

MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020
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, Al Stranz, Judith Buhandt, Tim Cole and Bob Pott

OTHERS PRESENT: Monty Brink, Forest, Parks & Recreation Administrator; Brian Gross, County Surveyor; Michelle Seefeldt, Administrative Assistant; Kevin Dolata, GIS Coordinator; Paul Bednarik, County Board Supervisor; Dave Parmentier, County Board Supervisor; Miles Winkler, DNR, Skip Maletzke, Town of Mountain Chair, Brenda Carey-Mielke, Town of Mountain Supervisor, Kristofer Olson, Omni, Earl Macha, Dick Lamberg, Terry Warner, David Fickenscher, Chris Olson, James Brill, and Deanna Tachick

1. Approval of Agenda

a. Change of Sequence – Moved by Stranz, seconded by Pott to move item #12 – Kelly Lake Dam Purchase before #4 – Communications. Motion Voted on and carried.

b. Removal of Items

Moved by Cole, seconded by Stranz 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 August 4, 2020. Motion voted on and carried.

3. Approval of Department Bills for the Month of August

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

12. Kelly Lake Dam Purchase

Monty Brink read a letter from the Kelly Lake Sanitary District, requesting the County purchase the land on both sides of the Kelly Lake overflow water outlet. Discussion held on the sanitary district and property owners' concerns, water levels, trespassing and enforcement. The Committee directed the Forest & Parks Administrator to formally address the Sanitary District's letter and to notify the Sheriff's Department of the trespass issue and need for extra enforcement. The Committee has no desire to purchase the Kelly Lake overflow water outlet and feels the sanitary district, the Town of Spruce and Kelly Lake Association should pursue an easement or ownership rights.

4. Communications

- Brenda Carey-Mielke, Town of Mountain Supervisor read a letter from adjacent property owners of the Kassander property. The letter addressed trespass issues due to an increase of activity to the area. The Town of Mountain is not in favor of the parking lot. Discussion held on the parking lot, trail and signage.
- Received a complaint about the Chute Pond Campground bathrooms – Due to the increase in activity at the campground/park the caretaker has hired a cleaning service.
- E-mail complaint on the long grass at seasonal campground.
- E-mail from John Jacobs – Summary on Red Shoulder Hawk reproduction in Oconto County.
- Adjacent property owner letter of Robert Brown. Wishes to rezone his property in the Town of Brazeau.
- Inland Lakes P&R District #1 – Annual Meeting August 22, 2020. Joanne Jones, the County Appointee is stepping off the Board. She corresponded with the Forest & Parks Administrator regularly on Reservoir Dam elevations.

5. Omni Foot Bridge Presentation

Kristofer Olson, engineer with Omni, gave a presentation on the Chute Pond Foot Bridge summarizing the work done, cost estimate and bridge option. Discussion held. The Committee recommends Omni draft up plans on a steel truss bridge with a cover kit option.

6. Recreational Officer Report

No report.

7. LIS Administrator Report

Brian Gross asked if there were questions on the administrative report sent. Discussion held.

8. WDNR Liaison Report

WDNR Liaison report was reviewed. Discussion held on Emerald Ash Borer.

9. DNR Fire Breaks

Monty Brink presented Steve Kaufman's recommendation on firebreaks along Hwy 64, from Robenhorst Ln. to Pipeline Rd, to re

duce the risk of wildfires spreading into the blowdown areas. Moved by Pott, seconded by Stranz to authorize Steve Kaufman to construct firebreaks along Hwy 64, from Robenhorst Ln to Pipeline Rd., to reduce the risk of wildfires spreading into the blowdown areas. Motion voted on and carried.

10. WCFA Fall Meeting

The WCFA Fall meeting is September 23, 2020 to September 24, 2020. Discussion held. Moved by Stranz, seconded by Cole to authorize Monty Brink and one additional employee attend the WCFA Fall meeting. Motion voted on and carried.

11. Weso Dam Repairs

Monty Brink informed the Committee that the Finance Department would like to abandon Weso Dam. Replacement cost of the dam is \$57,515 and abandonment cost is \$53,815. There is grant funding for replacement/repairs and abandonment. Discussion held on the abandonment process and the beaver issues if the dam is removed. Discussion held on options and removal vs replacement. The Committee may choose to replace the dam if comments and concerns arise from the public comment process of the abandonment. Moved by Cole, seconded by Pott to authorize the Forest & Parks Administrator to start the abandonment process of Weso Dam and to apply for the dam removal grant. Motion voted on and carried.

13. Grange Camping Special Use

Monty Brink received a request from the Seventh Day Adventist youth group to camp at Grange Park. They are requesting to bring in 8 members, ages 10-16, to camp at Grange Park from September 11, 2020 to September 13, 2020. Discussion held. Moved by Stranz, seconded by Cole to approve the special use camping permit for Grange Park for a fee of \$15. Motion voted on and carried.

14. Vandehei County Forest Entry Application

Monty Brink stated the Vandehei property can be enrolled into two different programs. Discussion held on how to enroll the property. Moved by Pott, seconded by Buhrandt to take a resolution to County Board to enroll parcel 010-191901431B into the County Forest Special Use Designation Program and parcel 010-191902342B into County Forest Regular Lands Program. Motion voted on and carried.

15. 2021 Budgets

Kevin Dolata presented the 2020 Land Records Budget. Moved by Cole, seconded by Stranz to accept the Land Records budget as presented. Motion voted on and carried. Brian Gross presented the 2021 Land Information Systems budget. Moved by Cole, seconded by Pott to accept the Land Information Systems budget as presented. Motion voted on and carried. Monty Brink presented the 2021 Forest & Parks budget. He stated that he received notification that insurance will cover the Chute Pond Foot Bridge for \$105,100. Discussion held. Moved by Stranz, seconded by Cole to accept the Forest & Parks budget with the discussed changes. Motion voted on and carried.

16. 15 Year Forestry Comprehensive Plan

Monty Brink stated the next step in the plan process is the public hearing. The plan will be sent out and placed on the website for review. The 30-day public comment will go from September 4, 2020 to October 4, 2020. Comments will be addressed at the October 6, 2020 meeting. Moved by Stranz, seconded by Pott to enter the 15 Year Plan into the 30 day public comment process. Motion voted on and carried.

17. Employee Evaluation

Monty Brink presented Chris Firgens 1 year evaluation to the Committee. Moved by Stranz, seconded by cole to approve Chris Firgen's 1 year evaluation. Motion voted on and carried.

18. Forest & Parks Administrators Report

Monty Brink asked if there were questions on the administrative report sent. Discussion held on report and the following items:

- The Timber Financial Statement. Discussion held on contract 2021 extensions.
- Machickanee Shooting Range slide gate is working well. Several times gate closed at 2:30 pm on Sunday and people are still behind the gate. Discussion held on the enforcement, hours and recreational officer hours.
- Insurance paid to install the swing set at Chute Pond
- Accident at Chute Pond where someone went through the window of the field house. The ambulance was called.
- Placed "Boat Trailer Parking Only" signs at Pensaukee boat landing.
- The Eagle life jacket projects are complete for Chute Pond and North Bay Shore
- Patzer Park lease agreement with the DNR expired in 2015. Discussion held.

19. Informational Items Only

None

20. Meeting Dates

The Committee selected October 6, 2020 for the next meeting date.

21. Adjournment

Moved by Cole, seconded by Pott to adjourn at 10:17 AM.