

**FOREST ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**  
**October 3, 2024**

**Langlade County Board: Forestry & Recreation Committee**

**DATE:** October 3, 2024

**TIME:** 3:30 p.m.

**PLACE:** Highway Department Conference Room

1. Call the meeting to order
2. Please silence all cell phones
3. Conduct Roll Call
4. Recite the Pledge of Allegiance
5. Approve previous meeting minutes of August 28, 2024
6. **Forest Administrator's Report** –Report to be carried through Agenda
7. **Wisconsin DNR**
  - a. **Dam divestment (removal) plan**- Wisconsin DNR is interested in turning ownership of dams built and maintained on Langlade County lands back to Langlade County, the other option is that the DNR will incrementally remove dams as they deteriorate Due to the cost of dam maintenance and liability of ownership the Forest Administrator recommends **Committee action to refuse acceptance of dam ownership and request the Wisconsin DNR deal with dam repairs and removals as their budget allows.**
  - b. **Wildlife Discussion**- Carissia Knab, DNR wildlife biologist, will be present for any questions related to Chronic Wasting Disease or anything related to wildlife. **No Committee Action Required.**
  - c. **Fisheries Discussion**- Taylor Curran, DNR Fisheries Staff, will be present to discuss spring pond dredging as requested by Committee members. Taylor will also discuss the news of improvement of trout fisheries classifications in Langlade County. Taylor can also answer many other questions related to DNR fisheries programs. **No Committee Action Required.**
  - d. **Forestry Report**- Wes Phillips will be present for the monthly Forestry partnership report. **No Committee Action Required.**
8. **Perch Lake Seasonal Sites**- As requested by Committee- #8A- Seasonal Campsite Agreement and #8B Campground Map are in the packet. The campsite agreement was created utilizing multiple examples from other campgrounds. It seems that the campsite agreement would be the best way to avoid issues like site appearing run down and also the liability for use. The Forest Administrator has major concerns with the enforcement of seasonal agreements, liability for maintenance of grounds while the sites are occupied with licensee owned equipment and the current lack of electric and sewer in comparison to other seasonal campgrounds. If the Committee prefers to move forward with seasonal sites, the forest administrator would recommend Committee review of the seasonal campsite agreement followed by legal review. The Committee would also need to determine if electrical service should be designed for independent meters and pedestals for sites as needed in the draft campsite agreement. If Committee takes actions to create seasonal sites at Perch Lake the Forest Administrator would recommend sites #6, #7, #8, #9, #10, #16 and #17 to be modified in the electrification plan to have independent meters to allow for seasonal users to be charged for electrical use. **Committee Action as determined appropriate by Committee following discussion.**
9. **R.S. Lyle Memorial Pavilion**- Roof Repair- Bids for roof repair are done on October 8<sup>th</sup>. **No Committee Action Required.**
10. **Bow and Gun Range Project**- Grant for range improvements has been approved. Packet items #10 A and #10 B includes the grant agreement and cover letter. The department is working toward

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development of the project plan and the RFB for the project in the spring of 2025. Major issues will be closure of range during construction. **No Committee Action Required.**

11. **Gartzke Bridge Replacement Project**- 50% Grant for bridge replacement has been approved. DNR is in process of their due diligence on the grant. Department has had initial discussion with engineer on permitting and plans for the project. Project will move forward with hopes of bridge replacement after freeze up in fall/winter of 2025. Trail will need to be closed pending planned construction. **No Committee Action Required.**

12. **Veteran's Memorial Park Project**- Draft engineered plan drawings and engineered cost estimates are attached as packet item #11 A and #11 B. Grant expires July 1, 2025 and will be extended. Engineered plans will be submitted to DNR following approval of the plans by Committee. Forest Administrator recommends **Committee action to approve plan drawings to be stamped by the engineer and submitted to the Wisconsin DNR for the VMP grant to move forward.**

13. **Perch Lake Electrification Project**- Project still awaiting approval of 2025 budget. Draft contract has been developed and is in review which may allow part of this project to be funded with remaining ARPA funding. **No Committee Action Required.**

14. **Fairgrounds Restroom Project**- Contract with Heinzen Inc. has been signed. Construction on the foundation is expected to begin any day now with placement of restroom building scheduled in contract to be no later than December 1, 2024. **No Committee Action Required.**

15. **County Fair Report**- As requested by Committee, the Department requested a report from the Fair Board related to this year's fair. The Fair Board is still awaiting invoices and completing billing from a good number of vendors related to the fair. The Fair Board will be ready for a detailed report at an early December meeting? **No Committee Action Required.**

16. **Jack Lake Shower Building Heat Repair**- As requested by Committee, the Department followed up on the in-floor heat repair. When the building froze up there was an insurance claim which repaired the toilets and fixtures that resulted from the freeze. The in-floor heat was not repaired at that time as the insurance claim did not supply enough funding for that repair. Since the last discussion all 8 runs of the in-floor heat were pressure tested and all 8 runs have pressure leaks within the concrete. It is assumed that most of the concrete floor within the building would need to be torn up to repair the in-floor heat lines. No additional follow-up of thermal imaging cameras was completed as of this time. Replacement of heating structure to get the heat going still stands at the 2025 budget estimate of \$28,000 for baseboard and heat exchangers. **No Committee Action Required.**

17. **Fall Timber Sale Bid Opening**- Bid opening is scheduled for October 29<sup>th</sup>. #17 Fall Timber Advertisement Summary is in the packet. 9 Sales have been prepared encompassing 995 acres. Approximately 12,309 cords of pulpwood and 1,275,006 Board Feet of saw logs are to be bid. Minimum advertised value is approximately \$503,654 however bid value is expected to be approximately \$725,000. Two oak wilt salvage sales are part of the fall bid and replaced other green tree sales originally planned. **No Committee Action Required.**

18. **County Administrator- Update and Report on Activities/Grants**

19. **Any other discussion as approved by Chair**

20. **Next Meeting Date November 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> ?**

21. Adjourn Meeting