

Members present: Arnold Schlei (c), Rick Seefeldt, James Bove

Also present: Tom Lovlien-Forest Administrator, Jamie Polley-Director, Joe Tucker-County Forester

Call meeting to order – Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman Seefeldt at 12:30pm, Rm 3, 212 River Dr., Wausau.

Public Comment Period – Not to Exceed 15 Minutes – none brought forward

Approve Minutes – **Motion** / second by Bove / Seefeldt to approve the minutes from the March 5, 2019 regular Forestry/Recreation Committee meeting. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent. **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Bove to approve the minutes from the March 5, 2019 joint Forestry/Recreation Committee and Park Commission meeting. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

A. Update on the Potential Purchase of the CERES and Kerswill Properties for County Forest - Lovlien said he has received a title commitment on both properties and doesn't see any impediments to County ownership. The appraisals are complete and at the DNR for their review. Once they are certified he can begin negotiations with the two land owners. If all of the necessary committees approve it, the land could come into County ownership this fall. Questions were answered.

B. Appointment of Preston Cole as Secretary of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources – Lovlien said the Wisconsin County Forests Association through the Board of Directors wrote a letter in support of his appointment. His confirmation should take place in the next couple of weeks.

C. 2019 – 2021 Governors State Budget Proposals Affecting Forestry Programs – Lovlien said there are three areas of the budget that bear watching regarding forestry programs. Lovlien discussed the three areas including the Wisconsin Forestry Practices Study, the Stewardship Reauthorization, and County Forest Grants.

Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee

1. Review and Consider Approving the Spring 2019 Timber Sale Package –The spring timber sale package had been distributed to Committee for review. The sale offers 397 acres of timber on six tracts with an estimated volume of 18,280 tons and 322.0 thousand board feet. Joe Tucker, County Forester discussed all the sales. The sales will be advertised and the bid opening is May 6th. **Motion** / second by Schlei / Bove to approve and advertise the spring 2019 timber sale package.

2. Timber Sale Closeouts

a. Central Wisconsin Lumber-Contract #630-14 – A closeout summary was previously provided. Lovlien reported that the estimated number of tons was 2930 and 3370.93 tons were cut. Total revenue for this sale was \$112,305.79. Lovlien's recommendation is to close out Contract #630-14 and return their cash bond. **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Schlei to close out Central Wisconsin Lumber – Contract #630-14 and return their cash bond. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

b. Jacobs Enterprises-Contract #643-15 – A closeout summary was previously provided. Lovlien reported that the estimated number of tons was 5375 and 8772.28 tons were cut. Total revenue for this sale was \$73,418.06. Lovlien's recommendation is to close out Jacobs Enterprises - Contract #643-15 and return their cash bond and the balance in their account. **Motion** / second by Schlei / Bove to close out Jacobs Enterprises – Contract #643-15 and return their cash bond and the balance in their account. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

c. Central Wisconsin Lumber-Contract #647-16 – A closeout summary was previously provided. Lovlien reported that the estimated number of tons was 2230 and 2316.85 tons were cut. Total revenue for this sale was \$110,092.99. Lovlien's recommendation is to close out Central Wisconsin Lumber-Contract #647-16 and return their cash bond. **Motion** / second by Bove / Schlei to close out Central Wisconsin Lumber – Contract #647-16 and return their cash bond. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee

A. Proposed Amendments to the Marathon County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 16, County Forests – Lovlien explained that language has been cleaned up in the ordinance that gives the Department more authority in situations where someone does something contrary to posted notice. Also, ground and waterfowl blind regulations will be added to match the State regulations because the County is having issues with people leaving blinds up or boats on County forest land year round. **Motion** / second by Schlei / Seefeldt to forward the proposed amendments to ERC to consider. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

Next Meeting Date & Time, Location – May 7, 2019 at 12:30pm, 212 River Dr., Rm. 3

A. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence – Lovlien mentioned that the County Forester, Joe Tucker is helping the Solid Waste Department with an area where they needed trees cleared.

B. Future Agenda Items – Consider Timber Bids and Award Contracts, Spring Timber Sale Bid Summary, Timber Sale Closeouts, Fall Tour

Adjourn – **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Bove to adjourn at 1:15 pm. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.