

Minutes  
Ashland County Forestry and Recreation Committee  
Ashland County Forestry Dept Office  
304 West Michigan St, Butternut, WI 54514  
August 1, 2013

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The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jerry Teague at 9:30 AM.

Members present: Jerry Teague, Frank Kempf, Carl Kubley, Helen Croteau and Gary Mertig.

Others present: DNR Wildlife Manager-Bruce Bacon, DNR Forestry-Heather Berklund, DNR Liaison-Tom Piikkila, County Board Chairperson-Pete Russo, ACSA-Bill Chandler, Ashland Daily Press reporter-Seth Carlson, Forest Adm-Chris Hoffman, Assist Forest Adm-Matt Schultz, Forester-Jerome Wotachek and Secretary-Marion Pohl.

The minutes of the July 3, 2013 Forestry and Recreation Committee meeting were approved with a motion by Carl Kubley, second by Helen Croteau. Motion carried.

Snowmobile business - Bill C reported washouts on the trails are being repaired. No new snowmobile trail projects were approved by the DNR, just the regular trail maintenance projects were approved.

Recreation Officer's report - Chris reported that Jim C is on vacation. Jim was involved in 2 search and rescues in July.

Tourism - Frank K reported that the Tourism Committee is sponsoring a treasure hunt game involving the murals in Ashland County. The Committee thought this game would encourage people to visit all the murals located in the communities of the county.

Frank also reported that Discover Wisconsin will be doing a culinary show to be aired in 2014. They will start filming in September and will visit the Green Lantern in Glidden, Sixth Street Market in Ashland and Blue-Green on Madeline Island.

DNR Fish - Heather B reported that the DNR Fish Dept has been doing trout

surveys on several area trout streams.

DNR Wildlife - Bruce B reported new wildlife biologists are being interviewed now for his position and a should be working very soon.

Bruce also reported that an elk hunting season will happen in 2014. More elk from Kentucky should be coming in 2014 or 2015.

Bruce said all deer hunting season changes will happen in 2014. This year there will limited antler-less tags. There are not as many fawns this year. There have not been many bear complaints this year as there is plenty of food.

The openings in Ashland County will be mowed next summer. Bruce said no herbicide will be used. Herbicide has not been used for awhile. Bruce commented that we should let the FSC and SFI auditors know that we aren't using herbicide on the openings if the herbicide question is asked.

DNR Liaison - Tom P reported he has been doing timber sale inspections and cruising timber. He has 2 sales that need corners surveyed.

DNR Forest - Heather B reported that the White River Master Plan is almost done. A parking lot by a wildlife area is being put in. There are 11 state sales setup in Ashland and Iron County.

Forest Adm - Chris H said agenda item #11a does not need to be acted on as things changed in Iron County, and therefore, no need for a letter of support. The letter of support was concerning the gathering camps to be shut done as there was no permit. Jerry T said he feels Ashland County will be facing the same situation. Chris said we do not have a large group permit for the county forest. Pete R said there is a county ordinance pertaining to the permit.

Chris said there are 4 active timber sales. The timber sale revenue is at \$477,000. The mills need wood.

Chris said August 15<sup>th</sup> is the certification audit. Chris told the Committee members they are welcome to attend, but let him know in advance so he can brief you on what to expect.

The vouchers were approved and signed with a motion by Carl Kubley, second by Gary Merting. Roll call vote, all Committee members voted yes. Motion

carried.

**The next Forestry and Recreation Committee meeting will be Wednesday, September 4, 2013, 8:00 AM, Forestry Dept office, Butternut, WI.**

The meeting adjourned with a motion by Helen Croteau, second by Gary Mertig. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:07 AM.

Submitted by  
Marion Pohl