

**FOREST, PARKS, AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

Douglas County Board of Supervisors

Monday, February 25, 2019, 9:30 a.m., Forestry Headquarters

9182 East Hughes Avenue, Solon Springs, Wisconsin

**ROLL CALL:** Present – Mark Liebaert, Mary Lou Bergman, Joseph Moen, Steve Long. Absent – Nick Baker. Others present – Carl Wahl, Scott Luostari, Jim Latvala, Dave Cizmas, Jake Engelman, Craig Golembiewski, Mark Schroeder, Jon Harris, Cheryl Westman, Committee Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Bergman, second Moen, to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2018, meeting. Motion carried.

**Department Reports:**

**Budget:** Included with members' packet. Harris reviewed the budget for the time period ending January 31, 2019.

**Forest Management Operations:** Golembiewski reported very busy hauling; March timber auction prospectus mailed out (26 sales); American Birds Conservancy project work continues; Forester leaving for a different position; and interviews to be held soon for two seasonal summer forestry positions.

**Parks and Recreation:** Schroeder reported working continues with FEMA; Park Creek Pond dam project out for bids until end of March; snowmobile and ski trails are in good condition; recruitment for seasonal summer park staff moving slowly.

**ACTION ITEMS/REFERRALS:**

**WDNR Sustainable Forestry Grant Application FY2019:** This is a two year grant, totaling approximately \$8,500, for five experimental regeneration trials: deer exclusion fencing for cedar growth regeneration, and white pine and spruce seeding in a variety of areas on the County Forest.

**ACTION:** Motion by Bergman, second Long, to approve WDNR Sustainable Forestry Grant Application FY2019. Motion carried.

**2018 Budget:**

**Carryovers/Reserves:** Harris reviewed.

**ACTION (REFERRAL/RESOLUTION):** Motion by Moen, second Bergman, to approve carryovers/reserves as presented, and refer to Administration Committee and County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**Year-end Transfer of Excess Revenue to the General Fund:** Reviewed.

**ACTION (REFERRAL/RESOLUTION):** Motion by Long, second Moen, to approve transfer of \$1,167,000 to the General Fund, and refer to Administration Committee and County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**Release of Reserve Funding:** Release of reserve funding requested.

**ACTION (REFERRAL/RESOLUTION):** Motion by Bergman, second Moen, to approve release of reserve funding as presented, and refer to Administration Committee, and County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**Release of Capital Reserve Funding:** Release of reserve funding requested.

**ACTION (REFERRAL/RESOLUTION):** Motion by Liebaert, second Bergman, to approve release of capital reserve funding as presented, and refer to Administration Committee, and County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**Town of Summit Property Acquisition:**

**Property Acquisition:** Property owner interested in selling 40 acre parcel in the Town of Summit to Douglas County. Parcel is surrounded by Douglas County Forest Lands and is about 80% wooded. Requesting \$25,000 to purchase the parcel with up to an additional \$2,000 for closing costs and other related acquisition expenses for a total not to exceed \$27,000.

**ACTION (RESOLUTION):** Motion by Long, second Moen, to approve acquisition of property located in Town of Summit at an amount up to \$27,000, and forward to County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**Release of Capital Reserve Funding (Land Acquisition):** Release of reserve funding requested.

**ACTION (REFERRAL/RESOLUTION):** Motion by Bergman, second Moen, to approve release of capital reserve funding (land acquisition) in an amount up to \$27,000, and refer to Administration Committee and County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**Application for County Forest Law Entry:**

**ACTION (RESOLUTION):** Motion by Long, second Moen, to approve application for regular use County Forest Law Entry, and forward to County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/CORRESPONDENCE/UPDATES/REPORTS:**

**2018 Annual Department Law Enforcement Report (Sheriff's Department):** Recreation Officer Jake Engelman provided an overview of occurrences since taking over mid-year for Officer Olson. Total citation revenue \$10,462.50.

**Movies in the Park (Solon Springs Family Fun Days):** Movies to be held at a different location in the future.

**Upper St. Croix Forest Land Conservation Project (The Conservation Fund):** Joint Committee on Finance has approved the project; should be completed in 2019, and adds approximately 1800 acres to county forest.

**Extended Timber Sale Contracts:** Contract list reviewed (correspondence to contractors in packet).

**2018 Wisconsin County Forest Certification Audit Report:** Taylor, Lincoln, Oneida and Langlade counties selected for 2018 audit (report included in meeting packet). Douglas County has been selected for the 2019 audit, to occur the week of August 5<sup>th</sup>.

**2018 Public Land Timber Sale Report:** Reviewed; Douglas County ranked second highest in state at \$4,480,663.27 in total sales value and highest in total volume harvested at 105,903 cord equivalents.

**2018 Timber Sale Revenue Record:** Reviewed.

**2018 Town Severance Payment Record:** Reviewed; severance and acreage share payments totaled \$598,664.20.

**2019 Spring Logger's Discussion Forum:** Tuesday, April 9, 2019.

**March 5, 2019, Timber Sale Reminder:** Liebaert will not attend.

**WDNR County Forest Liaison:** Latvala reported things are going very well with WDNR County Forest project work; ABC habitat project and grant reforestation projects are good opportunities for county to partner with the state.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Moen, second Long, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Submitted by,

Cheryl L. Westman, Committee Clerk