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## MEETING MINUTES

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**Committee:** Forestry and Water & Land Use Planning Committees  
**Date:** Monday, January 11, 2021  
**Time:** 8:00 AM  
**Location:** Forestry Office Conference Room, Fairgrounds, Antigo, WI

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

1. Meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Curran.
2. Roll call was conducted.

Forestry and Water & Land Use Planning Committee		
Name	Role	Status
Robert Curran	Chairman	Present
John Medo	Member	Present
Joseph Novak, III	Member	Present, by phone
John Breske	Member	Present
Reinhardt Balcerzak	Member	Present
Non- Committee Members Present		
Name	Interest	
Erik Rantala	Forest Administrator	
Tom Lazars	Park Director	
Wes Phillips	WI DNR, by phone	
Keri Beck	Assistant Economic Development Director	
Judy Nagel	County Clerk, recording Secretary	

3. The Committee recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Approve previous meeting minutes:** Motion by Balcerzak, second by Medo approve the December 10, 2020 Water & Land Use and Forestry Committee Minutes. All ayes, motion carried. All ayes, motion carried.
5. **Public comment on agenda items, and consideration of request for items to be added to future meeting agendas.** Forest Administrator Rantala introduced the Forestry Staff: Cody Brauner, Luke Williams, Cory Ruhland, Rick Dedeyne, and Tom Lazars.
6. **Approve Tree Planting Contract for Spring 2021:** Rantala stated that the 2021 Spring Tree planting proposal was \$13,104.55 plus \$12,825 for the trees. Discussion held. Motion by Medo, second by Balcerzak to approve the 2021 Spring Tree planting contract of: \$13,104.55 and \$12,825 for trees. All ayes, motion carried.

7. **Review/approve changes to 15-year plan by WIDNR:** Rantala submitted the proposed plan to the DNR, with minor changes being made to mapping, access permits, tax deed land, and communication towers.
8. **Policy Development:** Discussion held on policies and ordinances used in the Forestry Department. This will be an on-going agenda item.
9. **Discuss funding for brush guards for new Forestry Trucks:** Rantala discussed the four new trucks that will be coming to the Forestry Department through Enterprise Fleet Management. Forestry Department currently has winches for the new trucks, but did not budget for brush guards for the new trucks, at an estimated cost of \$8000. Motion by Balcerzak, second by Breske to approve the purchase of four brush guards, up to \$8000, with funding from borrowing and forward this request to the Finance Committee. All aye, motion carried.
10. **Discuss County Forest Land Sale Policy:** Chairman Curran read the proposed policy to the Committee. Discussion held on the funding allocations, cap on the Land Buy Account, Rec Fund, and marketing land. Discussion on using a realty agency to market the properties, this will be on the next agenda.
11. **Discuss timber sale contracts 1666-20 and 1667-20:** Rantala discussed these two timber sales contracts that expired 12-31-2020. Rantala discussed the requirements that the Contractor is to complete, which have not been completed. Motion by Medo, second by Breske to approve extending the deadline to February 1, 2021 for the contractor to complete the requirements and if no follow through by February 1, 2021, Rantala has the Committee approval to move forward to market timber sale contracts 1666-20 and 1667-20. All ayes, motion carried.
12. **Reconsider Resolution #29-2019:** Approve Enhancement Request and Funding Sources for Scout Camp Budget for 2019: Rantala discussed the Scout Camp projects that were put on hold in early 2020, not allowing the projects to be completed before opening the camp. Rantala stated that there is funding remaining in the 2020 Scout Camp Budget that he would like moved into the 2021 Scout Camp Budget. Motion by Balcerzak, second by Breske to forward Reconsider Resolution #29-2019 to the County Board for approval. All ayes, motion carried.
13. **Scout Camp Update:** Rantala distributed a Scout Camp Development Plan dated November 2020. Lazers addressed the Committee explaining the maps and the proposed camp sites for Scout Camp. The State will need to inspect Scout Camp before opening. Rantala discussed applying for development grants for Scout Camp.  
Motion by Medo, second by Breske to excuse Reinhardt Balcerzak at 9:04 a.m. All ayes, motion carried.
14. **Economic Development Report:** Beck addressed the Committee on the activities of Economic Development. Beck discussed website updates for Jack Lake, RV show in Green Bay, working with Discover Wisconsin on filming in Langlade County, working with the Heart Program and project update on the Welcome Center. Beck also stated that Economic Development can assist with linking County Land Sales and Realtors. Information only.
15. **DNR Liaison Report:** Phillips, by phone, updated the Committee on DNR activities: Forest Tech for Langlade County will be leaving; and working with Rantala on setting up new and salvage sales. Discussion on state trails in Langlade County.
16. **Forest Administrator Report:** Rantala updated the Committee on the 16 active timber sales and the 2 winter sales as weather has been warm, markets are soft, supply is over demand.

Rantala has been working with County Surveyor on a road dispute. Rantala is working with DNR on mowing aspen. Rantala also reported on preparing for spring timber sales, auction items, and the RFP for bridge on the Wolf River. Discussion on the on-line registration for camping in Langlade County.

- 17. Closed Session – At approximately 9:00 a.m., consider moving into closed session pursuant to 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 required a closed session, to discuss lands for sale within County Forest Boundary.** Motion by Medo, second by Breske to move into closed session at 9:33 a.m. Voice vote: Medo, aye; Breske, aye; and Curran, aye. The Committee noted that County Board Members are allowed to attend any closed session in person; however, given concerns over the security of communications systems, the County has been disconnecting from speaker phones and Zoom during closed sessions and will continue with this past practice until further notice, therefore Novak was disconnected.
- 18. At approximately 9:15 a.m., return to open session with possible action taken on any matters discussed in closed session:** Motion by Medo, second by Breske to return to open session. Action taken: Motion by Medo, second by Curran to approve what was discussed in closed session, giving Rantala the authority to proceed. All ayes, motion carried.
- 19. Budget Summary for Forestry and Recreation:** Discussion held.
- 20. Schedule next meeting:** Forestry Committee Meeting: February 11, 2021 @ 8:00 a.m. in the Forestry Conference Room.
- 21. Adjourn meeting:** Motion by Breske, second by Medo to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 a.m. All ayes, motion carried.

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