

DRAFT

Minutes - Sawyer County Forestry Committee
April 8, 2014

Committee Members Present: Dean Pearson, Bill Voight, Ronald Kinsley, Tweed Shuman, Jim Bassett
County Personnel Present: Greg Peterson, Kris Mayberry
DNR Personnel Present: Andy Noth
Others Present: Jan Holmes, Katie Sly, Iras Humphreys, Bill Noonan, Don Mrotek, Warren Johnson

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 AM.

Approve agenda

Motion by Kinsley, second by Pearson to approve agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes

Motion by Voight, second by Bassett to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2014 meeting. Motion carried.

Audience Recognition

None

Event Dates

None requested

Recreational Trail Report

Mrotek: 1) Snowmobile trails are open, not grooming. Lakes – stakes are pulled. 2) Easements – no date. Insurance – no end date. 3) ATV trails will close on Monday, April 14 and open again probably on May 15th. There is still a foot of snow on trails.

Mayberry: Grant application – maps distributed with railroad parcels highlighted in yellow. A mile was purchased on north end. DNR – proceed as normal. Time and type of acquisition will impact western states more than east of Mississippi. Public has used RR bed since tracks went out.

Gogian estate: permanent easement in deed subject to trail public use.

ATV/Snowmobile trail proposals

Grant applications to be submitted:

1) Parcel acquisition – Porkies Road north (40 acres of railroad grade). Estimated fair market value is \$80,100. Grant application approximate total is \$280,000 which includes re-decking Mosquito Brook (\$187,000 - \$200,000, engineering and testing). County Board approval to proceed was given last year. Motion by Shuman, second by Voight to proceed with grant application. Motion carried. There would be no cost to county.

Greg: Polish Road right-of-way connection - \$8190.00; Chippewa Trail Trailhead vault privy - \$14,175.00; Dam Road to Seeley Fire Lane – 4 miles ATV - \$97,080.00.

Katie Sly: Trail 16 bridge was removed on railroad grade property – no permission. Grant for bridge on private property. Re-route trail on DNR land, need approval from state for Wildlife Area. Discussion regarding alternative trail routes and connectors, road route, state land, private land, history of trail – Peterson and Mrotek.

Office facility space needs

New forester starting in a week, space is tight and too small (325 square feet for 5 people). Peterson gave overview of office, shop and parking space. Pearson brought up Nursery office rental/lease (5 year lease max.), building a facility? Johnson – put office closer to county forest. Olson – over the last several years, it was proposed to put a roof over equipment (wear and tear on trucks, 4-wheeler, trailer etc.). Any federal grant options - Community Resource Development. Discussion held on office locations. Refer to Airport & Property Committee for discussion.

Sawyer County Forestry report

Peterson: 1) Roy Zubrod hired and will start on April 14th. 2) Went through monthly report. 3) Elm Creek project completed. 4) 22 tracts are being advertised for May 2014 timber sale.

DNR Forestry Report

Noth: Marking timber in Winter Block; elk doing well south of Winter. He will be transferring to eastern side of state.

Monthly expense vouchers

Motion by Shuman, second by Bassett to approve vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

Adjourn

Motion by Pearson, second by Shuman to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Kelly Nechuta, Recorder