

MINUTES OF June 12, 2025, IRON COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. 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, S. Erickson, M. Loreti, T. Hiller, and Eli Ladwig, Logger Representative. Others present during the meeting included: Eric Peterson, Forest Administrator; Tara Krall, Office Manager; Katy Broquard & Ryan Peasley, WDNR; Neil Klemme, UW Extension.

Tara Krall verified proper public notice of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes. Motion by P. Hanson, supported by M. Loreti, approving the minutes from May 14, 2025, as written. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Chairman Report: None

Administrator's Report: Stumpage is \$668,267.58 versus \$612,203.58 to date last year. See attached report.

DNR Report: Katy reported they have completed 86% of the time standards and expect to meet 100% by the end of the month. A ranger has been hired and they expect a lateral transfer for the type 7 state forester. The team has been doing field work. Ryan reported 2 foresters were hired in May. He expects his team to be fully staffed this summer.

Logger Representative Report: Sappi has high hardwood volumes and are not taking any deliveries June 12-28. Quinnesec is still taking wood and LP also has good inventory. Pine markets are still strong.

Discuss potential shooting range and locations. Neil Klemme reported shooting sports is the fastest growing 4-H program in the country. He worked with Eric to identify locations within 15 minutes of Hurley for a shooting range that would be compatible for trap, skeet and rifle shooting. The size has to be a minimum of 450'x300'. Three locations were found. One off Hoyt road where the pit is and two on Island Lake Road, on either side of the road, just east of the mailboxes. Neil will go to the Towns of Carey & Pence to get their support and come back to the Forestry Committee for final approval next month.

Discuss refund process for boats unable to dock in Saxon Harbor due to low lake level. There are 3 sailboats that cannot use their slips this year due to the low lake level.

Motion by W. Thomas supported by T. Hiller to offer to the 3 boat owners the option to return all but 10% of their slip fee to hold their slip for next year or we keep their entire slip fee for next year. All in favor, motion carried.

Discuss & set gravel royalty and reclamation fee for Iron County Departments. Eric recommended that Forestry and Highway Departments should deposit .50 per yard of gravel crushed into the Gravel Stumpage Revenue account for future purchase or reclamation.

Motion by P. Hanson supported by W. Thomas requiring the Forestry and Highway Departments to deposit .50 per yard of gravel crushed into the Gravel Stumpage Revenue account for future purchase or reclamation. All in favor, motion carried.

Approve 2025 Spring Timber Sale Contracts. Motion by W. Thomas supported by M. Loreti approving the following 2025 Spring Timber Sale contracts:

Tract No	Contract	Contractor	Bid Value
32-24	2966	Sappi North America	94,415.00
35-24	2967	Henning Logging	131,390.00
1-25	2968	Sappi North America	39,982.00
2-25	2969	Henning Logging	65,640.00
3-25	2970	GA Dalbeck Logging	97,735.00
5-25	2971	4 Seasons Forest Products	51,609.00
6-25	2972	Sappi North America	64,498.50
7-25	2973	Snow Ridge Lumber	59,510.00
8-25	2974	Schloer Logging LLC	47,125.00
10-25	2975	Sappi North America	66,845.00
11-25	2976	Corullo Forest Products	102,250.00
12-25	2977	Sappi North America	43,600.00
9-25	2978 direct	Corullo Forest Products	42,040.00
			\$ 906,639.50

All in favor, motion carried.

Consider Timber Sale Contract Extension for contracts expiring July 1, 2025. Motion by P. Hanson supported by W. Thomas extending the following contracts for 1 year with no increase if at least 50% of the sale value is paid otherwise a 5% increase:

Contractor	Contract#	Tract
Bay Logging, RM	2874	32-21
Corullo Forest Products	2747	12-17
Corullo Forest Products	2834	10-20
Corullo Forest Products	2872	30-21
Corullo Forest Products	2875	33-21
Corullo Forest Products	2880	7-22
Corullo Forest Products	2886	13-22
Corullo Forest Products	2817 direct	28-18
Futurewood Corp	2809	24-19
Henning Logging	2873	31-21
Sappi North America	2839	1-21

All in favor, motion carried.

Approve motorized recreation club trail maintenance contracts. Eric summarized the contracts including the addition of a \$10,000 ATV mowing contract for the White Thunder Riders. T. Hiller said the Mercer Sno Goers do not have mowing equipment at this time.

Motion by T. Hiller supported by W. Thomas approving the motorized recreation club trail maintenance contracts as written. All in favor, motion carried.

Discuss 5-year Forestry & Parks Department 5-year capital improvement plan. Eric presented the following 5-year capital improvement plan:

Department	
FORESTRY	Budget Year 2026

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Five Year Capital Improvement Plan							
Budget Year	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	TOTALS
Equipment Purchases							
1/2 Ton Truck	90,000	50,000	50,000	52,500	55,000	-	207,500
Utility Trailer	3,500	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lawnmower	-	-	10,000	-	-	10,000	20,000
UTV	-	-	-	30,000	-	-	30,000
ATV	-	-	9,000	-	-	-	9,000
Snowmobile	-	-	-	-	12,000	-	12,000
New Bulldozer (No Trade)	-	-	-	-	250,000	-	250,000
Used Wheel Loader (No Trade)	125,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Backhoe (No Trade)	-	-	-	-	-	150,000	150,000
New Dumptruck (No Trade)	-	-	-	300,000	-	-	300,000
A/C Unit Highway Forestry (2)	-	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Furnace Forestry Shop (1)	-	4,250	-	-	-	-	4,250
Furnaces Highway Forestry (4)	-	17,000	-	-	-	-	17,000
Copier / Scanner	-	-	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Total	\$218,500	\$71,250	\$69,000	\$382,500	\$317,000	\$170,000	\$1,009,750
Other Capital Purchases							
Gravel Crushing	60,000	35,000	35,000	65,000	70,000	35,000	240,000
Bridge Redecking	-	-	-	15,000	15,000	-	30,000
LOF Expansion Utilities	-	-	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
LOF Pit Toilet	-	10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
LOF Bathroom/Shower Building (50% Match)	-	-	200,000	-	-	-	200,000
Potato River Falls Expansion	-	-	-	-	-	50,000	50,000
Cold Storage Building Floor	12,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forestry Shop Painting / Fascia	-	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Saxon Harbor Maintenance Dredging	-	75,000	-	-	-	-	75,000
Total	\$72,000	\$145,000	285,000	\$80,000	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$680,000
Combined Total	\$290,500	\$216,250	\$354,000	\$462,500	\$402,000	\$255,000	\$1,689,750
							Total

Motion by M. Loreti supported by P. Hanson approving the capital improvement plan as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Bills. Motion by T. Hiller, supported by W. Thomas, approving the bills as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

Set Next Meeting Date. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at the Forestry Conference Room.

Chair S. Erickson adjourned the meeting.

tlk