



## Langlade County Board of Supervisors

800 Clermont Street • Antigo, WI 54409

[www.co.langlade.wi.us](http://www.co.langlade.wi.us) • 715-627-6200 • Fax 715-627-6303

### Langlade County Board: Forestry & Recreation Committee

DATE: January 8, 2025

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

PLACE: Highway Department Conference Room

*It is anticipated that discussion and action by the Committee may occur regarding all items posted on this agenda.*

#### Agenda

*The Chairperson shall determine the order that agenda items are considered.*

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 December 11, 2024**
6. **Forest Administrator's Report – Written Report to be carried through Agenda**
7. **2025 Annual Forestry, Parks and Recreation Work Plan and Forest Administrator Grant**  
Possible Committee Action to Send Resolution in January to Approve the 2025 Forest Administrator Grant and Work Plan
8. **Delinquent Timber Sales and Timber Sale Bond Seizures**  
Possible Committee Action to Seize bonds, seek all legal remedies to obtain payment for delinquent amounts and interest, and disqualify contractors and primary contacts from those contracts from all future timber sale bidding without approval by the Committee prior to bidding dates.
9. **Forestry, Parks & Recreation 15 Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan Amendments**  
Possible Committee Action to Send Resolution to January County Board to Amend the 15 Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan
10. **2024 Timber Sale Contract Extensions-** Possible Committee Action to extend timber sale contracts as identified
11. **County Administrator- Update and Report on Activities/Grants**
12. **Any other discussion as approved by Chair**
13. **Next Meeting Date**
14. **Adjourn Meeting**

*Notice: A quorum of the Langlade County Board and various County Board committees may be present at this meeting. No business will be discussed nor any action taken by the Langlade County Board or any other County Board committee, other than the committee listed on this notice.*

Please note that, upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information or to request this service, contact Ms. Judy Nagel, Langlade County Clerk, 800 Clermont Street, Antigo, WI 54409. Telephone: (715) 627-6200.

*Additional items may be discussed with no action taken during the meeting or the purpose of preparing future meeting agendas.*

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FAX: (715)627-6303

## MEETING MINUTES

Committee: Forestry and Recreation Committee

Date: December 11, 2024

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: Highway Department Conference Room

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

1. Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM by Chairman Maier
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
Jason Hilger	County Administrator	Wes Phillips	WI DNR
Rhonda Klement	Fair Coordinator	Bob Benishek	Citizen
Kevin Bouche	Facilities Management Director	Brian Braun	Highway Commissioner
Melinda & Brian Nelson	Chapter Coordinators IATA L.C.	Nick Novy	Assistant Highway Commissioner
Judy Nagel	County Clerk/Rec. Secretary		

4. The Committee recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Approve previous meeting minutes of November 7, 2024: Motion by Medo, second by Buck to approve the November 7, 2024 meeting minutes. All ayes, motion carried.
6. Forest Administrator's Report: Written report, to be followed through the meeting Agenda.
7. Forestry, Parks & Recreation 15-Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan Amendments:  
Addition of Chapter 830 "Exceptional Resources and Unique Area Management": Forest Administrator Murray discussed what the Exceptional Resources and Unique Areas in Langlade County are, as they have always existed, but never addressed or included in the 15-year Plan. The location and the management of these areas are now a requirement of the Forest Certification Standards.

Addition of Chapter 850 "Forest Resiliency Including Climate Change": Forest Administrator Murray discussed including in the 15-year Plan resiliency of the forest and how management has changed to provide resiliency. Adding Chapter 850 will ensure Langlade County meets the requirements of the 2025 third-party certification audit.

Modification of Chapter 900 to include new names and eliminate undeveloped sites: Forest Administrator Murray discussed draft changes to Chapter 900 that provide renaming along with the removal of recreational sites that no longer exist or have not been maintained.

Update Timber Sale Contract to be compliant with Statute 28.11 and Certification Standards: Forest Administrator Murray discussed the changes in the current timber sale contract, complying with Wis. Stats 28.11 and with forest certification standards. The updated contract will be incorporated into the 15-year plan.

