

**MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, MARCH 1, 2022**  
**FOREST, PARKS & RECREATION/LAND INFORMATION SYSTEMS SUBCOMMITTEE OF**  
**OCONTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
Draft minutes until Committee approved

Meeting called to order at 8:30 AM by Greg Sekela, Chair.

COMMITTEE PRESENT: Greg Sekela, Al Stranz, Judith Buhandt, Bob Pott and Tim Cole

OTHERS PRESENT: Monty Brink, Forest, Parks & Recreation Administrator; Brian Gross, County Surveyor; Michelle Seefeldt, Administrative Assistant; Erik Pritzel, County Administrator; Steve Kaufman, DNR Liaison; Daniel Woodke, Recreational Officer; Darren Laskowski, Deputy Sherriff; Beth Ellingson, Corporation Counsel; Chip Lonzo, Brenda Carey-Mielke; and Sylvia Pott

**1. Approval of Agenda**

- a. Change of Sequence - None
- b. Removal of Items – None

Moved by Pott, seconded by Cole to approve the agenda. Motion voted on and carried.

**2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Moved by Stranz, seconded by Cole to approve the minutes of February 1, 2022. Motion voted on and carried.

**3. Communications**

- Great Lakes Timber Professional Association Spring Celebration is Wednesday, April 13, 2022 in Harris, MI
- WIS 32 Construction Update Meeting is Thursday, March 3, 2022.
- 2021 Wisconsin Act 128 was signed into law on February 4, 2022. The Act changes the threshold amount of timber sold from state, county or community forest to at least 500 cord equivalents or an estimated value of at least \$10,000
- Couillardville Newsletters and Thank You letter from Friends of Couillardville Park

**4. Review Prior Month's Vendor Payments**

Monty Brink presented the Forest & Parks and Brian Gross presented the Land Information Systems bills for committee review.

**5. Recreational Officer Report**

Officer Woodke reported on February activities.

- **ATV** – ATV season is closed but still receiving complaints. Responded to 2 complaints and 2 written warnings issued.
- **Boating** – The boat has been ordered. Discussion held on the Machickanee Boat Landing project ownership of property.
- **Snowmobile** – Responded to 29 complaints, 7 accidents with 1 fatal, 7 citations written and 19 written warnings issued. Logged 138.5 hours for state reimbursement.
- **County Forest** – Continued patrolling on County owned property and current logging sites, shooting range, NBS and Machickanee Boat Landing. Discussion held.
- **County Cameras** - Nothing to report
- Tri County Trails Committee meeting was cancelled for January 20, 2022.
- The Snowmobile Alliance meeting is March 2, 2022.
- Looking to obtain a decibel meter. Discussion held on if Title III funds could be used to purchase one.
- Discussion held on setting a speed limit on the trails. Will be difficult to enforce.

**6. LIS Administrator Report**

The LIS Administrator's report was discussed.

- Compiling data to send to the plat book company.

**7. WDNR Liaison Report**

The WDNR Liaison report was discussed.

- Turkey stamp funds are not available for 2022. Will apply again in 2023.

**8. The Committee will convene into closed session, pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(1)(g) to meet with Corporation Counsel to discuss potential litigation involving the committee.**

Motion by Pott, seconded by Cole to convene into closed session. Motion voted on and carried.

9. **The Committee will return to open session to conduct legal business, as allowed by Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(2).**  
The Committee returned to open session at 9:40 AM
10. **Kassander Driveway Permit**  
Moved by Stranz, seconded by Cole to have Corporation Counsel respond to the February 9, 2022 letter from the Town of Mountain requesting the data and ordinance used to deny the Forest & Parks driveway permit. Motion voted on and carried.
11. **2021 Chute Pond Dock Purchase**  
The Committee directed Corporation Counsel to review the purchase agreement with American Marine and to work with the Forest & Parks Administrator to get the issue resolved.
12. **Land Acquisition**  
Monty Brink stated he has not heard from Mr. Henry on the County purchasing the .3 acres on County S. Julie Demille with Mark Olejniczak Realty, Inc. contacted Monty regarding 173 acres of property for sale in the Town of Abrams. The majority of the property is adjacent to County land and is separated by railroad tracks that makes it difficult to sell, as the backside of the property has no road access. Discussion held on funding options, loans and grants. The Committee directed the Forest & Parks Administrator to pursue the purchase, schedule a walkthrough of the property and have an appraisal done.
13. **Cross Country Ski Trail Parking Lot**  
Monty Brink stated he received request from the Cross Country Ski Trail to expand the parking lot. Discussion held on locations of existing parking lots in the Machickanee and funding.
14. **Weso Dam Replacement**  
Monty Brink reported that bids for the Weso Dam replacement came in much higher than anticipated. The engineer's recommendation is to rebid and have the County do some of the work & material purchasing. Monty Brink met with the County Administrator to discuss the project which needs to be completed by December 2023. Discussion held on the bids and funding. Motion by Cole, seconded by Pott to deny the bids opened on February and rebid the Weso Dam Replacement project. Motion voted on and carried.
15. **Wolf Marsh**  
Monty Brink gave a brief history on the failing structure on Wolf Marsh. The structure was replaced in 2004 using a donation from Wings Over Wisconsin and grant funds. Discussion held on the useful life of the structure, replacement or removal and the town road. Grant funds were used to replace the structure, if the useful life has not expired, a portion of those funds would have to be returned. The structure does not seem to be doing what it was installed to do. The Committee recommends the Forest & Parks Administrator continue to investigate the useful life and get town input.
16. **Machickanee Shooting Range Carryover**  
Monty Brink explained that the cost of the trailer purchased in 2021 was much more than anticipated and he wasn't able to purchase the lawn mower like expected. Would like permission to use Machickanee Shooting Range funds to purchase a lawn mower. Discussion held. Moved by Stranz, seconded by Cole to authorize the use of Machickanee Shooting Range funds to purchase a lawnmower. Motion voted on and carried.
17. **Emergency Fire Wardens**  
Monty Brink presented the 2022 DNR list of Emergency Fire Wardens. Moved by Pott, seconded by Buhrandt to take the list of Emergency Fire Wardens to County Board. Motion voted on and carried.
18. **Forest & Parks Administrator Report**  
The F&P Administrator's report was discussed.
  - Jacob Robenhorst will begin part time employment as the Forest Technician starting March 3, 2022 until he graduates in May.
  - Attended the WCFA Legislative meeting in Merrill on February 28, 2022.
  - The WCFA Summer Tour is June 22-24, 2022 in Ladysmith.
  - SFI Timber audit will be this August 2022.
  - Timber sales aren't slowing down. There are 7 active sales.
  - CDL requirements have changed and training is now required. Discussion held.
19. **Informational Items Only**  
None.
20. **Meeting Dates**  
The Committee selected April 5, 2022 for the next meeting date.
21. **Adjournment**  
Chair Sekela adjourned the meeting at 11:21 AM.