

Members present: Jean Maszk, Rick Seefeldt (chair), Tom Rosenberg (vice-chair)  
Staff present: Tom Lovlien - Forest Administrator

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 Maszk / Rosenberg to approve the minutes from the April 2, 2024 regular Forestry/Recreation Committee meeting. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
4. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination
  - A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee - None
5. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution
  - A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee
    1. Review Timber Bids and Award Contracts – Lovlien reported that thirty-one bids were received on five tracts from fourteen different bidders. On tract 1-24 Welter Forest Products did not include a ten percent bid bond. **Motion** / second by Maszk / Rosenberg to reject Welter Forest Products bid on tract 1-24 for not following the bid specifications. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0. On tract 1-24 Smola Enterprises and Midwest Hardwood did not bid on one or more species. **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Maszk to reject Smola Enterprises bid and Midwest Hardwoods bid on tract 1-24 for not following the bid specifications Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0. On tract 4-24 Al Mann Logging did not bid on one or more species. **Motion** / second by Maszk / Rosenberg to reject Al Mann Logging bid on tract 4-24 for not following the bid specifications. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0. On tract 5-24 Smola Enterprises did not bid on one or more species. **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Maszk to reject Smola Enterprises bid on tract 5-24 for not following the bid specifications. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0. The County has worked with the high bidders except for one and Lovlien has contacted their references and discussed the sale with them. **Motion** / second by Maszk / Rosenberg to award the spring timber sale tracts 1-24, 2-24 3-24, 4-24 and 5-24 to the high bidders. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
    2. Timber Sale Closeout – Futurewood Contract #670-18 – A closeout summary was previously provided. Lovlien reported that the estimated number of tons was 3,125.00 and 5,176.66 tons were cut. Total revenue for this sale was \$96,523.44. Lovlien’s recommendation is to close out Contract #670-18 and return their original surety bond. **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Maszk to close out Contract #670-18 and return their original surety bond. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
    3. Consider Timber Sale Extension Requests – Lovlien explained that this last winter had been short effectively ending January 31 and the DNR has decided to give one free year extension on all of the contracts. Most other Counties are also doing the same. He said Schreiner Forestry Contract #703-21 completed 30% and Briarton Logging Contract #704-21 completed 0% of their winter only sales and are requesting a first extension. Briarton Logging Contract #694-20 completed 40% of their winter only sale and requesting a second extension. **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Rosenberg to grant a one year extension with a zero percent increase in stumpage for Schreiner Forestry and Briarton Logging contracts due to the poor logging conditions during the 23-24 winter. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
    4. Establish Remaining 2024 Committee Meeting Dates/Times – Members decided to keep the remaining 2024 committee meeting dates and time the same as the Tuesday before the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at 1:00pm. If needed in the future, new dates and times can be discussed.

B. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward to the Environmental Resource Committee for its Consideration - None

6. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee – None

7. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

A. Department of Natural Resources Liaison Report – The DNR completed approximately 580 hours of 660 time standard hours for 2023/2024. Sorenson and Hunt have helped mark timber sales and with the Red Pine planting at Nine Mile. They will start some recon and hope to do some habitat classification typing with the County Forester in June.

B. Wisconsin County Forests Association Summer Tour – Lincoln County June 19-20, 2024 – Lovlien mentioned some of the preliminary planned activities and welcomed members to attend.

C. Spring Timber Bid Summary – tabled

D. Spring Recreational Trail Opening Dates – Lovlien noted that the Burma Forest ATV/UTV trails, Nine Mile County Forest mountain bike and horse trails; Kronenwetter and Leather Camp County Forest horse trails; and Big Eau Pleine County Park mountain bike and horse trails opened for the season on Friday April 26th.

E. Nine Mile Tree Planting Update – Lovlien reported that 57,000 red pine trees had been planted at Nine Mile by a contracted planting crew. He mentioned there had been eleven timber sales on that property since 1970. He discussed the total revenues of those sales which comes out to about \$7,500 an acre. The cost to reforest the land was about \$575.00/acre with a net gain of \$6,925 an acre is a great return. The Committee directed Lovlien to provide a summary of the revenues and costs to reforest to be shared with the County Board when all information is available.

F. Marathon County Deer Advisory Council (CDAC) Meeting Recommendations – CDAC voted to set the antlerless quota at 6000. They are offering 2500 private land and 300 public land bonus permits for purchase. The Council is attempting to maintain the deer population.

8. Next Meeting Date, Time, Location: Tuesday, June 4, 2024, 1:00 pm, Room. 5 & Webex, 212 River Dr., Wausau WI 54403

A. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence – A meeting will not be held on June 4, 2024 unless needed.

B. Future Agenda Items: None

9. Adjourn – **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Maszk to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.