman Stoker, all members voted in favor.

### **Parks & Trails Report:**

Jon updated the Committee about several things that were taking place in the parks. This includes preparing for the winter season and closing down shower houses as well as performing safety regulation tests on all playground equipment.

The shower building at East Arbutus located near site 50 is in need of roof repairs. Two bids were submitted for the repairs, the first being from Simmons Roofing of Alma Center for \$1,975.00. The second bid was from Bertrang Roofing for \$2,100.00. Jon requested that all the roofing issues at East Arbutus be addressed in the 2014 budget year. A motion was made by Jerrold Schmidt, seconded by Norman Stoker to contact both parties to re-submit a bid to complete all roofing issues. This would include keeping the original bid from Simmons Roofing as they were the low bidder for the original project. Simmons roofing did submit a bid for the entirety in the amount of \$7,175.00. Jon was directed to contact Bertrang Roofing for a similar type bid. All members voted in favor.

The electrical upgrades at East Arbutus are nearing completion. Currently an upgrade for sites near the 40's was bid and Forsting Electric was the only bidder at \$4,350.00 which includes the labor and trenching. A motion to accept Forstings bid was made by Jerrold Schmidt, seconded by John Chrest, all members voted in favor.

The abutment on the Coffee Creek Bridge recently washed out and repairs need to be made in order to re-open this bridge. Anderson Bridges sent in a proposal of \$5,000.00 to fix the issues at hand. Jon contacted 3 different companies to do the repairs and only received back the proposal from Anderson. A motion was made by John Chrest to repair the bridge and consider reimbursing this money back into the budget from money received for the pipeline that his being installed by WE Energies. The motion was seconded by Norman Stoker, all members voted in favor.

In recent years a fragmities issues has developed at Wazee Lake. Aerial spraying was done earlier in the summer to help control this ongoing problem. Jon discovered that in the area of the park that was dammed up by beaver the fragmities appeared to be dying due to the rising water levels and asked permission to cease all beaver trapping in the area. A motion as made by John Chrest, seconded by Norman Stoker to close beaver trapping at Wazee Lake for an unknown amount of time to handle this situation. All members voted in favor.

A motion to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85 (e) negotiating the purchasing of public properties was made by Karen Thayer, seconded by Norman Stoker, all members voted in favor.

A motion was made in closed session to go forward with 3 easements and access to log early was made, all members voted in favor.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 pm was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by John Chrest All members voted in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm

Next regular meeting date: November 11, 2014

These minutes will be approved at the November meeting