

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

Douglas County Board of Supervisors

Monday, October 29, 2018, 9:30 a.m., Forestry Headquarters

9182 East Hughes Avenue, Solon Springs, Wisconsin

Meeting called to order by Chair Liebaert.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mark Liebaert, Steve Long, Joseph Moen. Absent: Mary Lou Bergman. Others present: Angela Botner, Gary Kucko, Jon Harris, Jim Latvala, Craig Golembiewski, Mark Schroeder, Greg Kessler, Candy Holm-Anderson, Cheryl Westman, Committee Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Moen, second Long, to approve the minutes from the August 27, 2018, meeting. Motion carried.

### **Department Reports:**

**Budget:** Included with members' packet. Reviewed the budget for the time period ending September 30, 2018.

**Forest Management Operations:** Golembiewski reported 4 active sales. Operations are slower than normal due to wet conditions.

**Parks and Recreation:** Schroeder reported Gordon Dam Park, Mooney Dam Park, Lucius Woods Park, Minnesuing Park project upgrades completed. Full environmental assessment required, to be completed, and paid for by FEMA for the Cranberry Creek Flowage Dam removal project, construction phase likely to occur in 2020. Cost to county to be minimal (administrative in nature). Trail updates provided.

### **ACTION ITEMS/REFERRALS:**

**Lucius Woods Park Lower Restroom Building Replacement Project:** Two options reviewed for lower restroom building replacement down by the beach: custom masonry product estimated at \$213,000 and HUFFCUTT precast estimated at \$183,000. Images included in meeting packet.

**ACTION:** Motion by Liebaert, second Moen, to approve precast option (HUFFCUTT) at an estimated cost of \$183,000. Motion carried.

**Movies in the Park 2018 Event Review and 2019 Request (Solon Springs Family Fun Days):** Angela Botner reported four Friday evening events held in 2018 (60-80 in attendance per movie) down from ten events held in 2017. Tentatively planning four 2019 dates; provided to Forestry staff when known.

**ACTION:** Motion by Long, second Moen, to approve four Friday evening "Movies in the Park" events for 2019, coordinating specific dates with department staff. Motion carried.

**Department Staffing Request:** Parks and Recreation Supervisor slated to retire next spring. Hiring replacement early to job shadow suggested. Finance to evaluate budget funding options.

**ACTION (REFERRAL/RESOLUTION):** Motion by Long, second Moen, to support early posting and hiring of Parks and Recreation Supervisor, allowing replacement to job shadow current supervisor and refer to Administration Committee and County Board, if necessary. Motion carried unanimously.

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

**Wildlife (WDNR Wildlife Biologist):** Greg Kessler provided updates on various wildlife status/sightings. Deer harvest – right on track thus far. November 17<sup>th</sup> firearms opener (earliest possible).

2018 Wisconsin bear permit drawing summary distributed. Ruffed grouse harvest less than anticipated – testing for West Nile Virus planned.

**Extended Timber Sale Contracts:** Harris noted that there are twenty-three 4<sup>th</sup> (16) and 5<sup>th</sup> (7) year contracts going into this winter harvesting season split up amongst five different contractors. All contractors were sent reminder letters in September to treat these contracts as high priority; updates will be provided at future meetings.

**Land and Development Forest Management Services Request:** Golembiewski working on finalizing this August 2016 Land and Development request – estimated six timber sales (not certified products), bid opening tentatively planned for December meeting.

**Upper St. Croix Forest Land Conservation Project (The Conservation Fund):** Oneida County's project was recently approved by the Joint Committee on Finance (JFC). The Douglas County project continues to be objected to by JFC along with the Bayfield and Florence projects, although no reason for Douglas County objection has been issued. The WCFA is working hard educating committee members in an attempt to gain project support. JFC set to meet again to possibly discuss the projects on November 13, 2018.

**2018 Douglas County Park Campgrounds Revenues:** Reviewed – slightly down from last year.

**WDNR County Forest Liaison:** Latvala reported many road projects and timber sale assistance work in progress for Douglas County.

**Future Agenda Items:** Next scheduled meeting is December 17, 2018. (No November meeting.)

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Long, second Moen, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Submitted by,

Cheryl Westman, Committee Clerk