

AGENDA

County Of Eau Claire
Committee On Parks & Forest
Tuesday, January 24, 2012 – 5:00 p.m.
Agriculture & Resource Center (front meeting room)
227 1st Street West, Altoona WI

Members note: Please call either the committee chair or the director if you will not be able to attend the meeting.

1. Confirmation of meeting notice
2. Review/Approval of minutes from January 10, 2012 meeting/Discussion-Action
3. Public Input/Discussion
4. Correspondence/Discussion
5. Staff and committee reports/Discussion
6. Approval of Emergency Fire Wardens/Discussion-Action
7. 2011 Fire Season Report and changes in Emergency Fire Warden System by Augusta DNR Ranger Jed Kaurich/Discussion
8. Coon Fork Lake Campground Policy Review
 - A. Minimum Day Reservation policy change from 2 to 3 days/Discussion-Action
 - B. Ranger Residency requirements/Discussion
 - C. Barrier-free campsite policy change/Discussion
 - D. Creation of Coon Fork campground host policy/Discussion
9. Utilization of Highway Department engineers for Lake Altoona Boat Landing renovation/Discussion
10. Committee education – Online campground reservation system demonstration/Discussion
11. Future and pending items discussion: next meeting date February 14, 2012

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities through sign language, interpreters or other auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request the service, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-4710, (FAX) 839-1669 or 839-4735, tty: use Relay (711) or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703.

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY
PARKS & FOREST COMMITTEE
January 24, 2012 - 5:00 p.m.

Members note: Please call either the committee chair or the director if you will not be able to attend the meeting.

SYNOPSIS

1. Self-explanatory
2. Minutes from the meeting are enclosed for your review.
3. Self-explanatory
4. Self-explanatory
5. Staff and committee reports – The free ski day at Tower Ridge will be January 29 with the Ski Striders giving free adult lessons from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
6. Enclosed you will find a list of Emergency Fire Wardens in Eau Claire County.
7. Jed Kaurich, Augusta DNR Fire Ranger, will give a report on the 2011 fire season and the upcoming changes to the Emergency Fire Warden system in Wisconsin.
8. Coon Fork Lake Campground Policy Review
 - a. Last fall we changed the minimum day to make a camping reservation from 10 to 2 days because we would be utilizing an online system. The online reservation system will allow reservations until 11:59 pm of each day. Staff feels that three days is more manageable with the 24 hour online system. A Friday arrival will have to be made prior to midnight on Tuesday evening.
 - b. Currently we require the ranger to sleep in the small county-owned trailer 5 out of 7 nights per week. This requirement discourages many applicants who have families from applying. Staff will bring in more positives and negatives regarding this possible policy change.
 - c. Barrier-Free campsite policy – We currently accept reservations on all six barrier-free sites. If the sites are not reserved and all other sites are sold, we do sell the barrier-free sites to the general public. The first four sites are then sold up to seven nights. The last two sites are sold to the public on a night-to-night basis. The general public can stay the next night unless a handicap eligible camper makes a claim to the barrier-free site prior to noon of the next day. The vast majority of barrier-free eligible campers make reservations. Our current policy results in many nights

when the elected barrier-free sites go unused because we did not fill the other campsites. Staff will bring in options that will meet the eligible barrier-free site user needs but also make more electrical sites available to the general public.

- d. Creation of a campground host policy for Coon Fork – We have had a campground host at Harstad for the past two summers. We will bring in further information.

- 9. Utilization of Highway Department engineer to plan the Lake Altoona boat landing renovation – We requested funds in the 2012 capital budget to hire the Highway Department engineer to design a handicap accessible renovation to the Lake Altoona boat landing. The Finance Committee did not include the funding in the 2012 budget.

- 10. Committee Education – Demonstration of our new online camping reservation system by Bobbi Barone, Office Associate.

- 11. Self-explanatory

- 12. Self-explanatory

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY
COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND FOREST

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 10, 2012, 5:00 p.m.
Agriculture & Resource Center (front meeting room)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Patrick LaVelle, Paul Lokken, Tami Schraufnagel and Bruce Willett

MEMBERS ABSENT: Will Fantle,

OTHERS PRESENT: Matt & Colleen Weber and Rich LaFave, representing Ski Sprites;
Brooke Ludwig, WDNR Forester

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Torud

The meeting was called to order by Chair Patrick LaVelle at 5:00 p.m.

