

**MINUTES**  
**Ashland County Forestry and Recreation Committee**

Ashland County Forestry Department Office  
304 West Michigan St, Butternut, WI 54514

June 2, 2016

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The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Mertig at 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Gary Mertig, Carl Kubley, Pat Daoust, Martin Vitek and Kathy Schutte.

Others present: County Board Chair, Pete Russo; ACSA, Bill Chandler; Recreation Officer, Jim Clapero; DNR Tech, Andy Oberto; Forest Administrator, Chris Hoffman; Assist Forest Administrator, Matt Schultz; Forester, Jerome Wotachek and Secretary, Marion Pohl.

The minutes of the May 4, 2016 meeting were approved with a motion by Carl Kubley, second by Kathy Schutte. Motion carried.

Snowmobile trail business: Bill C. had nothing to report.

Recreation Officer's report: Jim C. reported that ATV traffic is picking up. Jim completed his DNR audit, and was at a training session.

Forest Administrator's report: Chris reported that he and the Forestry staff opened timber sale bids on Wednesday, June 1, 2016. Chris gave the Committee a copy of the bid results. All bids were checked for accuracy and requirements met. Chris asked the Committee to approve and award a timber sale contract to the high bidder of each sale. A motion was made by Kathy Schutte, second by Pat Daoust to approve and award a timber sale contract to the high bidder of each sale. Motion carried.

Chris commented that this was a good bid opening. Chris said there are a few timber sales that are being worked on now. The rain has slowed things down.

Kathy S. updated the Committee on the closed Forest Service campgrounds. She said Forest Service representative, Chad Jacobson, told her that the Forest Service offered \$750.00 each to the Town of Marengo and Town of Chippewa for expenses to maintain the campgrounds. Both the towns rejected the amount. Now Chad offered \$1,000.00 for maintenance. Kathy thought the Town of Marengo was interested in the \$1,000.00 offer.

Jim C. commented that he sees the impact of the closed campgrounds. Kathy said the City of Mellen also sees the impact of less people coming around for groceries and supplies. Jim also commented that the time is getting late to get these campgrounds open.

Kathy S. said the third mural was dedicated in Marengo recently. Kathy said two more murals will be going up in the future. She thanked the Committee for past grants, and will be asking for another grant in 2017 for the murals.

DNR Tech Forester report: Andy Oberto reported that the DNR help set up two timber sales in the Town of Jacobs. During the fire season there were seven (7) fires that burned a total of 2.5 acres.

The vouchers were approved and signed with a motion by Carl Kubley, second by Martin Vitek. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be Thursday, July 7, 2016, 8:00 a.m., Forestry Department Office, Butternut, WI.

The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Pat Daoust, second by Carl Kubley. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 a.m.

Submitted by  
Marion Pohl