

**PRICE COUNTY FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: April 11, 2023

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Courthouse County Board Room 101; 126 Cherry St; Phillips, WI 54555

Call to Order and Roll Call. Meeting called to order by Jordan Spacek, Committee Vice-chair at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Jason Hastings, Jordan Spacek, Patricia Stephan, Ginny Strobl (remote). Excused: Jeff Hallstrand. Also present: Nick Trimner; Joe Grapa; Derek Johnson, DNR Wildlife Biologist; Alan Barkstrom.

Nick reviewed procedure for those attending electronically.

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Public Comment and Communications: None.
2. Minutes from March 2, 2023 Meetings: Motion Hastings/Spacek to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion carried.
3. Spring Timber Sale Bid Packet: Twelve tracks. Advertised value \$497,117. Motion Strobl/Hastings to approve the spring timber sale bid packet as presented. Motion carried.
4. Timber Sale Extensions: Reviewed list of incomplete sales back to 2011. Motion Spacek/Hastings to approve the extensions as presented with the fee schedule as outlined. Motion carried.
5. Lower Steve Creek Flowage – County Ownership Options: DNR has determined that the costs associated with repairing the dam outweigh the benefits. Cost estimate \$971,000 - \$1,094,000. Jeff Premeau, Town of Kennan spoke regarding the estimated cost of repairs and local interest in keeping the structure. Derek Johnson, DNR Wildlife Biologist spoke from the DNR's standpoint. The County could apply for DNR dam grant that would cover half, if selected. Motion Strobl/ that the County take over the Lower Steve Creek Flowage Dam. Motion failed due to lack of second. February 1, 2024 is the final deadline for commitment of whichever option is selected. The DNR engineer plan will need to be followed, but the County can their own cost estimates. The original extension for County response is May 5th. Will ask the DNR for another extension until after the May 16th Board Meeting. Motion Strobl/Hastings to postpone to the May 9th meeting. Motion carried.
6. Department Report: Administrative Assistant started yesterday. \$554,000 in stumpage. No active sales due to spring breakup. Timber markets are down. Plots completed for carbon credit reporting. Sales should be in the 1st or 2nd quarter of 2024. ATV maintenance grant work and applying for ATV trail and park expansion grant. \$20,000 grant received for storm damage clean up.
7. Financial Report and Vouchers: Motion Stephan/Spacek to approve the voucher in the amount of \$19,770.55. Motion carried.
8. Set Next Meeting Date: May 9th
9. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Submitted by: Jean Gottwald, County Clerk