Inclusion of the Latest Forestry, Parks, and Recreation Ordinance as an attachment: Forest Administrator Murray discussed changes to ordinances that require a plan amendment, incorporating Chapter 16 into the 15-year plan.

Inclusion of the Latest Countywide Motorized Recreation Ordinance as an attachment: Forest Administrator Murray shared a copy of Chapter 8, which was not incorporated into the 15-year plan.

**Possible Committee Action to Send Resolution to January 2025 County Board to Amend the 15-Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan:** Motion by Balcerzak, second by Medo to forward via Resolution to the January 2025 County Board the proposed 15-year plan Amendments. All ayes, motion carried.

**8. Fairgrounds/Fair Board Discussion:**

Re-Branding/Re-naming Discussion: Forest Administrator Murray discussed the re-branding project and looking to have more public participation in the re-naming of the Fairgrounds facilities. Bob Benishek addressed the Committee regarding the re-branding and marketing of Langlade County, making the County a Northwoods Destination. Discussion held. No action was taken.

County Fair Financial Report (Fair Board): Langlade County Fair Coordinator Rhonda Klement addressed the Committee, providing a summary of the 2024 Fair. Klement, the coordinator for 21 years, and also a member of the Wisconsin Association of Fairs, discussed the fair funds, noting that the final report is due at the end of January. Klement stated the fair policy is to purchase services locally if at all possible. Discussion on wants and needs of the Fair Board in order to continue operating the Fair.

Camp Susan (Financial Report/County Reservation System in 2025): Klement provided the Committee with some 2024 financial information on Camp Susan. Reservations for Camp Susan will now be available on the Langlade County Forestry Website.

Main Sign estimate: Discussion on the estimate to update the main sign at the Fairgrounds, estimated to be \$4500 for the sign and \$575 for the paint. No action was taken.

**9. Review of Speed and Speed Control on Fairgrounds Property:** Highway Commissioner Braun and Assistant Highway Commissioner Novy provided a printed report from the vehicle traffic on the road that runs parallel to the Forestry Office. Forest Administrator Murray stated there were approximately 2100 cars for a one-week period, with speeds of 51 mph noted. Discussions were held regarding the safety issues, working with the Public Property Committee to make changes to the flow of traffic in this area, and educating the public on the issues of this road. Motion by Balcerzak, second by Medo to barricade this

area, and draft a safety plan to be implemented, working with the Forestry and Public Property Committees to resolve this issue. All ayes, motion carried.

**10. County Administrator – Update and Report on Activities/Grants:** County Administrator Hilger discussed the Fairgrounds budget, the Forestry Timber Sales Budget, and Camp de Langlade Budget. Discussion held.

**11. Any other discussion as approved by the Chair:** Wes Phillips, WI DNR, had no updates for the Committee. Melinda and Brian Nelson, Chapter Coordinators for Langlade County Ice Age Trail, discussed the outreach, trail projects, and grants available for the 80-mile Ice Age Trail in Langlade County, working closely with Economic Development to report out trail conditions. Supervisor Bina discussed a citizen concern with the Committee, no action was taken.

**12. Next Meeting Date:** January 8, 2025, at 4:00 in the Highway Conference Room.

**13. Adjourn the Meeting:** Motion by Bina, second by Buck to adjourn the December 11, 2024 meeting at 5:04 p.m. All ayes, motion carried.

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

**FOREST ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT  
JANUARY 8, 2025**

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

DATE: January 8, 2025  
TIME: 4:00 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 December 11, 2024
6. Forest Administrator's Report – Written Report to be carried through Agenda

**7. 2025 Annual Forestry, Parks and Recreation Work Plan and Forest Administrator Grant**

Possible Committee Action to Send Resolution in January to Approve the 2025 Forest Administrator Grant and Work Plan

A copy of the draft 2025 work plan and a draft resolution is in the packet. The work plan is available in print also. A draft resolution is also in the packet which needs to be approved by the Board by the end of January for the Forest Administrator's Grant.