1. Confirmation of meeting notice - Meeting notice was confirmed.
2. Approval of minutes from meeting - Motion by Paul to approve the December 13, 2011 minutes as distributed; motion carried 4-0.
3. Public Input - No members of the public were present for this item.
4. Correspondence - Mike read a note from David Crowe, in which Mr. Crowe was suggesting more parking enforcement near Lowes Creek County Park along Lorch Ave. Mike told the committee that the property along Lorch was not County Property and we do not have the ability to issue violation notices in that area. Mike will get back to Mr. Crowe and explain the situation. Mike commented that there are other areas adjacent to our parks where people park and walk into our facilities.
5. Staff and committee reports - Mike told the committee that our online camping reservation system is not live as of yet due to a number of problems. We met with Lisa Banker, representative of DMInteractive which is hosting the site and developed the software on January 9. Our target date to be live is Monday, January 23. Tami inquired about the no parking signs near Tower Ridge. Pat reported that the Highway Department will be putting up No Parking Signs on the east side of CTH L, 100 feet on either side of both driveways. Mike was not sure if they have been installed yet.
6. Ski Sprites Lake Altoona Lease Agreement Addendum No. 1 - Mike gave background information on the addendum and Ski Sprite representatives answered questions. Motion by Tami to approve the addendum and to have the addendum be part of the 2013 agreement to be created in the fall of 2012. Motion carried 4-0.
7. Preview of the 2012 Ski Sprites Season at Lake Altoona County Park - Matt Weber, Ski Sprites President, Rich LaFave, Vice President, and Colleen Weber were present to inform the committee of their 2012 plans.
 - A. Learn to Ski Program will be one week later than in 2011 - June 18 to 22, 2012. In 2013 they are considering requesting an additional week of Learn to Ski in August.

- B. Pat requested a written report and/or video from the Ski Sprites regarding their Learn to Ski program. This information may be shared with the full County Board at some time.
 - C. Labor Day Plan will be very similar to 2011. They have reserved the entire park facilities for Sunday, September 2, and Monday, September 3.
 - D. Ski Sprites representatives also commented on their annual major fund raiser "Haunted House" at the Expo Center. They are concerned about the future of the Haunted House because the Expo fees are proposed to significantly increase.
8. Approval of Advisory Committee appointment – The committee was very impressed with the background and credentials of both applicants. They requested that the person not selected be encouraged to apply in May of 2012 for a possible opening as six members terms expire at that time. Motion by Bruce to approve Sue McDonald to the Advisory Committee; motion carried 4-0. It was felt Ms. McDonald had background and interest in Mountain Biking and cross-country skiing, activities not currently represented on the Advisory Committee.
9. Brooke gave an educational slide presentation titled, "Principals of Silvicultural Thinning". The presentation pointed out the advantages of thinning forest stands. Highlights included new growth concentrated on the best trees; inferior trees are removed, improving future genetics of the stand; rotation time is reduced; Trees grow better in moderately dense stand. Optimal trade off between individual and stand growth as large openings create epicormic branching, lowering the quality of logs. Too dense spacing creates slow growth and more mortality.
10. Advisory Committee input and assignments – No action taken.
11. Future and pending items – Not action taken.

Motion by Paul to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Torud
Committee Clerk

MT: rb



To the Honorable:
County Board of Eau Claire County
Gentlemen:

In accord with Section 26.12(3) and Section 26.14(3) of the Wisconsin Statutes we recommend the following persons to act as authorized Emergency Fire Wardens for the prevention and suppression of forest fires in this county for the year 2012 and ask your approval of this organization list.

EMERGENCY FIRE WARDENS

Marian (Jean) Anderson	11206 St. Bridgets Drive, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729	for Town of Seymour
Robert Bredesen	1935 Schultz Road, Fall Creek, WI 54742	for Town of Washington
Michael Fischer	E25070 Cty. Hwy. RR, Fairchild, WI 54741	for Town of Fairchild
Roland Fischer	E25070 Cty. Hwy. RR, Fairchild, WI 54741	for Town of Fairchild
Henry (Mick) Henning	8614 Nine Mile Creek Rd, Fall Creek, WI 54742	for Town of Washington
John Lone	S5340 State Hwy. 27, Augusta, WI 54722	for Town of Bridge Creek, Ludington
Glenda Lyons	Seymour Town Hall, 6500 Tower Drive Eau Claire, WI	for Town of Seymour
Jo-Ann Martin	Seymour Town Hall, 6500 Tower Drive Eau Claire, WI	for Town of Seymour
Daniel Meyer	E23785 Hay Creek Rd., Augusta, WI 54722	for Town of Wilson
William Schreffler	E29445 Cty. Hwy. MM, Stanley, WI 54768	for Town of Wilson
Marjory Shong	P.O. Box 181, Fall Creek, WI 54742	for Town of Lincoln
George Stanek	S8740 Kelly Road, Augusta, WI 54722	for Town of Bridge Creek
Gordon Zimmerman	241 North Front St., P.O. Box 143 Fairchild, WI 5474	for Town of Fairchild, Cleveland

Eau Claire, Wisconsin

01/03/2012

Department of Natural Resources
BY *Greg E. White*
Area Forestry Leader
BY _____
County Board or Forestry Committee Chairperson