

Members present: Rick Seefeldt (chair), Tom Rosenberg (vice-chair), Jean Maszk
Staff present: Tom Lovlien - Forest Administrator, Jamie Polley-Director, Joe Tucker-County Forester,
Jeff Sorenson-DNR Liaison

1. Call Meeting to Order – The meeting was called to order by Chair Seefeldt at 1:00pm, Rm. 5, 212 River Dr., Wausau. Official notice and the agenda for the meeting was posted publicly in accordance with State statutes.
2. Public Comment – none brought forward.
3. Approve Minutes – **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Maszk to approve the minutes from the August 1, 2023 regular Forestry/Recreation Committee meeting. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
4. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution
 - A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee
 1. Review and Consider Approving Fall Timber Sale Package – The fall timber sale package had been distributed to Committee for review. The county forest sales offer 257 acres of timber on three tracts with an estimated volume of 19,140 tons and 36.0 thousand board feet. Tucker discussed all the sales. The sales will be advertised and the bid opening is October 2, 2023. Questions were answered. **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Maszk to approve and advertise the fall 2023 timber sale package. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
 2. County Conservation Aids 2023-2025 Project Approval – Lovlien explained that this grant matches fifty percent of State funds with fifty percent of County levy for fish, game, and habitat related projects. His recommendation is to use the funds to help purchase red pine trees to plant next spring at Nine Mile County Forest Unit. Questions were answered. **Motion** / second by Maszk / Rosenberg to approve the 2023-2025 County Conservation Aids project to plant red pine in the Nine Mile County Forest Unit. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
 3. County Forests Citizens Advisory Subcommittee Appointment – Lovlien explained that the forest industry representative position has a recent vacancy. He contacted a few people and put out a press release and received one application. **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Maszk to approve Taylor Dorsey to the County Forest Citizens Advisory Subcommittee as the Forest Industry Representative. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
 - B. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward to the Environmental Resource Committee for its Consideration – None
5. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee – None
6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports
 - A. Department of Natural Resources Liaison Report – Sorenson has completed 151 of standard hours of time on the County forests. He discussed his work assisting Tucker on the timber sales. He discussed a possible disease find (HRD) that affects pine in the Burma Forest Unit and another oak wilt finding at Nine Mile Forest Unit. There will be an upcoming DNR/Marathon County partnership meeting. Questions were answered.
 - B. Preliminary Results of the County Forest Certification Audit – Lovlien explained that Marathon County is certified under the Sustainable Forest Initiative (SFI) and a subset of counties are audited every year. No Corrective Action Requests (CARS) were found in the counties that are certified SFI and FSC and one Opportunity for Improvement (OFI) was found in counties certified (SFI) and also one under (SFC). Marathon County is due for a field audit in 2025.
 - C. Wisconsin County Forests Association Annual Meeting – September 26-28, 2023 – The annual meeting is being held in Hayward and Friday is the deadline to register.

D. Discuss January 2024 Meeting Date and Time – The January meeting is scheduled for January 2nd which is a holiday for staff. This meeting will most likely be held on the date that the Environmental Resources Committee schedules their meeting.

7. Next Meeting Date, Time, Location: Tuesday, October 3, 2023, 1:00 pm, Rm. 5 & Webex, 212 River Dr., Wausau WI 54403

A. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence – none brought forward

B. Future Agenda Items: 2024 Budget Update, Consider Timber Bids and Award Contracts, DNR Partnership Meeting Discussion, 2023 Ragnar Trail Wisconsin Update, DNR Liaison Report, Agreement with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on the Bat Habitat Conservation Plan.

8. Adjourn – **Motion** / second by Maszk / Rosenberg to adjourn the meeting at 1:35 p.m. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.