

AGENDA

Eau Claire County

• Committee on Parks & Forest •

Monday, February 14, 2022

5:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Dial In: +1-415-655-0001 US Toll Access Code: 2598 249 5543

For those wishing to make public comment, you must e-mail Winnie Parker at Winnie.Parker@co.eau-claire.wi.us at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. You will be called on during the public session to make your comments. Public comments are limited to 3 minutes per person and 30 minutes maximum for the public comment period.

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Meeting Notice
2. Review/Approval of Committee Minutes - **Discussion/Action**
 - a. January 10, 2022
3. Public Comment
4. Skijoring Policy in County Parks - See attached meeting minutes from 10/14/2019 regarding previous committee action on Skijoring. - **Discussion/Action**
5. Altoona Schools request for flat fee rental of Tower Ridge for cross country race – See email attached from Elissa Upward. - **Discussion/Action**
6. County Forest Carbon Credits - **Discussion/Action**
7. Expo Center Pavilion Rental Refundable Deposit Amount - **Discussion/Action**
8. Appraisal on Heartwood Forest Lands - **Discussion/Action**
9. Director's Report
10. Future Committee Meetings and Items for Discussion

Next Meeting – March 14, 2022, at 5 p.m.

11. Adjourn

Prepared by Winnie Parker, Parks & Forest

Please note: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through sign language, interpreters or other auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request the service, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-4710 (FAX) 8391669 or (TDD) 8394735 or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources Department, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Ave., Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703.

MINUTES

Eau Claire County

- Joint Meeting of Committee on Parks & Forest and the Land Stewardship Sub-Committee •

Monday, January 10, 2022

5:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Parks and Forest Members Present: Kevin Stelljes, Joe Knight, Missy Christopherson, Gary Gibson

Land Stewardship Sub-Committee Members Present: Rick Koziel, Dave Dressel, Heather Deluka, Anthony Brooks, Kevin Stelljes

Others Present: Josh Pedersen – Director (Committee Clerk), Jody Gindt – Supervisor, Kyle Johnson – DNR County Forest Liaison, Jacob Tumm – EC County Forester, Kathryn Schauf – County Administrator, Greg Leonard- Land Conservation Manager, Rod Eslinger- Director of P&D, and Michele Skinner – Lake Altoona District President

Chairs Stelljes and Koziel called the respective meetings to order at 5:00 p.m. and confirmed public posting of the meeting.

Verbal roll call was taken by the committee clerks and is noted above under present.

No comments were received from members of the public.

Kevin Stelljes introduced the resolution authorizing the Parks and Forest Department to apply for contingent funding for future county forest land purchases. Joe Knight motioned to approve resolution. Rick Koziel motioned to dually approve for the Land Stewardship sub-committee. There were some minor grammatical changes discussed and proposed. Concerns over the funding sources for the proposed purchases are to be addressed in the fact sheet to go along with the resolution. Roll call votes were taken of each committee. All in favor, none opposed.

Kevin mentioned that he was planning on visiting the 5 Star site on 1/11/2022 with Jon Johnson to evaluate if any of the sand materials could be used for road building purposes. Another meeting is set with a potential solar developer on 1/12/2022 to review the site for construction purposes.

Dave Dressel made a motion to adjourn the Land Stewardship sub-committee.

Chair Koziel adjourned the Land Stewardship subcommittee meeting at 5:41 PM.

The committee reviewed the minutes from the December 13, 2021, meeting. Supervisor Christopherson moved to approve the minutes as presented. The minutes passed unanimously.

Michele Skinner presented information on updates of the Lake Altoona District. Kevin Stelljes exited the meeting at 5:48 PM.

Joe Knight presented information on the Clean Water Now for Wisconsin Referendum. Rod Eslinger pointed out that there is a date typo contained in the resolution. Motion by Christopherson to approve the resolution as presented. All in favor, none opposed.

Jody Gindt presented a letter to the committee from Wolf River Logging requesting that forfeiture of their bond be no more than 10% of the job value or \$860. The contractor does not wish to fulfill the contract and is seeking leniency on the bond. Staff discussed the importance of the contracts and bond requirements and not wanting to set a precedence of lowering bond amounts. Gary Gibson made a motion to refund \$1500 of the bond and keep the remaining \$1500. All in favor, none opposed.

Josh Pedersen presented information on the Emergency Fire Warden locations for 2022 in Eau Claire County. Missy Christopherson motioned to approve the locations as presented. All in favor, none opposed.

Director's report: Pedersen brought up the need for continued discussion of carbon credits for a future committee meeting. Staff have been busy with ski trail grooming, plowing, and keeping up with park passes to begin the new year. Missy Christopherson also mentioned that she would like to see the carbon credit topic brought up at the next meeting to further discussions.

The next meeting date was set for February 14, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. virtually.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Josh Pedersen
Committee Clerk
Parks and Forest Director

MINUTES

Eau Claire County

• Committee on Parks & Forest •

Monday, October 14, 2019

5:00 p.m.

