



MEETING MINUTES

Committee: Forestry and Water & Land Use Planning Committees
Date: Tuesday, October 6, 2020
Time: 7:30 AM
Location: County Board Room, Lower Level of the Safety Building

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

- 1. Meeting called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Chairman Novak.**
- 2. Roll call was conducted.** Motion by Balcerzak, second by Medo to excuse Curran. All ayes, motion carried.

Forestry and Water & Land Use Planning Committee		
Name	Role	Status
Joseph Novak, III	Chairman	Present
John Medo	Member	Present
Robert Curran	Member	Absent
John Breske	Member	Present
Reinhardt Balcerzak	Member	Present
Non- Committee Members Present		
Name	Interest	
Erik Rantala	Forest Administrator	
Fred Heider	NCWRPC	
Jim Wisneski	ATV Association	
Wes Phillips	WI DNR	
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 Novak approve the September 3, 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.** Jim Wisneski requests discussion on the bridge on Wolf River.
- 6. Discuss Langlade County Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2022-2026 – Fred Heider – North Central Regional Planning:** Fred Heider addressed the Committee regarding renewing the Outdoor Rec Plan that expires in December, 2021. Heider will be updating the demographics for

Langlade County and survey for public input. NCWRPC will be completing this plan for Langlade County as part of membership in NCWRPC. Discussion held.

- 7. Update on Wolf River Bridge Project:** Rantala discussed the amended grant application for the Wolf River Bridge Project, which amendment allows for snowmobiles, fully funded by the snowmobile funding, \$158, 250. DNR unsure on the ATV use when crossing the fishery property. Discussion held as the bridge will be on the DOT right of way and Langlade County will own the bridge.
- 8. Update on 2020 ATV/Snowmobile Grant Projects:** Rantala discussed the 2020 ATV/Snowmobile grant projects: Wolf River Bridge, Neva/Knight Road and Highway T Bridge replacement adding a recreational lane on the bridge are all approved projects. Discussion held on money available for grant projects through the snowmobile and ATV associations.
- 9. Discuss Re-Advertising Non-County Forest Lands that did not sell on Wisconsin Surplus:**
Discussion held on the three parcels that did not sell.
Town of Upham: Bogus Road, 030-0345, 47.25 acres: \$58,750 as minimum bid
Town of Elcho: 008-0751, 34.67 acres: \$29,000 as minimum bid
Town of Ainsworth: 004-0742 40 acres: \$32,000 as minimum bid
Motion by Breske, second by Medo to approve the minimum bids for the parcels listed above.
All ayes, motion carried.
- 10. Consider public comments on Draft Langlade County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan 2021-2035:** Rantala received one formal letter as comments regarding the Plan, discussing the balance of motorized and non-motorized use. Rantala will send the Plan to the DNR for review and approval. Rantala discussed the Forest Rec Fund, as it is funded by excess timber sales, and is referenced in the Plan. Discussion held regarding leaving the Rec Fund in the Plan or taking it out as there is a very minimal balance in the fund. Motion by Balcerzak, second by Medo to approve removing the Forest Rec Fund in the Langlade County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan 2021-2035. All ayes, motion carried.
- 11. Discuss upcoming Office Manager Vacancy:** Rantala discussed the upcoming vacancy. The position has been posted internally, applications closed October 5, 2020. Discussion held.
- 12. Update on Bow and Gun Range Building:** Rantala discussed the Bow and Gun Range building, which building collapsed due to heavy snow load earlier this spring. Discussion on the proposal, the location of the re-build, additional concrete base and the use of grade beams. Motion by Medo, second by Balcerzak to accept a \$1500 donation from the Bow and Gun Club for the re-build, locating the building on the same foundation, using grade beams in the project design. All ayes, motion carried.
- 13. Budget Summary for Forestry and Recreation:** Rantala discussed the budgets.

- 14. Closed Session – At approximately 8:30 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 private lands for sale within County Forest Boundary: land trade and lands offered to the County for acquisition:** Motion by Medo, second by Balcerzak to move into closed session at 9:15 a.m. Voice vote: Breske, aye; Balcerzak, aye; Novak, aye; Medo, aye. The Committee moved into closed session, with those remaining in closed session: Rantala and Nagel.
- 15. At approximately 8:45 a.m., return to open session with possible action take on any matters discussed in closed session:** Motion by Medo, second by Novak to return to open session at 9:50 a.m. All ayes, motion carried.
Action taken from closed: Motion by Medo, second by Novak to approve what was discussed in closed session and giving authorization to the Forest Administrator to proceed with what was discussed. All ayes, motion carried.
- 16. Forest Administrator Report:** Wes Phillips, WI DNR, by phone, updated the Committee on activities in Langlade County Forests.
Keri Beck, Economic Development: Beck updated the Committee as to the activities that Economic Development has been involved in for September, 2020. Beck discussed the scenic by-ways marketing the fall colors, high internet views regarding ATV roads, partnering with the Chamber and the seven-minute video on Economic Development web page marketing Langlade County.
Forest Administrator Report: Rantala updated the Committee on timber sales, preparing for the 2021 spring sales, September stumpage billed out. Rantala reported on Scout Camp used last weekend by Art Fair Group, giving a donation of \$230 with suggestions for future use. Information only.
- 17. Schedule next meeting:** Forestry Committee Meeting: November 5, 2020 @ 8:00 a.m. in the County Board Room.
- 18. Adjourn meeting:** Motion by Balcerzak, second by Novak to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 a.m. All ayes, motion carried.

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