

**FOREST ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
NOVEMBER 10, 2025**

Langlade County Board: Forestry & Recreation Committee

DATE: November 10, 2025

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Multipurpose Building- Clover 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 October 7, 2025**
- 6. Correspondence for Committee-** Email Comment regarding shooting at the County S
- 7. Committee Agenda Process-** a written version of the agenda process is in the packet as #7. **If no Committee action is brought forward, Forest Administrator recommends public reading of the Agenda Process for the public to understand.**
- 8. Forest Administrator's Report** – This is the written report
- 9. County Forest Road and Trail- Open/Closed**

It is expected that representatives from many groups of people will be in attendance or send support or opposition for opening of additional roads/trails. Wisconsin DNR staff and possibly the Ruffed Grouse Society will be on hand to discuss the wildlife benefits and historical investments by those groups into areas closed and maintained for wildlife habitat and hunter experiences. Members of many of the silent sports groups may be on hand to discuss their concerns with current unauthorized use of nonmotorized areas and the work and investment that their groups have put into nonmotorized areas. Since the last meeting the Forest Administrator had a tour with Mr. Ludzow to look at individual areas that he would like to see open for traffic. His detailed questions are in the packet. Also in the packet are the forestry department responses to individual areas which include photo evidence of invasives and historic issues with high water tables in many of the areas. Some potential remains for of additional areas with Class three roads as identified in the Road Policy to be opened when adequate improvements are financially feasible. Also in the packet are minutes from the Forestry and Recreation Committee on April 13, 2017 approving closure of areas due to Garlic Mustard populations and May 10, 2018 approving closure of the areas where the Sled Dog club maintains trails.

Recommended Committee providing verbal confirmation as follows:

- A. The Power-Driven Mobility Permit Policy provides opportunities for ADA individuals to acquire access by motorized vehicles (ATV's, etc.) to hunting stand areas as approved under the permit. Contact the Forest Administrator for such a permit.**
- B. Less than 30% of all roads/trails on the County Forest are closed to motor vehicle traffic due to various investments in nonmotorized opportunities and investments in wildlife habitat. Other areas are closed to limit the movement of invasive species as approved by the Committee on April 13, 2017, 70% will remain open unless additional invasive species populations threaten additional areas.**

- C. **The Road Policy as approved by the Committee in 2025 provides for planning of road improvements of road classes when budgets allow. Road classes and reasons for closures can be obtained by contacting the Department.**
 - D. **Committee recommendation for concerned hunters to become active in the Wildlife and Fisheries Advisory Council. This group may be able to find resources for additional on-the-ground work and provide guidance to the Committee on policy changes that provide for wildlife and fisheries habitat improvements and improved hunter experiences.**
- Descriptions of the Citizen Advisory Councils will be discussed later in this meeting.**

10. Moose Lake Property

The Forest Administrator was contacted by the Town of Norwood that the Friends of Moose Lake has requested that the Town request the property for use and development as a park. The Town of Norwood is considering a resolution at their Board meeting on November 10th (tonight) to request transfer of the ownership or a long terms lease of the former "Moose Lake Property" for the Town to work with partners to develop and maintain that area as a park space. **Forest Administrator recommends Committee action to forward this issue to the Administrative/Finance Committee if the resolution is passed by the Norwood Town Board.** This recommendation is due to the potential sale of the property originally being proposed by the Administrative/Finance Committee and the fact that the property is not officially enrolled in the Wisconsin County Forest Program.

- 11. Citizen Advisory Councils-** A description of existing and proposed citizen advisory Councils is in the packet. The currently established Councils include the Snowmobile Council, the All-Terrain Vehicle Council and the Wildlife and Fisheries Council. Currently being organized is the Silent Sports Council. The Forest Administrator would recommend discussion on how the Councils engage with the department and proposed changes while working with the Department that are then processed through the Committee with approval of the Councils. The Forest Administrator would also like to request a discussion on formation of a Fairgrounds Use and Promotions Council to assist with fairgrounds events and improvement proposals. Since this meeting is likely to have a good number of citizens in attendance the **Forest Administrator recommends Committee discussion to recommend citizen involvement I the various Councils to provide guidance to the Department and the Committee as a working group.**

- 12. Fall Timber Sale Packet and Location Map-** The fall timber sale bids with the locational map is in the packet. This provides the public identification of where the timber sales will be occurring depending and what timber harvesting process will be completed following the timber sale contract process. The whole packet can be obtained by contacting the office. The bid opening is scheduled just prior to the Committee meeting on December 3rd

13. Partner Reports (DNR, Economic Development, Trail Partners)

14. At approximately 7:15 p.m., consider moving into closed session pursuant to

- a. Section 19.85 (1)(f), Wisconsin Statutes, considering financial, medical, social, or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems, or the investigation of charges against specific persons, except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations, County Forestry, Parks and Recreation Administrator.
- b. Section 19.85 (1)(e), Wisconsin Statutes, deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, potential acquisitions of 3 additional County Forest parcels.

15. At approximately 7:45 p.m., return to open session with possible action on matters discussed in Closed Session

16. Next Meeting Date

17. Adjourn Meeting

Forest Administrator Updates

Wolf River State Trail- Following committee action on October 7, 2025, an email was sent out to DNR staffing requesting a public meeting for a public update from the Wisconsin DNR on status of mitigation potential for “all use conversion” between January 5-9, 2026. No response to date from the DNR.

Closing of County S Gravel Pit for Shooting during Deer Season- Following committee action on October 7, 2025, the Department is working with the Highway Department to install over 200 feet of show fence and signing prior to November 21st. The Department will find money in existing budget to cover the cost. If it is expected to recur in following years consideration should be made to berm or rock the major portion of the entrance and install a gate for when that area would be open.

Veteran’s Memorial Park- Substantial work has been completed including the paving of the parking lot and paths, the Forest Administrator would recommend a site visit by Committee members when they are able. Also recommended planning of a grand opening of the park in the middle of May 2026.

Fronek Farms Recreation Area- The parking area has been completed and the sign installed. Forest Administrator would recommend a site visit by Committee members when they are able. Also recommended planning of a grand opening of the park in the middle of May 2026.