

MINUTES OF June 4, 2024 IRON COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm by Scott Erickson, Chair, at the Iron County Forestry Conference Room, 607 3rd Ave N, Hurley, WI 54534. Forestry/Parks Committee members present include P. Hanson, W. Thomas and S. Erickson, M. Loreti and Eli Ladwig, Logger Representative. Others present during the meeting included: Eric Peterson, Forest Administrator; Tara Krall, Office Manager; Larry Youngs, County Board Chairman; Katy Broquard & Ryan Peasley, WDNR. T. Hiller was absent.

Tara Krall verified proper public notice of the meeting.

Motion by P. Hanson supported by W. Thomas approving the minutes from May 13, 2024. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Chairman report: None

Administrator Report: Current stumpage is \$579,895.21 versus \$651,248.42 at this time last year.

See attached for remaining Administrator Report.

DNR Report: Katy reported that there are 3 ½ weeks left in the fiscal year to complete time standards but she didn't have an up to date number of hours due to pay period schedule. They had a group marking day with others outside of the team which will help to meet the time standards.

Approve 2024 Spring Timber Sale contracts. Eric reported his findings of reference checks on Richard Hoeft.

Motion by W. Thomas supported by P. Hanson rejecting the four (4) bids received from Richard Hoeft on tracts 33-22, 26-23, 3-24, and 14-24 and award tract 26-23 to Corullo Forest Products contract #2931 with a sale value of \$37,808.75, 3-24 to Henning Logging contract #2936 with a sale value of \$21,410.00, and 14-24 to Sappi North America contract #2944 with a sale value of \$30,927.50. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by W. Thomas supported by M. Loreti awarding the remaining contracts as follows:

25-23	2930	Sappi	19,056.25
27-23	2932	Futurewood	77,916.05
28-23	2933	Henning Logging	126,630.00
1-24	2934	Schloer Logging	153,700.00
2-24	2935	Henning Logging	57,630.00
4-24	2937	Woody Bros	102,207.50
5-24	2938	Sappi	44,902.00
6-24	2939	Sappi	27,692.00
8-24	2940	Sappi	43,022.90
10-24	2941	Sappi	44,369.00
11-24	2942	Henning Logging	21,945.00
12-24	2943	Henning Logging	26,440.00
9-24	2945 direct	Sappi	18,690.00

All in favor, motion carried. The total timber sale value of awarded contracts is \$854,346.95.

Consider timber sale contracts for contracts expiring July 1, 2024. Motion by P. Hanson supported by W. Thomas extending the following contracts for 1 year as follows:

	Contractor	Contract #	Tract	Increase
	Corullo Forest Products	2747	12-17	5% or 50% DP
	Corullo Forest Products	2834	10-20	5% or 50% DP
	Corullo Forest Products	2817 direct	28-18	5% or 50% DP
	Futurewood Corp	2809	24-19	5% or 50% DP
	Sappi North America	2839	1-21	Free
	Sappi North America	2844	8-21	Free
	Tank LLC, William	2788	8-19	Free
	Tank LLC, William	2818 direct	32-19	Free

All in favor, motion carried.

Approve expiration date change on future timber sale contracts. Contracts currently expire 3 years after the contract is awarded, the Spring sale contracts expire on July 1 and the Fall sale contracts expire on December 31. Eric recommended all contracts expire July 1, 3 years after awarded. This will also give sales awarded in the Fall an extra winter to complete.

Motion by W. Thomas supported by M. Loreti to set the expiration date for all timber sale contracts at July 1, 3 years after the timber sale is awarded. All in favor, motion carried.

Approve motorized recreation club contracts for 2024-2025. The motorized recreation club contracts were reviewed.

Motion by P. Hanson supported by W. Thomas approving the motorized recreation club contracts for 2024-2025 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

Discuss Saxon Harbor slip and camping fees, other County Park camping, launch and day use fees. Current fees were reviewed. The last increase at Saxon Harbor and the campgrounds occurred in 2019. For budgeting purposes, the Committee directed to increase fees 5%, rounding up to make even numbers. A proposal will be brought forward for approval at a future meeting.

Discuss firewood, bough and Christmas Tree permit fees. Current fees were reviewed. For budgeting purposes, the Committee directed to increase fees 5%, rounding up to make even numbers. A proposal will be brought forward for approval at a future meeting.

Motion by W. Thomas supported by M. Loreti approving the bills as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 5:00 pm at the Forestry Conference Room.

S. Erickson called the meeting adjourned.

tlk

Administrator's Report

Forestry Committee Meeting – June 4, 2024

2024 YTD Timber Sale Receipts -- **\$579,895.21** vs. **\$651,248.42** in 2023 Difference - \$71,353.21 (-10.9%)

Forestry Activity

- 9 Logging Crews working on ICF.
- 10 active sales (hauling, closeouts, etc.)
- Continual rains are slowing production and trucking.
- Hardwood pulp mill inventories higher than usual entering summer.
- Carbon project is active. Bayfield Co. finalizing 60,000+ credit sale.

Spring Timber Sales

- 22 sales offered for bid. 16 sold with 6 No Bids.
- Sold sales include 1,184 acres with 259 MBF & 23,770 cords.
- Minimum sale value of \$777,067.00 (22 sales). Estimated sold value \$854,346.95.

County Parks

- Parks were all full for Memorial Day weekend.
- Saxon Harbor marina has only 2 slips open for 2024.
- Marina and campground were full for the SHBC Annual Spring Fishing Tournament.
- New concrete in Schomberg pavilion is completed.
- New propane tank may be needed at Schomberg (leak).
- Septic pumps and electrical board burned out from possible lightning strike.

County Forest Roads

- Camp 7 graveling beginning.
- Summer grading is upcoming this month.

Recreation

- Busy ATV Rally weekend with many riders. No major accidents reported.
- Graveling completed on sections of Trail 8 and Trail 10 in Mercer.
- Trail 11A and Trail 6 washouts repaired.

Miscellaneous

- Attended the City of Montreal Council meeting to present forest management options on City lands.
- Participated in the WCFA Administrator's Quarterly Conference call.
- Met with Mecca representatives about upcoming plans and logging operations.
- Participated in the WCFA monthly Executive Conference call.
- Truck 56 needs another turbo replacement and possible wiring harness replacement.
- Attended WCFA Legislative Certification Committee meeting in Merrill.