

MINUTES

Eau Claire County

• Committee On Parks & Forest •

Monday, October 14, 2019

5:00 p.m.

Agriculture & Resource Center – Room #203

227 1st St W • Altoona WI

Members Present: Kevin Stelljes, Bert Moritz, Pat LaVelle, and Tami Schraufnagel

Others Present: Nick Smiar, Kyle Johnson, Erika Gullerud, Jeff Thielen, John Stupak, Bob Schwartz

Staff Present: Josh Pedersen, Jody Gindt, Jake Tumm, Ali Moe

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Meeting Notice

Supervisor Stelljes called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. and confirmed compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

2. Review/Approval of Minutes from September 9, 2019 Meeting

Schraufnagel moved to approve the meeting minutes from the September 9, 2019 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

4. Update on Lowe's Buckthorn Demo

Jody Gindt gave an update on the buckthorn project at Lowes Creek. He discussed the conditions of the park before and after Wiscorps came. The newspaper article seemed to have raised awareness of buckthorn to the public. The response seemed to make a positive impact. John Stupak mentioned the possibility of Wiscorps coming back again next year as well to keep controlling the spread of buckthorn. Schraufnagel would like to volunteer to lead a citizen group of volunteers to work further on Lowes Creek buckthorn infested areas in the near future and see the Parks & Forest Department apply for support of Wiscorps coming back to do more work in the future.

5. Winter Trail Use with Dogs at Coon Fork & Evergreen Ski Trails

Josh Pedersen introduced the topic of dogs using the ski trails in the winter. Jeff Thielen discussed how minimal impact the dogs would have on the trails. Pat made a motion to open the ski trails to dogs at Coon Fork & Evergreen ski trails this year with stipulations that the dogs remain on a leash and owners clean up after the dogs. The motion passed with a unanimous approval, 5-0.

6. 2019 Fall Timber Sale Maps

Jake Tumm presented each timber sale map on the overhead projector. There are thirteen new sales, and one rebid in the 2019 fall batch. Moritz motioned to approve sales as they are. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Prepared by: Ali Moe, Parks & Forest

Please note: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals 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 (TDD) 839-4735 or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources Department, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Ave., Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703

7. 2020 Budget & Revenue Forecast

Josh Pedersen discussed the budgeting process and presented a PowerPoint of forecasted timber revenue predictions to allow the committee to help determine whether the department could forecast more revenue in the budget. Moritz moves to accept an additional \$100,000 as high as we should allow the budget to reach, with Stelljes and Schnaufnagel in favor. LaVelle was against this and stated we should allow the board to request a higher revenue forecast, and we can cut more timber to accommodate that. The motion passed 3-1, with LaVelle voting “Nay.”

Stelljes adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Ali Moe
Committee Clerk
Administrative Specialist III – Parks & Forest

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