

Vilas County Forestry, Recreation, & Land Committee Minutes

6 November 2013

Members Present: Ralph Sitzberger, Chair
Sig Hjemvick, Vice Chair
Leon Kukanich
Charles Rayala, Jr.
Maynard Bedish
Others Present: Lawrence Stevens, CF, Forest Administrator
Gail Kukanich, Floating Secretary
John Gagnon, Assistant Forest Administrator
Dale Mayo, Recreation Administrator,
Ken Anderson, Media; Holly Tomlanovich, Sno-Eagles
Jill Nemec, DNR Forester Liaison, Greg Maines,
Surveyor, Ken Kmichik, Fred Heider, NSWR Planning
Lauri Gerlach, Alan Gieger, Gary Miester.

Sig Hjemvick arrived at 8:35 a.m., left at 9:05 a.m. and returned at 9:25 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m. until public meeting is started at 11:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairman Sitzberger, who advised that this was a public meeting and that notification of the meeting with the agenda was sent to the Committee members, the County Board Chairman, the Vilas County Clerk, the Vilas County Corporation Counsel, the Vilas County News-Review, the Lakeland Times, FYI Wisconsin, Radio Stations WRJO and Coyote 93.7, and the Northwoods River News. The notice and agenda were also posted on the Courthouse and Forestry Department bulletin boards. This notification was verified by the Forestry Department Administrative Secretary. Introductions were made with the floating secretary and the committee members and any public.

- 1) Motion by Rayala, seconded by Kukanich to approve the agenda in any order at the discretion of the Chair. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2) Motion by Rayala, seconded by Bedish, to approve the minutes of the 2 October 2013 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- 3) Tax Deed Land parcels: Sealed bids were opened as follows: 20-944-05 – Robert Munson in the amount of \$2600.00. Motion by Rayala, seconded by Hjemvick, to reject this bid. Motion carried unanimously. 24-1887 – Kelly Pagel in the amount of \$4560.00. Motion by Hjemvick, seconded by Kukanich, to accept. Motion carried unanimously. 26-2889 – Colin Crawford for \$670.00. Motion by Bedish, seconded by Hjemvick, to reject. Motion carried unanimously. 28-240 – Thomas Fredrickson for \$643.64. Appraisal is way out of line per Stevens. Motion by Rayala, seconded by Hjemvick to accept. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4) Request for new access: 6-200 – Kimichik present and Stevens explains the situation. Motion to grant access by Rayala, seconded by Bedish. Motion carried unanimously. Quit Claim Deed to be recorded by property owner for 16 ft. access. Motion by Hjemvick, seconded by Rayala. Motion carried unanimously.
- 5) Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant Status – Appraisals: Denton Lake - 8-2233 - Tentative grant awarded for both pieces of property. Appraisals need to be passed on to the DNR real estate person and then back to Madison before final decision is made.

Committee feels that Stevens should follow through with this. County share will be around \$50,000.00. Hwy 45 property - 8-1854-02 - There is a glitch in the appraisal process with regards to MFL program. No penalty or fees with county purchase, the appraisal will show this. This is an “exempt withdrawal to a governmental unit” per Nemec.

- 6) Forest Management: Scat Lake update: Surveyor Maines gives committee a background on this property. Maines recommends doing a boundary line agreement because it is more important to keep access to grade and the upland trail. Stevens, Gagnon and Mayo to meet with property owners and negotiate a resolution to this problem. Discussion continues on how to resolve this.
- 7) Timber Sales Contracts: Gagnon gave his report, a copy is on file. Gagnon discussed the TSI project pros and cons. Timber sales exceeded most years. Closed out 3 sales, report given to committee. Hjenvick requests Sitzberger to bring up the timber sales at the County Board meeting.
- 8) Boundary Line Survey: Hwy K survey line was awarded to Maines and another ½ mile will be bid out also.
- 9) Parks and Recreation: Mayo discussed the money for extra help, meeting with personnel. If the position is not developed, parks and rec would like the money put back to hire an LTE.
- 10) Snowmobile Trail Safety Committee Report: Committee members were given a report from Mayo. Sitzberger updated the committee on still pursuing the movable billboard.
- 11) Highway Dept. LUA – Report on file. Questions concerning #3 – liability insurance issue – to be updated. #6 – updates to say Parks and Rec. Administrator. Sitzberger asks Rayala (as the Hwy Chair) to review the document at the Highway Meeting and make any changes.
Resolutions: County Forest Administrators Grant – Stevens explains the grant. Motion by Hjenvick, seconded by Bedish, to forward this to the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.
Outdoor Recreation Plan: Committee commends Heider for the good job he did on this plan. Heider sees a few typos on the plan, Page 10 figure 3 is accurate, and some numbers in the text under the “seasonal dwelling” should be 36% not 57%. Heider will make these changes. Committee thinks the numbers are wrong. Mayo ask that in the inside cover Peske should be removed and to add Ritter. On pg. 24 – it says DNR run boat landing/picnic area and it should be our county. On the back regarding ATV wording- it says \$450 a mile and has been changed to \$600 a mile. Motion by Sitzberger, seconded by Hjmevick to recess meeting until 11:00 a.m. for public input.
- 12) Public Hearing: Opened at 11:00 a.m. Heider did a review of the plan. Heider was impressed with the amount of public comment he received. He read 17 emails he received and Gerlach, Gieger, Miester commented on the plan.
- 13) Item C: No changes will be done on the cover or Chapter 8. Maps of Win-Man and Van Vliet Hemlocks trail will be added. Town comments will be added. Stevens to help Heider with any changes. Plan on file with Forestry Dept. Committee moves to bring plan back at next month’s meeting with any changes. Final plan to be forwarded to County Board in January. Pickle ball courts will be added on a recommendation.
- 14) Monthly Budget Summary: Beaver control money to go to highway dept. in December.
- 15) Meetings & Travel: Summary from Jefferson on file regarding the Timber Cruising Workshop.
- 16) Next Meeting Date: The next regular meeting of the Forestry Committee will be 4 December 2013, 8:30 a.m., Courthouse.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:11 a.m.

Minutes reflect the recorder's (Kukanich) notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.