**Forest Administrator recommends Committee action to send the resolution for the 2025 Work Plan and Forest Administrator's Grant to County Board for consideration in the January Board meeting.**

**8. Delinquent Timber Sales and Timber Sale Bond Seizures**

Possible Committee Action to Seize bonds, seek all legal remedies to obtain payment for delinquent amounts and interest, and disqualify contractors and primary contacts from those contracts from all future timber sale bidding without approval by the Committee prior to bidding dates.

A listing of delinquent timber sale contracts including status is in the packet . Many of these contracts are historical problems that were never appropriately addressed timber sales were from 2017, 2006, 2001, 2002, and 2008. The contractors were contacted many times over the years to try to collect the debt with no action forward. Action by the Committee is required to seize the bonds and take legal actions to collect the amount owed plus interest. Committee action also allows the contracts to be closed and taken off the DNR WisFirs system as incomplete, cleaning up the system.

**Forest Administrator recommends Committee action for each of the sales as identified in the packet attachment.**

**9. Forestry, Parks & Recreation 15 Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan Amendments**

Possible Committee Action to Send Resolution to January County Board to Amend the 15 Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan

## FOREST ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

November 7, 2024

- Marked up chapter 500 included in your packet and will be available in print. This chapter needed some revisions to ensure the plan matches the contract requirements as outlined in the new timber sale contract. Major revisions are changes in the red with deletions crossed out. Committee never reviewed this chapter.
- Chapters 850 and 870 are in the packet but will not be printed. These are the same as the last meeting with the exception that numbering of 830 has been change to 850 and the 850 was changed to 870 to meet the numbering in the former chapters. Chapter 850 also has some modification over your last review in that Natural Areas do not meet the definition of Forest of Exceptional Conservation Value, so all the Natural Areas were moved to the Natural Area portion of the chapter. Really no need for detailed review so printing not completed.
- Chapter 1000 is in the packet but will not be printed. This chapter is almost 200 pages long. The chapter includes the new timber sale contract, the new ordinances and the new firewood, balsam bough, and Christmas tree permits as well as the new policies put in place since the plan was first approved.

The resolution approved from the last meeting still meets the requirements to go to the board. A copy of the resolution approved is in the packet. A full print of the revised plan will be provided to the Board. The full version provides for renumbering as needed with no other content change in the chapters.

No action needed by Committee due to passage of resolution at last meeting.

### 10. 2024 Timber Sale Contract Extensions- Possible Committee Action

Forest Administrator recommends the following Committee action:

- Extend contracts 1674-20,1771-21,1729-21, 1671-20 for one year without an increase in stumpage or penalty to due conditions beyond the contractor's control.
- Extend contracts 1557-18, 1746-21,1586-19,1590-19,1708-20,1566-18 for one year without a 5% increase in stumpage.
- Extend contracts 1741-22 for one year without a 10% increase in stumpage.
- Deny any additional extensions and terminate contracts 1633-19, 1640-19, 1645-19, 1626-19 and seize bonds due to non-completion. These contractors will still be allowed to bid on future sales due to the fact that incomplete contracts were part of large salvage operations during that time frame.

### 11. County Administrator- Update and Report on Activities/Grants

### 12. Any other discussion as approved by Chair

### 13. Next Meeting Date

### 14. Adjourn Meeting

RESOLUTION # \_\_\_\_\_ - 2025

INTRODUCED BY: FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE

INTENT: ADOPT 2025 LANGLADE COUNTY FOREST ANNUAL WORK PLAN

WHEREAS, the annual work plan functions as a planning guidance tool and further defines and supplements the county's fifteen-year comprehensive land use plan; and

WHEREAS, this work plan also fulfills the DNR requirement to meet with Langlade County annually and evaluate whether both parties have met their partnership obligations; and

WHEREAS, the plan covers timber harvest, reforestation, forest protection, wildlife management, other forest uses, land purchases/sales/exchanges, recreation, time standards, forest certification, special projects, grants, funding & partners; and

WHEREAS, having the Langlade County Board of Supervisors approve the annual work plan is a requirement of eligibility §28.11(5m) to apply for the forest administrator grant, which reimburses Langlade County for wages and fringe benefits of the forest administrator approximately \$56,000+ annually;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Langlade County Board of Supervisors adopt the 2024 Langlade County Forest Annual Work Plan and a copy be forwarded to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources along with the 2025 Forest Administrator Grant Application.

FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Maier, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Medo

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reinhardt Balcerzak

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger Buck

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Bina

**Fiscal Note:** Langlade County has received \$55,596.86 in 2023 and \$55,448.11 in 2024 for the Forest Administrator Grant. We are anticipating \$56,000.00+ in 2025 for this grant. The grant is used to help cover portion of the Forest Administrator's wages and benefits.

Adopted by the County Board of Langlade County,  
this 27th day of January, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Nagel, County Clerk

**DELINQUENT TIMBER SALES, TIMBER SALE BOND SEIZURES AND  
TIMBER SALE CONTRACT CLOSE-OUT**

**TIMBER SALE #1519-17**

Contractor: Littleton Timber

Delinquent Value and Interest Amount: **\$30,351.13 plus interest to date of action**

Bonds Held: #1519-17- \$5,242.85

Notification Status: Refused delivery of Certified Mail

**Recommend Committee Action to:**

- a. "Seize all bonds held (#1519-17- \$5,242.85)"
- b. "Direct Corporation Counsel to seek all legal remedies to obtain payment for delinquent amounts and interest from Littleton Timber"
- c. "Disqualify Littleton Timber and primary contacts including Frank Littleton from all future timber sale bidding"
- d. "Close-out of timber sale contract and documents for TIMBER SALE #1519-1"

**TIMBER SALE #897-06**

Contractor: Roger Giese Logging

Delinquent Value and Interest Amount: **\$3,681.69 plus interest to date of action**

Bonds Held: #897-06- \$440.00

Notification Status: Certified Mail accepted with no response

**Recommend Committee Action to:**

- a. "Seize all bonds held(#897-06- \$440.00)"
- b. "Direct Corporation Counsel to seek all legal remedies to obtain payment for delinquent amounts and interest from Roger Giese Logging"
- c. "Disqualify Roger Giese Logging and primary contacts including Roger Giese from all future timber sale bidding"
- d. "Close-out of timber sale contract and documents for TIMBER SALE #897-06"

**TIMBER SALE #650-01**

Contractor: Mishler Bros.

Delinquent Value and Interest Amount: **\$3,681.69 plus interest to date of action**



Bonds Held: #650-01- \$573.00

Notification Status: Certified Mail accepted with no response

**Recommend Committee Action to:**

- a. "Seize all bonds held(#650-01- \$573.00)
- b. "Direct Corporation Counsel to seek all legal remedies to obtain payment for delinquent amounts and interest from Mishler Bros."
- c. "Disqualify Mishler Bros. and primary contacts including Ken Mishler from all future timber sale bidding"
- d. "Close-out of timber sale contract and documents for TIMBER SALE #650-01"

**TIMBER SALE #708-02**

Contractor: Mishler Bros.

Delinquent Value and Interest Amount: **\$14,965.39 plus interest to date of action**

Bonds Held: #708-02- \$585.00

Notification Status: Certified Mail accepted with no response

**Recommend Committee Action to:**

- a. "Seize all bonds held(#708-02- \$585.00)"
- b. "Direct Corporation Counsel to seek all legal remedies to obtain payment for delinquent amounts and interest from Mishler Bros.
- c. "Disqualify Mishler Bros. and primary contacts including Ken Mishler from all future timber sale bidding."
- d. "Close-out of timber sale contract and documents for TIMBER SALE #708-02"

**TIMBER SALE #1009-08**

Contractor: Tom Vahl

Delinquent Value and Interest Amount: **\$14,055.71 plus interest to date of action**

