

MINUTES
Ashland County Forestry and Recreation Committee
Ashland County Forestry Dept Office
304 West Michigan St, Butternut, WI 54514
May 8, 2013

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

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

Others present: ACSA-Bill Chandler, DNR Liaison-Tom Piikkila, Forest Adm-Chris Hoffman, Assist Forest Adm-Matt Schultz, Forester-Jerome Wotachek, Secretary-Marion Pohl, Glidden Fair Board-Sue Motola, Glidden Area Development Corp-Kate Fluery and Deb Thimm.

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

Chairperson Teague said Pete Russo was unable to attend the meeting today so item C - City of Mellen Library financial request will not be presented.

Sue Motola of the Glidden Fair Board came to the meeting to asked for financial assistance for refurbishing the kiddie car ride, updating the concession stand counter-top and putting plywood on the inside of the merry-go-round building and painting at Marion Park. The total cost of the project is \$6,909.72. Sue said each of the townships and the Fair Board are contributing and are asking \$3,000 from the Committee. After some discussion, a motion was made by Frank Kempf, second by Gary Mertig to give the Glidden Fair Board \$3,000 for their project. Roll call vote, all Committee members voted yes. Motion carried.

Kate Fluery and Deb Thimm of the Glidden Area Development Corp came to the meeting to ask for financial assistance to create a handicap access walkway and seating for the grandstand at the ball field. Kate said the project would cost \$5,400. Kate did not have complete information on the amount of donations they will get. After some discussion a motion was made by Frank Kempf, second by Carl Kubley to give the Glidden Area Development Corp \$2,000 for their project. Roll call vote, all Committee members voted yes. Motion carried.

Snowmobile business - Bill C said the approaches to the bridge in Butternut were washed away from the spring flooding and will be fixed. Bill will be in Court Monday for the lawsuit filed by a landowner concerning some young trees allegedly ran over by the groomer last winter.

The Recreation Officer's report is attached.

Tourism business - Frank K reported that he attended the Tourism Committee meeting April 26th. At the meeting the members decided to develop an ice safety brochure, do more advertising in the Wausau area, have Google pop-up ads promoting Ashland County that will appear on Accu-Weather and have customer service training for small businesses to promote the area with accurate information. The Tourism Committee gave the Butternut Area Business Association \$1,500 towards the ATV and snowmobile route signs project in the Village of Butternut. The mini JEM grant was raised from \$500 up to \$2,000 per community in Ashland County.

DNR Liaison report - Tom P said fire season has started as there were a couple fires. The fire danger is moderate. Tom is establishing a timber sale in the Town of Morse.

Forest Adm report - Chris H asked for approval to advertise timber sales for bids. The bid opening will be June 5th. A motion was made by Frank Kempf, second by Gary Mertig to approve advertising timber sales for bids. Motion carried.

Chris said not much is happening on the county forest.

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

The next Forestry & Recreation Committee meeting will be Wednesday, June 5, 2013, 8:00 AM, Forestry Dept office, Butternut, WI.

The meeting adjourned with a motion by Frank Kempf, second by Gary Mertig. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 AM.

Submitted by:
Marion Pohl

April 2013 Recreation Officer's Report

In the month of April, 2013, we had one ATV accident with injuries, 4 ATV warnings, The Recreation Officer attended several trainings, and preparations are being made for the June in-line skate race on the island. There were several calls for assistance of the patrol division and two Forestry complaints. Equipment maintenance, and preparations are being worked on for the up-coming DNR annual audit. Several meetings were attended, and several trainings are scheduled for the month of May. We are in the process of transferring into the ATV season and attending a meeting regarding a patrol boat. The weather has not been too favorable for ATV traffic.

Submitted by
James Clapero