

Steve Doyen, chairman, called the regular meeting of the Forestry, Recreation and Land Committee to order at 1:02 p.m., on November 5, 2014 at the Vilas County Highway Department, Eagle River, WI 54521, who advised that this was a public meeting and that notification of the meeting with the agenda was properly posted.

**Present:** The following persons were present: County Board members Steve Doyen, Rocky Caffarella, Ken Anderson, Art Kunde. Others present: John Gagnon, Forest Administrator, Justin Meier, Assistant Forest Administrator, Jim Jefferson, Forest Technician, Dale Mayo, Parks & Recreation Administrator, Harry Meister, David Chamberlain, Pat Weber, Jill Nemece, DNR Forestry Liaison, Anna McMeekan, Jared Maney and Gail Kukanich, Administrative Secretary.

**Absent:** Willy Otterpohl

**Approve Agenda: Motion by Kunde, second by Anderson to approve the agenda. Motion passed.**

**Approve Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2014 meeting by Caffarella, second by Anderson. Motion passed.**

**1. Land: a. Tax Deed Land Parcels:** There are no bids to open.

**b. Tax Deed Land Redemption Policy:** Motion by Caffarella, second by Anderson to postpone to a future date. Discussion. Motion carried.

**c. Redemption Request Tax Deed #22-1185:** McMeekan present and is requesting to vacate the judgment. Letter was read by Chairman Doyen. McMeekan speaks. **Motion made by Anderson seconded by Caraffella to return the property upon payment of taxes, interest and penalties within 10 days. Motion carried.** Judgment will be vacated when taxes are paid.

**d. Utility Access Request:** Gagnon updated the committee on this issue. **Motion by Anderson, seconded by Caffarella to approve permit providing it follows the policy established by the department and it is underground. Discussion. Motion carried.**

**2. Fairgrounds Baseball Fields:** Pat Weber discussed the baseball fields on the Fairgrounds. Agreement being written by Fair Board regarding a year-to-year lease; lights were also discussed. Weber wants clarification on this issue. Fair Board and Pat Weber need to be put on the December agenda. Discussion.

**3. Oldenburg Sports Park (OSP):** Chamberlain updated the committee on playground equipment being put out at Oldenburg Park. Plan to be drawn up and put forward in the future by Soccer Association. Put this on the agenda for spring. Mayo to check on the insurance issues. Discussion.

**4. Forest Management: a.** Report submitted along with the Timber Sale Financial Statement. Gagnon reported that all operations appear to be in contract compliance. Justin Meier, Assistant Forest Administrator, was introduced to the Committee. Among other duties, he will be working on establishing timber sales for 2015.

**b. Johnson Land Acquisition:** Johnson offer to purchase was extended to seller.

**c. Bennett Land Acquisition:** Offer to purchase was rejected.

**5. Parks & Recreation: a.** Fairground zoning & Conditional Use Permit update. Discussion.

**b.** Recreational Trails Committee Report discussed.

**c.** Trails Ad Hoc Committee report given by Anderson. Discussion.

d. Discussion re changing the Annual Snowmobile Trail Maintenance contract (on file with Mayo). **Motion made by Caffarella seconded by Kunde to change to just the club president. Motion carried.**

**1:53 p.m. - Motion made by Anderson seconded by Kunde to adjourn to look at Forestry Department detached garage which is in need of repair or replacement. Motion carried.**

**2:10 – Reconvene. Discussion. Motion made by Anderson seconded by Kunde to request Public Property to investigate and come up with a proposal for Forestry, Highway and Sheriff’s Departments’ maintenance needs. Caffarella voting no. Motion carried.**

**6. Contracts:** Gagnon discussed when signed contracts are necessary. Anything over \$5,000.00 would require Committee approval. Standing rules (5b) discussed.

**7. Resolutions:**

a. Variable Acreage Payment: No action taken at this time.

b. County Forest Administrators Grant: Discussion. **Motion made by Anderson seconded by Kunde to approve resolution and forward same to County Board for consideration. Motion carried.**

c. Johnson Land Acquisition: Resolution authorizing purchase is on the county board agenda for November. Discussion. **Motion made by Anderson to forward resolution to county board. Motion failed due to a lack of second. Motion made by Anderson seconded by Kunde to forward resolution to county board for approval upon acceptance of the offer by Mr. Johnson. Motion carried 3-1. Doyen voting no.**

d. Bennett Land Acquisition: Offer to purchase was rejected. Doyen made a motion to take off county board agenda. This property has been sold to another party.

**8. Correspondence: Letters & Communications:** Caffarella questions what ATC money has paid for. Fairgrounds lighting and ball field discussed.

**9. Meetings Education & Out of County Travel:** Gagnon and Meier will be going to the Emerald Ash Borer meeting in Oneida County.

**10. Monthly Budget Summary:** Reviewed and discussed.

**11. Next meeting** will be December 3, 2014.

**12. Doyen adjourned** the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Minutes reflect the recorders (Gail Kukanich) notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.