

MINUTES

Ashland County Forestry and Recreation Committee
Ashland County Forestry Dept Office
304 West Michigan St, Butternut, WI 54514
September 4, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jerry Teague at 8:00 AM.

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

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

The minutes of August 1, 2013 Forestry and Recreation Committee meeting were approved with a motion by Frank Kempf, second by Helen Croteau. Motion carried.

Snowmobile business - Bill C reported the usual summer maintenance of trails. Bill was wondering about the emergency management system notifications. He did not know about the programs until much later. Bill said Bayfield County knew about the disaster aid programs and were able to apply for funding right away. Jerry T said Dorothy Tank is the one who would put out the notifications.

Recreation Officer Report - Jim C reported ATV citations and warnings issued, ATVs on snowmobile trail and trespass complaints to investigate.

Tourism - Frank K reported that Discover Wisconsin will start filming various businesses in Ashland County mid-September.

DNR Fish, Wildlife and Forest - Heather B reported that a sturgeon survey is being conducted on the Turtle Flambeau Flowage now. Sam Jonas will be the new Wildlife Biologist and he will be starting October 7th.

Heather said the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) audit conducted in August was great, and the Forestry staff was very professional.

DNR Liaison report - Tom P said DNR Tech Andy O'Berto has been on fire duty. Andy is helping Jerome with marking sales. Tom said the county was awarded the Sustainable Forestry Grant of \$7,500.00 This grant is for herbicide application on Pennsylvania Sedge found on the county forest.

Forest Adm. report - Chris presented the proposed 2014 Forestry Dept budget. Chris said there were no major changes to the budget. Frank K questioned why the Vehicle Replacement Account is in the Improvement and Development budget. Chris explained it is because of the non-lapsing status of the budget. A motion was made by Helen Croteau, second by Frank Kempf to approve the proposed 2014 budget. Motion carried. Chris also said the SFI and FSC audit went well. Chris said there are 5 active sales on the forest. The timber sale revenue is at \$544,000 as of September 4th.

The vouchers were approved and signed with a motion by Helen Croteau, second by Frank Kempf. Motion carried.

The next Forestry and Recreation Committee meeting will be Wednesday, October 2, 2013, 8:00 AM, Forestry Dept office, Butternut, WI.

The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Helen Croteau, second by Frank Kempf. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 AM.

Submitted by
Marion Pohl