

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