

## FOREST, PARKS, AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Douglas County Board of Supervisors

Monday, December 30, 2019, 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, Mary Lou Bergman, Joseph Moen. Absent – Nick Baker, Steve Long. Others present – Craig Golembiewski, Clint Meyer, Jon Harris Jim Latvala, Cheryl Westman, Committee Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Bergman, second Moen, to approve the minutes from the September 30, 2019, regular meeting, and October 22, 2019, timber sale meeting. Motion carried.

### **Department Reports:**

**Budget:** Harris reviewed the budget for the time period ending November 30, 2019.

**Forest Management Operations:** Golembiewski reported 14 active sales; 4 sales hauling; with excessively wet weather impacting amount of work being done. Preparation in progress for March 10, 2020 timber sale; and provided reforestation and regeneration activity updates. LTE Forester position posted for summer.

**Parks and Recreation:** Meyer reported on Gordon Dam electric and water site hookup expansion and Anna Gene Park pavilion projects; docks pulled; 35 trees planted in area parks; 8 concrete planks delivered for boat launch improvements in the spring; checking snowmobile trails and providing trail condition updates.

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

**2020 Department Annual Work Plan:** Attached – highlights reviewed; required annually by the state.

**ACTION (RESOLUTION):** Motion by Moen, second Bergman, to approve 2020 Department Annual Work Plan, and forward to County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**2020 Annual WDNR Recreational Trail Grant Program Participation:** Annual approval required by state for WDNR Recreational Trail Grant participation.

**ACTION (RESOLUTION):** Motion by Liebaert, second Bergman, to approve participation in 2020 Annual WDNR Recreational Trail Grant Program, and forward to County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Town of Solon Springs Property Acquisition:**

**Property Acquisition:** Property owner interested in selling 80 acre parcel in the Town of Solon Springs (not Summit as per agenda) to Douglas County. Parcel is surrounded by Douglas County Forest Lands and is heavily timbered. Requesting \$48,000 to purchase the parcel with up to an additional \$3,000 for closing costs and other related acquisition expenses for a total not to exceed \$51,000.

**ACTION (REFERRAL/RESOLUTION):** Motion by Bergman, second Moen, to approve acquisition of property located in Town of Solon Springs at an amount up to \$51,000.00; and release of capital reserve funding (land acquisition) in the amount of \$40,000.00 and up to \$11,000 from 2019 operating budget savings, and refer to Administration Committee and County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Application for County Forest Law Entry:**

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

**Pesticide Ordinance #1.17 Exemption Request (Department):** Invasive Black Locust (approximately ½ acre) identified off County Highway T on county forest land near an area previously identified as a landowner encroachment in the Town of Dairyland. Requesting permission to chemically treat the site for up to five years with an herbicide in an attempt to control and minimize further spread – Application for Pesticide Ordinance Exemption Request and map identifying treatment location in meeting packet.

**ACTION:** Motion by Liebaert, second Moen, to approve Pesticide Ordinance #1.17 exemption request from Forestry Department as outlined above for a 5 year term. Motion carried.

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

**Extended Timber Sale Contracts Update:** Spreadsheet with updates to 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year extended high priority frozen ground timber sale contracts reviewed.

**Upper St. Croix Forest Land Conservation Project Update (The Conservation Fund):** Harris reported on project progress with real estate contract execution and scheduled closing in March 2020.

**Land and Development Forest Management Services Request Update:** Harris reported all 6 sales were sold December 17, 2018, with a total value of \$167,075.45. Two sales have been completed. Forestry Department has invoiced Land and Development for a total to date of \$18,792.00 (time and materials \$13,029.73 and 10% of sale revenue \$5,762.27). Proceeds are to be reserved in the department’s land acquisition capital reserve account. Four sales remain under contract and none have been started.

**Department Staffing Update:** Forestry and Parks Technician to retire early February. Position will be advertised in a few weeks.

**WDNR County Forest Liaison:** Latvala (WDNR) busy working on preparing timber sales for the March 10<sup>th</sup> timber auction; completed about half of the annually assigned sales so far.

**Future Agenda Items:** No January meeting. February 24, 2020, is next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Bergman, second Moen, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Submitted by,

Cheryl Westman, Committee Clerk