

MINUTES
Ashland County Forestry and Recreation Committee
Ashland County Forestry Dept Office
304 West Michigan St, Butternut, WI 54514
December 3, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jerry Teague at 9:00 AM.

Members present: Jerry Teague, Carl Kubley, Gary Mertig, Frank Kempf and Kathy Schutte.

Others present: Recreation Officer-Jim Clapero, ACSA-Bill Chandler, DNR Liaison-Tom Piikkila, Forest Adm-Chris Hoffman, Assist Forest Adm-Matt Schultz, Forester-Jerome Wotachek and Secretary-Marion Pohl.

The minutes of the November 5, 2014 meeting were approved with a motion by Kathy Schutte, second by Carl Kubley. Motion carried.

Snowmobile Trail Business - Bill C reported that 1) the ACSA received 67.2% of the supplemental money that was requested. 2) The Federal Forest has opened the trail gates. 3) The trails are being packed were snow permits. 4) Some signs in Butternut are improperly located. Bill will talk to Glen Wegner about getting the signs put up properly. 5) The swamps are freezing better than they thought.

Bill asked the Committee for approval to have the Ashland Snowmobile Club run the groomer in the Ashland Christmas parade. A motion by Frank Kempf, second by Kathy Schutte to approve having a groomer in the Ashland Christmas parade. Motion carried.

Also discussed was the lack of an informational sign to get to the Village Pitstop gas station in Butternut. A motion was made by Gary Mertig, second by Carl Kubley to have Bill Chandler contact BABA to put up signs in the Village of Butternut to get to the gas station for snowmobilers and ATVers. Motion carried.

Recreation Officer's report - Jim C reported there have been some snow-

mobiles out and about. Jim said a few citations were given.

Tourism report - Kathy S reported that CENEX Gas Station in Ashland won an award for the submission of a video of the murals. The video will be shown during the Super Bowl game.

DNR Liaison's report - Tom P reported that he is setting up timber sales and cruising timber.

Forest Adm's report - Chris H reported he and the Forestry staff opened the timber sale bids at 1:00 PM, Tuesday, December 2, 2014. Chris said the bids were reviewed for correct requirements. Chris gave the Committee the bid result information. There were five sales, 1 sale received no bids. Chris said that timber sale will be added to the Spring sale. A motion was made by Frank Kempf, second by Kathy Schutte to approve and award timber sale contracts to the high bidder of each sale providing all requirements are met. Motion carried.

Chris said the combined sold bid value of the Spring and Fall bid openings is approximately \$1M. The timber sale revenue as of December 1st is \$1.6M. Chris said he would like to recognize the hard work of Matt and Jerome setting up sales to achieve the high revenue outcome. Jerry T agreed and recommended that the Forestry Staff be recognized in front of the county board meeting in the future.

Chris said there is a deer advisory meeting next week. Chris said he has been encouraging people to attend these meetings.

Chris reported that there is only one timber sale being worked on now.

The vouchers were presented for approval. Kathy S questioned stapling the old voucher form to the new voucher form. Kathy said she does not feel comfortable signing the new voucher with the old voucher stapled to it. The total amount of the invoice should be on the new voucher also. Chris put in the dollar amount on the new voucher from the old voucher. Mary McPhetridge was using the old voucher forms.

Kathy said she would inform Mary of the new voucher form she should use and that she should contact the Clerk's office to get the new voucher forms. The vouchers were approved with a motion by Gary Mertig, second by Frank Kempf. Kathy Schutte voted No. Motion carried.

The next Forestry and Recreation Committee meeting will be Wednesday, January 7, 2015, 9:00 AM, Forestry Dept Office, Butternut, WI.

The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Gary Mertig, second by Kathy Schutte. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM.

Submitted by

Marion Pohl