

Monroe County Land Conservation, Forestry & Parks Committee Minutes

Date and Place:

Tuesday February 17, 2015 at the Monroe County Ag Services Center, Sparta, WI

Call to Order:

Chairman Chapman called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. Present were: J Rasmussen; D. Olson; D Wegner; B. Micheel, LCD; B. Richardson, LCD; C Ziegler, Monroe Co. Forestry; P Peterson, APHIS. **N VanWychen Absent**

Minutes Approval 1/20/15 meeting:

Motion by Rasmussen second by Wegner to approve the January 20, 2014 minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0-1.

Public Comment Period:

None

Review Land Conservation Bills:

Micheel reviewed monthly Land Conservation bills. Questions regarding Nonmetallic Annual fees were answered.

Wildlife Damage Program- review 2014 claims:

Peterson explained the four claims for 2014 – R. Mosley, A. Ruedy, G. Mosley & B. Sutton. All applicants fulfilled their obligations to receive payment.

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Wegner to approve damage claims for 2014. Motion carried 4-0-1.

County Conservationist Report:

Micheel reported on:

Youth summer camp scholarships, County Farm conservation practices to be installed, Perch Lake habitat, status of City of Sparta Phosphorus Trading and City riprap projects scheduled, continued interest in Ag Enterprise establishment in Portland, Jefferson and Wells Townships and current events regarding manure being deemed a pollutant. Olson left meeting at 9:45.

Motion by Wegner, second by Rasmussen to provide a minimum of two \$50 scholarships to Monroe County students interested in attending an Environmental Summer Camp. Motion carried 3-0-2.

Staff and Supervisor Open Discussion:

None

Soil and Water Conservationist Report:

Richardson discussed nonmetallic issues, contractor workshop and poster contest.

Olson returned to meeting at 9:52.

2014 Conservation Practice Review:

Richardson presented a summary of 2014 construction projects.

NRCS Report:

Handout explaining staff turnover.

DNR Private Lands Report:

Handout with new office contacts. Continue to assist Jackson County with private forestry issues.

Forestry & Parks Updates:

Ziegler is closing out timber sales that were harvested in the fall and winter; there are no active harvests at this time. Timber sale field work and bid prospectus preparations are being finalized for the spring bid opening.

Ziegler is planning a jack pine aerial seeding project on approximately 45 acres in the Town of New Lyme; this should occur sometime in March.

Community service is working on splitting/stacking firewood at the park; Ziegler spent a day cutting more block wood to fill up the wood shed for the season.

Line Item Transfer(s):

Ziegler presented a line item transfer of \$780.00 from Park Building Repairs/Maintenance to Park Supplies. The overrun was due to a water supply addition to the west loop of the campground.

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Olson to approve the line item transfer.

Motion carried 4-0-1.

Camping Reservation System:

Ziegler passed out and explained a summary of the reservation systems used by several local counties. The committee discussed doing more research on the costs of the

systems and the feasibility of starting out with approximately 10-15 sites available for reservations. Discussion occurred regarding the feasibility of making reservations available to all of the sites and different options of handling the camping reservations. Ziegler will perform more research and report back to the committee.

Forestry & Parks Ordinances, Park Rules:

Ziegler explained that he is in the process of reviewing the ordinances to determine any adjustments that should be made to reflect the operations of the park. Some of the park ordinances are inapplicable to the policies that are being applied at the park and some adjustments need to be made to make the ordinances more enforceable.

Review Forestry & Park Bills:

Ziegler reviewed the past months bills.

Set next Meeting Date:

The next meeting will be on March 17, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. in the Monroe County Ag Services Center.

Adjourn:

Motion by Olson, second by Wagner to adjourn at 10:43 a.m. Motion carried 4-0-1.