



Jackson County Forestry and Parks Department

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JACKSON COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS MEETING June 14, 2016 8:30am Jackson County Forestry & Parks Conference Room

To: Forestry & Parks Committee
Karen Thayer, Chairperson
Norm Stoker
John Chrest
Thomas Clark
Jerrold Schmidt

8:30 a.m. Call to Order
Approve minutes from previous meeting
Audit Bills
Chamber of Commerce Report
DNR Report

Forestry Report

- Resolution to withdraw land –Van Ert
- Permission to purchase sprayer
- Permission to power trench 50 acres
- Weather station at Wazee

Parks Report:

- Parks and Trails Report

Adjourn meeting to continue with Forestry & Parks tour

Adjourn – next meeting set for July 12, 2016

Cc:	Ray Ransom – Co Board Chairman Ho-Chunk DNR Danny Iverson Bulletin Board – Courthouse	Jackson County Chronicle Eric Zenz – DNR Larry Whaley – DNR www.co.jackson.wi.us	Chamber of Commerce Cody Caulum – DNR Zach Clausing – DNR
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Agenda for Tour (times are a rough estimate):

9:30 ATV Tour
10:00 Tour Wazee
Dive Access
Invasive Species
10:45 ATV Rehab Site
11:15 Tour West Arbutus
Parking Lot issue
Shoreline
Beach
12:00 Lunch
1:00 Return to Forestry & Parks Building

The regular monthly meeting for Jackson County Forestry & Parks Department was held at 8:30am on Tuesday, May 10, 2016. Those present were: Norman Stoker, Karen Thayer, John Chrest, Jerrold Schmidt, Thomas Clark, Jim Zahasky and Jon Schweitzer.

Administrator Jim Zahasky called the meeting to order at 8:30am

Motion was made by John Chrest to nominate Karen Thayer as Chairperson. Nominations were closed by Norman Stoker and to cast a unanimous vote for Karen Thayer. The motion was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt. All members voted unanimously in favor.

Chairperson Karen Thayer continued with the remainder of the meeting.

A motion was made by Norman Stoker to nominate John Chrest as Vice-Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt, all members voted in favor.

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 Jerrold Schmidt to approve the bills as presented for payment. All members voted in favor.

Forestry Report:

Matt Rokus was present at the meeting in regards to his request for a driveway permit. Mr. Rokus had gone through the necessary steps and obtained a permit to build a bridge on Lead Creek. Corporation Counsel has reviewed the driveway permit application and added language regarding a hold harmless clause and that the bridge must be removed if the property is ever sold. Rokus has also obtained a 1.3 million dollar liability policy. A motion was made by John Chrest to approve the driveway permit, the motion was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt. All members voted in favor.

A second driveway permit was requested. The current owner is selling the property and request was being made to grant the new owner access. Motion was made by John Chrest to approve the request, the motion was seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor.

Jim presented a resolution for the purchase of 79.66 acres located in the town the Knapp. Jim has secured \$26,000 from the Knowles Nelson Stewardship grant and was requesting the remaining \$40,230 be taken out of the land acquisition account. A motion was made by John Chrest to approve the request, the motion was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt. All members voted in favor.

Jim presented the Committee with the 13 timber sales that were up for bid on May 5, 2016. There was a discrepancy with sale 34-15, the bidder omitted the price per unit, although he had the remaining values filed in on the bid form. He was the high bidder on the sale. After discussion a motion was made by John Chrest to approve all of the sales including sale 34-15 after having it reviewed by Corporation Counsel, and a decision being made in regards to the winning bidder. The motion was seconded by Norman Stoker, all members voted in favor.

The Committee reviewed the 4 moss sales totaling \$20,050.00. A motion was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by Jerrold Schmidt to award the sales to the highest bidder. All members voted in favor.

The Committee reviewed the Merit increases and bonuses for the Forestry and Parks Department. A motion to accept the increase was made by John Chrest, seconded by Norman Stoker. All members voted in favor.

A motion was also made by John Chrest to send the one remaining position that has not been taken to market to WIFLI for comparison. The motion was seconded by Karen Thayer, all members voted in favor.

Jim requested the purchasing of 2 new radios. The radios would be purchased out of the wildlife fund due to the fact that they are primarily used for prescribed burns. A motion to approve the purchase 2 Motorola radios from Baycom for approximately \$950.00 was made by Jerrold Schmidt, seconded by Thomas Clark. All members voted in favor.

The Van Ert land encroachment issues was revisited. After discussion a motion was made by John Chrest to offer a land trade of a cabin lot for an easement with no money exchange. If Van Ert accepts the offer Jim should go forward with the trade, if rejected bring back to the Committee. The motion was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt, all members voted in favor.

Parks & Trails Report:

Jon informed the Committee that the water heater on West Arbutus needs to be replaced. A motion was made by John Chrest to go with the on demand water heater and take the money out of camp improvements. The motion was seconded by Jerrold Schmidt, all members voted in favor.

Jon discussed with the Committee that camping revenue is approximately \$22,000 ahead of 2015. Day use fees are also up \$2,400.00 from the previous year.

A pre-construction meeting took place on April 28 for the box culvert under Hwy 54. Construction will begin on May 16. Jon is working on closing out 3 grants for approximately \$76,000.00. The annual trail clean-up was held on May 7, the Jackson County ORV trails will open on May 14, 2016.

Jon also discussed with the Committee the current issues with hiring. Recruitment numbers are lower than necessary. Jon is working with the Personnel Department to complete a local wage comparison and revisit wages for summer 2017.

A Parks tour will take place at the next Forestry & Parks committee meeting scheduled for June 14, 2016.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:50am was made by Norman Stoker, seconded by John Chrest. All members voted in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50pm

Next regular meeting date: June 14, 2016

These minutes will be approved at the June Meeting