

MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2019
FOREST, PARKS & RECREATION/LAND INFORMATION SYSTEMS SUBCOMMITTEE OF
OCONTO COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISORS
Draft minutes until Committee approved

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

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Monty Brink, Forest Parks & Recreation Administrator; Brian Gross, County Surveyor; Michelle Seefeldt, Clerk Typist; Deputy James Plotkin; Deputy Danny Woodke; Chief Deputy Darren Laskowski; Sheriff Todd Skarban; Investigator Troy Sherman; Cole Reuter; Dennis Heise; and Sylvia Pott

1. Approval of Agenda

- a. Change of Sequence – Moved by Stranz, seconded by Pott to move item #17 before #15. Motion voted on and carried.
- b. Removal of Items - None

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

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Moved by Buhandt, seconded by Pott to approve the minutes of May 8, 2019. Motion voted on and carried.

3. Approval of Department Bills for the Month of May

Monty Brink presented the Forest & Parks bills for committee approval. Brian Gross presented the Land Information System bills for committee approval. Moved by Cole, seconded by Buhandt to approve the May Forest & Parks and Land Information System bills. Motion voted on and carried.

4. Communications

None

5. Open & Award Timber Bids for Timber Sale

Timber Bids were opened and announced by Chairman Sekela. No bids were received on tract #6-19 and 12-19. The bid received on 18-19 did not meet the minimum bid requirement. Bidder stated that the expense to cross private property prevented them from meeting the minimum bid requirement. Discussion held. Moved by Stranz, seconded by Cole to award the timber sale contracts to the highest bidder and to have the Forest & Parks Administrator make sure all necessary paperwork is in order. Motion voted on and carried.

6. Recreational Officer Report

Sheriff Skarban reported that a grant will fund additional park patrol on Friday and Saturday from 5:00 PM to 1:00 AM. Dennis Heise mentioned that the majority of the complaints come from speeding through the campground, which are town roads. Discussion held on installing a speed trailer. The Department was active in several search and rescue efforts in May. Investigator Troy Sherman and Recreational Officer Danny Woodke updated the committee on equipment, trail use and boating activities. Discussion held.

7. LIS Administrator Report

Brian Gross reported on the department's activities. The LiDAR data collection has been completed and LTE Mariah Vorpahl has returned to assist with surveying and mapping projects this summer.

8. WDNR Liaison Report

Steve Kaufman reported that fire season is almost over. The season was almost non-existent due to the wet spring. Timber sales were opened on Monday, and Frank's Logging is interested in starting a couple of the sales they were awarded. Will be assisting Langlade County with time standards and completed prescriptions on GNA. Discussion held.

9. Land Reserved

Monty Brink asked for clarification regarding Land Reserved on County Road W and where questions and inquiries should be directed. Discussion held. Those questions and inquiries should be directed to the Finance Department.

10. Outback Riders

Monty Brink stated that he has met with Corp Counsel regarding the Special Use Permit and liability requirement. The Outback Riders would like the liability statement removed from the permit. Corp Counsel approved the removal of the statement as long as all volunteers fill out and sign the emergency contract release form. Discussion held.

11. X Country Ski Trails – Machickanee & YMCA

Monty Brink handed out copies of agreements with the Machickanee Cross Country Ski Club and Green Bay YMCA. Both Agreements have expired, but the clubs still act under them. Monty Brink stated he is

seeking direction on how to handle the expired agreements. Discussion held on liability concerns, agreement terms and language. Discussion held on the Lakewood Ski Trail. Monty Brink to research that agreement. The Committee directed the Forest & Parks administrator to work with Corporation Counsel on the two agreements, making them consistent with the current agreement format. All agreements will be for a 2 year period.

12. Chute Pond Caretaker Contract

Monty Brink explained to the Committee that the Chute Pond Caretaker Contract with Dennis Heise will expire on November 30, 2019. Mr. Heise has expressed a desire to continue being the caretaker at Chute Pond Campground. Discussion held on re-bidding or extending the current contract at the same rate. Moved by Stranz, seconded by Pott to direct the Forest & Parks Administrator to discuss extending the Chute Pond Caretaker Contract at the current rate with Corporation Counsel. If the contract cannot be extended, it will be re-bid to be opened at the next committee meeting. Motion voted on and carried.

13. 15-year Forest Plan Public input process

Monty Brink informed the Committee that the Oconto County Forest 15-Year Plan expires December 31, 2020. The DNR has developed a new template to be followed and is in the final review stage. Discussion held on plan development, public comments and procedures to approve the plan by December 31, 2020.

14. 5-year Outdoor Rec Plan

Monty Brink explained that the Oconto County 5-year Outdoor Recreation Plan expired. Proposing to write a new plan at the same time as the Oconto County Forest 15-year Plan. Discussion held.

17. Nicolet State Trail Plan

Monty Brink questioned if any Committee member has a copy of the Nicolet State Trail Plan. Discussion held. Monty to check with the DNR for a copy. If it can't be found, a new plan will be written.

15. Vandehei Property status update

Monty Brink updated the Committee on the funding sources for the purchase of the Vandehei property. We could receive \$30,000 total from the different chapters of Trout Unlimited, which would leave \$25,000 balance to fund. Discussion held. He should have a final figure by the August budget meeting.

16. Well Abandonment Access by WDNR on NST near Lakewood

Monty Brink informed the Committee that the DNR is abandoning several monitoring wells along the Nicolet State Trail in Lakewood. Discussion held.

18. Pensaukee River No Wake Buoys

Monty Brink reported that Mike Skaggs, new Chairman of the Town of Pensaukee, has contacted him regarding the No Wake Buoys for the Pensaukee River. He was not aware that the buoys were owned by the Town and needed to be replaced. Monty explained that the Town owns them but the County assists in putting them in. Grants available to replace but they need to be purchased now. Discussion held on the cost to replace them.

19. Pomeroy Timber Sales 252-13 & 270-14

Monty Brink informed the Committee that Pomeroy Forest Products is not interested in extending contract 252-13 with the 5% increase in stumpage rate. He will keep sale 270-14. Discussion held. Moved by Stranz, seconded by Cole to take the Letter of Credit on sale 252-13 and close out the sale. Motion voted on and carried.

20. Forest & Parks Administrator Report

Monty Brink handed out and commented on the Timber Sale Financial Statement and revenue reports. Monty attended the State Trails co-op meeting. Will be contacting Legend's in Suring to remove signage placed along the NST right-of-way. Discussion held on the ATV trail conditions. Discussion held on the 2020 summer tour. The permit to spray the North Bay Shore harbor has been approved. Monty will get in touch with Wisconsin Land & Pond to update them on plant growth and schedule spraying. The parking lots at Chute Pond, North Bay Shore, Pensaukee and Machickanee boat landings will be striped. Request for quotes will be taken until August 6, 2019. Discussion held on the fish cleaning station at North Bay Shore, the May 6, 2019 timber sale and County Road BB project.

21. Informational Items Only

None

22. Set Meeting Dates

Meeting Date - Committee selected August 7, 2019 as the next meeting date and August 20, 2019 as the budget meeting date.

23. Adjournment

Moved by Cole, seconded by Pott to adjourn. Motion voted on and carried. Adjourned at 11:31 AM.