Bonds Held: #1009-08- \$2,265.56, #1006-08- \$1,935.63, #1021-08- \$1,017.00

Notification Status: Certified Mail never accepted after 3 tries and marked return to sender

**Recommend Committee Action to:**

- a. "Seize all bonds held(#1009-08- \$2,265.56, #1006-08- \$1,935.63, #1021-08- \$1,017.00) totaling \$5,218.19

- b. "Direct Corporation Counsel to seek all legal remedies to obtain payment for delinquent amounts and interest from Tom Vahl"
- c. "Disqualify Tom Vahl and primary contacts including Tom Vahl from all future timber sale bidding."
- d. "Close-out of timber sale contract and documents for TIMBER SALES #1009-08, #1006-08 and #1021-08"

**RESOLUTION #1-2025**

**INTRODUCED BY: FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**INTENT: AMEND THE LANGLADE COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN 2021 – 2035 TO MEET NEW CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS, PROVIDE CHANGES IN RECREATIONAL AREA PRIORITIES, UPDATE TIMBER SALE CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS AND INCLUDE LATEST RELATED ORDINANCES**

**WHEREAS**, Langlade County has over 127,000 acres of land enrolled as county forest pursuant to Section 28.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, subsection (5) (a) of said Statute requires that a County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan be prepared by the county forestry committee to encompass a 15-year period; and

**WHEREAS**, said Plan is required to contain land use designations, land acquisitions, forest protection, annual allowable timber harvests, recreational developments, fish and game management activities, roads, silvicultural operations, an inventory of the county forest documented with maps, records, and priorities, and a listing of the involved management activities needed during the said 15-year period; and

**WHEREAS**, said Plan was approved and adopted by the County Board Resolution #51-2021 on December 6, 2021 which can be found at [www.langladeforestryandparks/General Info/Plans and Reports](http://www.langladeforestryandparks/General Info/Plans and Reports); and

**WHEREAS**, the county's goals, objectives, policies, and operating procedures with respect to the implementation of said plan as enumerated in the Plan have changed with new requirements of Forest Certification since the adoption of the plan in 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, Certification Standards require plan consideration of exceptional resources and unique areas such as Forest of Exceptional Conservation Values including designated natural areas and cultural and historical areas which were not included in the plan as adopted; and

**WHEREAS**, Certification Standards require plan consideration of management of forests for resiliency and environmental impacts such as climate change which were not included in the plan as adopted; and

**WHEREAS**, additional review of recreational areas use, public expectation, maintenance, and viability of public safety has resulted in new management priorities since the adoption of the plan in 2021 requiring specific changes in Chapter 900- Recreation; and

**WHEREAS**, additional audit reviews of the currently used Timber Sale Contract does not meet the requirements of Section 28.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes or Certification Standards in the areas of payment time requirements, soil displacement, soil erosion; and

**WHEREAS**, County ordinances referenced in the adoption of the plan in 2021 have changed substantially requiring updated references and new addendums to the most recent ordinances including the most recent Chapter 16, Forestry Parks and Recreation Ordinance and Chapter 8- Countywide Motorized Recreation Ordinance;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by majority vote, that Langlade County Board of Supervisors hereby amends the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan 2021-2035 to include:

- a. Addition of Chapter 830 "Exceptional Resources and Unique Area Management"
- b. Addition of Chapter 850 "Forest Resiliency Including Climate Change"
- c. Modification of Chapter 900 to include new names and eliminate un-developed sites
- d. The new Timber Sale Contract that is compliant with Section 28.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes and Certification Standards
- e. The New County Code Chapter 16- Forestry, Parks and Recreation Ordinance
- f. The New County Code Chapter 8- Countywide Motorized Recreation Ordinance

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Langlade County Board of Supervisors directs the Amended Plan as adopted be forwarded to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for approval.

**FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Maier, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Medo, Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reinhardt Balcerzak

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger Buck

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Bina

FISCAL NOTE: No Fiscal Note.

Adopted by the County Board of Langlade  
County this \_\_\_\_ day of January 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Nagel, Langlade County Clerk