

MINUTES OF July 15, 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.

Tara Krall verified proper public notice of the meeting noting that the original agenda said Thursday instead of Tuesday.

Approval of Minutes. Motion by W. Thomas, supported by T. Hiller, approving the minutes from June 12, 2025, as written. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Chairman Report: S. Erickson reported he checked out the recently completed Hurd Creek bridge and it looks great.

Administrator's Report: Stumpage is \$900,277.02 versus \$709,567.10 to date last year. See attached report.

DNR Report: Katy reported they have completed last fiscal year time standards at 116 hours over the goal. Adam Wysocki will be joining their team leaving only one position to fill to be fully staffed which is expected to happen yet this summer. The team has been working on timber sales and CFI plots. Katy and Eric met and completed the financial audit. Katy handed out reports from wildlife which included information on the new deer management units and quotas along with wildlife surveys including woodcock, grouse, bear and elk. Another handout explained how to participate in a game bird survey. Ryan applauded his team for ending the fiscal year 5% over on time standards.

Logger Representative Report: Sappi is now taking wood again. LP's inventory is ok. Quinnesec is still buying, the pine market is okay and Gwinn's inventory is high. Gwinn is set to upgrade their mill so they will be able to cut larger timber. The log market is still good. The equipment market remains soft with more used equipment coming online.

Discuss potential shooting range and locations: There is no new information at this time.

Resolution: Support of Forecastle Timber, LLC. Application to the USDA Forest Legacy Program and Sale of Conservation Easement to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR): Motion by P. Hanson supported by W. Thomas approving the resolution in Support of Forecastle Timber, LLC. Application to the USDA Forest Legacy Program and Sale of Conservation Easement to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and move to the County Board of Supervisors for approval. All in favor, motion carried.

Resolution: Approving a Road Use Permit to Stacy Pochert-Rohr, Matt Rohr, Jason & Lisa Loster, and Scott & Bridget Rohr: Motion by T. Hiller supported by W. Thomas approving the resolution Approving a Road Use

Permit to Stacy Pochert-Rohr, Matt Rohr, Jason & Lisa Loster, and Scott & Bridget Rohr and move to the County Board of Supervisors for approval. All in favor, motion carried.

Review and approve 2026 Forestry and Parks Annual Budget: Eric presented the 2026 Budget. Expenses are up about \$82,000 while revenue is up about \$360,000.

Motion by P. Hanson supported by M. Loreti approving the budget as presented and move to the finance committee for consideration. All in favor, motion carried.

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

Set Next Meeting Date. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at the Forestry Conference Room.

Chair S. Erickson adjourned the meeting.

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