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LANGLADE COUNTY



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MEETING MINUTES

Committee: Forestry and Recreation Committee
Date: July 3, 2024
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Highway Department Conference Room

The following discussion was held by the Committee at the meeting detailed above:

1. Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM
2. Silence cell phones
3. Conduct Roll Call

FORESTRY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Name	Role	Status
Steve Maier	Chair	Present
John Medo	Vice-Chair	Present
Roger Buck	Member	Present
Rick Bina	Member	Present
Reinhardt Balcerzak	Member	Present

Non-Committee Members Present

Name	Interest	Name	Interest
Al Murray	Forestry, Parks and Rec. Admin.	Doug Curler	County Board Supervisor
Cody Brauner	Asst. Forest Administrator	Wes Phillips	DNR
Rick Dedyne	Asst. Forest Administrator	Jason Hilger	County Administrator
Keri Beck	Economic Development	Brad Mihalko	Logger
Joe Jopek	Ice Age Trail Alliance	Judy Nagel	County Clerk/Rec. Secretary

4. The Committee recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. **Approve previous meeting minutes of June 5, 2024, and June 12, 2024:** Motion by Balcerzak, second by Buck to approve the June 5, 2024, and the June 12, 2024 meeting minutes. All ayes, motion carried.
6. **Public requests for items to be added to future meeting agendas:** No public comments.
7. **Partner Reports (DNR, EDC, Trail Clubs, Others):** Keri Beck, Economic Development, stated they are working on marketing go-to spots and ordering more, Langlade County is in the Up-North Action Magazine, continuing to maintain the trail reports. Beck provided a handout to the Committee regarding the 2023 Tourism Impact Numbers. Discussion held. Wes Phillips, WI DNR, stated the next allotment of work hours for the County has come in, working on 15 dozer projects, fully staffed, and the partnership meeting will be in July to define the work plan for the next 12 months. Joe Jopek, Ice Age Alliance, stated hikers are using the trail and there is development of new trails coming, due to the work of the AmeriCorp workers. No other Partner Reports.
8. **Forest Administrator's Report – Discussion to be carried through Agenda:** Handout provided and followed throughout the meeting. Murray noted that the Jack Lake House will go live on the reservation site, Monday, July 8, 2024.
9. **Discussion with Contractor on Bond for Timber Sale 1526-18:** Brad Mihalko, logger for Timber Sale 1526-18, discussed the sale, a 2018 timber sale, that was affected by the July 2019 blowdown, which decreased the value of the sale. Discussion held. Motion by Medo, second by Balcerzak to allow a one-time exception

for any timber sale blowdowns from the 2019 storm and that Langlade County returns the bond to the loggers in good standing. All ayes, motion carried.

- 10. Forestry Road Policy:** Cody Brauner, Assistant Forest Administrator, discussed the estimated 1,115 miles of forest roads. Brauner discussed the conditions, surfaces, purposes of the forest roads, uses and cost of maintenance, and decisions to invest and maintain certain forest roads. Brauner discussed the road classification system, Class 1, 43 miles, are the best roads; Class 2, 35 miles, road gravel roads; Class 3, 170 miles, variability with native materials; Class 4 and Class 6, 580 miles, are similar, less traveled, not year around use; Class 5 are winter only roads. Brauner stated the policy will help prioritize the maintenance and necessity of the forest roads. Motion by Buck, second by Balcerzak to approve the 2024 Forest Road Policy as presented and begin changes as budget and time allows. All ayes, motion carried.
- 11. Mosquito Spraying Complaints:** Forest Administrator Murray discussed the recent mosquito spraying complaints from reservation holders at Jack Lake. Discussion was held as to changing the chemical applications. The reservation holders were given a refund. No action was taken.
- 12. 2025 Capital Projects:** Forest Administrator Murray discussed the proposed 2025 Capital Projects listed below. No cost estimates were provided, looking to the Committee for feedback. No action was taken.
 - Electrification of Perch Lake Campground**
 - Hand Pump Wells (2)- Perch Lake**
 - Gartzke Bridge- 50% Grant Match**
 - Jack Lake Pavement Repair/Road Widening**
 - Jack Lake Shower Building- Heating Repairs**
 - Recreation Area Signs- Parrish Highlands (2), Augustyn Springs**
 - Recreation Area Directional Road Signage - County and Town Roads**
- 13. 2025 Capital Equipment:** Forest Administrator Murray discussed the suggested 2025 Capital Equipment list. No action was taken.
 - Forestry 4-wheeler**
 - Tilt Bucket Attachment for Skidsteer**
 - Harley Rake Attachment for Skidsteer**
 - Forestry-side-by-side trailer**
 - Truck Replacement- Lease**
 - Fuel Tank and Pump**
- 14. Spring Timber Sale Bid Results:** Forest Administrator Murray provided a summary of the Spring Timber Sale, 1571 acres sold. No action was taken.
- 15. Wolf River State Trail:** Forest Administrator Murray summarized the June 27, 2024 meeting with the DNR, discussing potential other options. Discussion held. No action was taken.
- 16. Highway 64 Corridor ATV/UTV Trail:** Forest Administrator Murray discussed the grant request to the 2023-2024 ORV Council for the Highway 64 Corridor ATV/UTV Trail. ORV Council approved \$150,000, as the project to add the rec wing to the Highway 64 DOT Bridge is over \$800,000. ORV Council will consider the remaining request in August as that is when their new budget becomes available.
- 17. CTY WW to CTY ATV/UTV Trail Connector Grand Opening:** Forest Administrator Murray discussed the request for a grand opening for the County WW to County ATV/UTV Trail Connector. No action was taken.
- 18. Blessed Fig Non-Traditional Forest Product Permit:** Forest Administrator Murray discussed the initial meeting with Blessed Fig, developing sustainable harvesting practices and standards for future permitting on County Forests. No action was taken.
- 19. Jack Lake Lodge Rental Update:** Forest Administrator Murray stated Jack Lake Lodge will be available for reservations on July 8, 2024. No action taken
- 20. New Office Assistant Update:** Forest Administrator Murray discussed the offer extended to the Office Assistant.

- 21. County Administrator Update and Report on Activities/Grants:** County Administrator Murray discussed the Forestry, Parks, and Rec Departments. Hilger also discussed the Jack Lake Lodge tour, giving thanks to Murray and his staff. Hilger also suggested giving thought to permanent campsites.
- 22. Next Meeting Date:** August 6, 2024, at 3:00 PM in the Highway Conference Room.
- 23. Adjourn the Meeting:** Motion by Buck, second by Medo to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m. All ayes, motion carried.

Minutes transcribed and submitted by:
Judy Nagel, County Clerk/Recording Secretary.