Agriculture & Resource Center – Room #203

227 1st St W • Altoona WI

Members Present: Kevin Stelljes, Bert Moritz, Pat LaVelle, and Tami Schraufnagel

Others Present: Nick Smiar, Kyle Johnson, Erika Gullerud, Jeff Thielen, John Stupak, Bob Schwartz

Staff Present: Josh Pedersen, Jody Gindt, Jake Tumm, Ali Moe

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Meeting Notice

Supervisor Stelljes called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. and confirmed compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

2. Review/Approval of Minutes from September 9, 2019 Meeting

Schraufnagel moved to approve the meeting minutes from the September 9, 2019 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

4. Update on Lowe's Buckthorn Demo

Jody Gindt gave an update on the buckthorn project at Lowes Creek. He discussed the conditions of the park before and after Wiscorps came. The newspaper article seemed to have raised awareness of buckthorn to the public. The response seemed to make a positive impact. John Stupak mentioned the possibility of Wiscorps coming back again next year as well to keep controlling the spread of buckthorn. Schraufnagel would like to volunteer to lead a citizen group of volunteers to work further on Lowes Creek buckthorn infested areas in the near future and see the Parks & Forest Department apply for support of Wiscorps coming back to do more work in the future.

5. Winter Trail Use with Dogs at Coon Fork & Evergreen Ski Trails

Josh Pedersen introduced the topic of dogs using the ski trails in the winter. Jeff Thielen discussed how minimal impact the dogs would have on the trails. Pat made a motion to open the ski trails to dogs at Coon Fork & Evergreen ski trails this year with stipulations that the dogs remain on a leash and owners clean up after the dogs. The motion passed with a unanimous approval, 5-0.

6. 2019 Fall Timber Sale Maps

Jake Tumm presented each timber sale map on the overhead projector. There are thirteen new sales, and one rebid in the 2019 fall batch. Moritz motioned to approve sales as they are. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Prepared by: Ali Moe, Parks & Forest

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7. 2020 Budget & Revenue Forecast

Josh Pedersen discussed the budgeting process and presented a PowerPoint of forecasted timber revenue predictions to allow the committee to help determine whether the department could forecast more revenue in the budget. Moritz moves to accept an additional \$100,000 as high as we should allow the budget to reach, with Stelljes and Schnaufnagel in favor. LaVelle was against this and stated we should allow the board to request a higher revenue forecast, and we can cut more timber to accommodate that. The motion passed 3-1, with LaVelle voting “Nay.”

Stelljes adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Ali Moe
Committee Clerk
Administrative Specialist III – Parks & Forest

Prepared by: Ali Moe, Parks & Forest

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Winnie Parker

From: Upward, Elissa <eupward@altoona.k12.wi.us>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 4:16 PM
To: Josh Pedersen
Subject: Re: Oct 1, 2022 cross country race at Tower Ridge

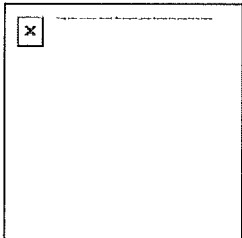
WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.

Hi Josh,

Thank you for your email. I appreciate your communication with me, both over the phone and via email when it comes to planning our cross country event. I did want to inquire about the cost; more so if EC County Parks and Forest Dept. would consider charging our school a flat fee? Regardless, our school is planning to book the space, as we have already locked in our schedule for the 2022-23 school year and contracts with opponents. With this change, however, we will end up losing money, unlike past years of coming out as close to even as possible (along with the rental fee, we also pay for use of portable toilets and timing system; both \$400 plus costs).

Thank you for your consideration. I appreciate it, as we really love the course!

Thank you and ***GO RAILS!***

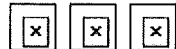


Elissa Upward, RAA Athletics & Activities Director

Phone: (715) 839-6031 ext. 416 **Fax:** (715) 839-7334

Email: eupward@altoona.k12.wi.us

Address: 711 7th Street W. Altoona, WI 54720



During the school year, my open office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. To ensure availability, please call or email requesting an appointment.

On Wed, Dec 29, 2021 at 11:22 AM Josh Pedersen <Josh.Pedersen@co.eau-claire.wi.us> wrote:

Elissa,

We would be happy to serve as host venue for your cross country race on October 1, 2022. As we discussed over the phone last week, we did recently change our special event participant fee from \$2 per person to \$4 per person. Those new rates are effective Jan 1, 2022 moving forward. We would ask that you provide us with a participant count after the event and then we will issue you an invoice based upon your final count.

Hopefully this email will help in planning for the event and cost estimates.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions for me.

Thanks,

Josh

Josh Pedersen, CPRP

Parks and Forest Director

Eau Claire County Parks and Forest Dept.

227 1st Street West

Altoona, WI 54720

Phone: (715) 839-4783

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