

**Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
December 5, 2008
West Entrance**

Present were Chuck Zenner, Scott Mildbrand, Dave Bizer, Mike Roiger, Russ Aszmann and Brad Ruesch. Also present were Scott Lindow, DNR, and Mark Berglund, Star News.

Meeting called to order at 10:02 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Scott Mildbrand, second by Mike Roiger, to approve the agenda and the meeting minutes from the November 14th meeting. Motion carried.

Bills presented: WCFA Conference – Aszmann/Ruesch attended (\$50.00); Medford Coop – gas/hardware (\$162.70); and M & H Chevrolet – oil change/repair (\$419.92). Motion by Mildbrand, second by Bizer, to approve payment of bills. Motion carried.

Aszmann reviewed the winter timber sales bids: #4-08 Trout/Porky, select cut & clear cut area, winter sale, Janko Logging high bidder; #5-08 East of Camp 8 Lake, summer sale, Smola Logging high bidder; #6-08 Lump sum sale, one year contract, Wiitila-Vozka high bidder; #7-08 Marked selection cut, nice hardwood logs, summer sale, Janko Logging high bidder and #8-08 Large clear-cut acreage, large volume, Janko Logging high bidder. Spruce Lake Area Timber Sale had no bidders. Motion by Roiger, second by Mildbrand, to award timber sales to high bidders. Motion carried. Summary attached.

Ruesch reviewed Timber Sale #569 Wiitila-Vozka for renewal. They are going to begin working on sale in next couple of weeks with the possibility that they could finish before the end of the year. Motion by Bizer, second by Mildbrand, to give an extension with no increase in stumpage and pay \$50.00 renewal fee. Motion carried.

Ruesch reported on the letter received from Bob Rusch regarding the Wood Lake Property Acquisition recognition sign that was proposed at the November meeting of the Forestry Department. It contained the history of the acquisition and possible ideas for the proposed kiosk. Ruesch will also work with Ken Mannel and Eunice Domask over the winter to come up with ideas for the sign. The Committee will be updated as the work continues.

Aszmann reported there is no activity in the County Forest at this time. He also reported work has begun on timber sales for the spring sale.

Aszmann reviewed Smola Sale #576 for close-out. A good job was done and all is trucked and paid up. Motion to approve close-out Sale #576 Smola by Bizer and seconded by Roiger. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be January 2, 2009 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Mildbrand motioned, second by Bizer, to adjourn at 10:31 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

**Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
November 14, 2008
County Board Room**

Present were Chuck Zenner, Scott Mildbrand, Dave Bizer, Russ Aszmann and Brad Ruesch. Excused absence: Mike Roiger. Also present were Scott Lindow, DNR, Bruce Daniels, Sheriff, and the following: Don Erl, Jean Clarkson, Brian Clarkson, Kevin Purdy, Stacey Purdy, Ron Fischer, Victoria & Edward Casper, Amy Kraemer, Roy & Kathy Jochimsen, Cindy Akey, Mary Losiewicz, Mark Nosko, Gregory Armbrust, Kenneth Mannel, Paula Liske, Mark Berglund and Jim Bauer. Robert Rusch joined the meeting at 10:15 AM.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Scott Mildbrand, second by Dave Bizer, to approve the meeting minutes from the October 28th special meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mildbrand, second by Dave Bizer, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Chairman Zenner noted the interest in #7 Shooting hours at Pirus Range, so Zenner began with this item. The floor was given to Sheriff Daniels, who began by reviewing the grant he has applied for that would update the shooting range for police training. The grant would cover increased berms, a 360 degree range, a range house; the overall enhancement of the range. There were many questions/complaints from the public attending. They included: why hasn't the County enforced the posted shooting hours; why can't the range be moved to an isolated parcel of County owned land; how long of a time period do you have to use this grant application; can you cut the hours the range is open to only include weekday daylight hours & no weekend opening; can you put up a better sign detailing times open? Ruesch stated it is in the County Code that the Pirus Shooting Range is under the jurisdiction of the Taylor County Forestry & Recreation Committee and they have the authority to change the hours of operation at the shooting range. He also noted that there are penalties spelled out in the County Code for shooting after hours. Mark Nosko, Town Chairman of Maplehurst, said he thinks we should have a meeting of all involved parties to include the Forestry & Recreation Committee, Sheriff Daniels, Taylor County Sportsman's Club and all interested parties. Nosko said the meeting could be held at the Maplehurst Town Hall and there will be an agenda created and distributed to all before mentioned parties. At this time, all individuals interested in this item, departed the meeting.

Ken Mannel & Robert Rusch were given the floor to discuss the Wood Lake Property Acquisition recognition. Former County Board Member Mannel reviewed how the County came to own the Wood Lake property which at the time of acquisition was owned by Otto & Lorraine Miklautsch. State funding was applied for and all other obligations were fulfilled by the County. Rusch stated it would be highly appropriate to have some type of sign to recognize the former owners. Eunice, the daughter of the Miklautschs', stated it would be great to give her parents the recognition. Rusch will sketch a design for the sign and bring it back to the Committee.

Ruesch handed out draft copies of the Outdoor Recreation Plan for 2009 – 2013 which is required to make the County eligible for State and Federal grants. The Committee can review and it will be on December's agenda for Committee action.

Ruesch reported that the minutes from November's meeting were accepted by the State for the change in US Forest Reserve Payment System payouts to Townships. Ruesch also reported all Townships affected by this change have been notified. Ruesch handed out resolutions to bring to the next County Board session which relate to this action. Motion by Dave Bizer, seconded by Scott Mildbrand, to approve resolutions and bring to the next County Board session for full County Board approval. Motion carried. The motions are **A Resolution Establishing a Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) and Approving the**

Recommended Geographical Configuration of Proposed Resource Advisory Committee; A Resolution Regarding Selection of Forest Reserve Payment System: Opting In/Out of HR 1424(PL 110-343 – Section 601(a), Division C) Safety Net; and A Resolution Designating 15% to 20% of the Safety Net Full Payment Amount to be Allocated to Local Projects and Specifying the Percentage of Funding to be Allocated to Title II and III Projects.

Aszmann reported there is not much activity in the County Forest at this time. Smola's have finished Timber Sale #576 but we are waiting for mill slips so we will wait until next month to close out their sale.

Ruesch handed out the new Snowmobile maps. The Snowmobile Council paid for the new maps. 16,000 have been printed by Quik Print and laminated maps will be posted on all intersections on the trails. The Taylor County Surveyors digitized the map area so it will be easy to update any changes. The map has been posted to the Taylor County website.

Aszmann reviewed the Timber Sales for Advertising. #4 is on Trout/Porky, selection cut area, clear-cut area, winter sale and off main haul road; #5 East of Camp 8 Lake, ATV Trail runs through, summer sale, large selection cut area; #6 Lump sum sale, off Camp 8 Road, previous white birch regeneration sale/take off over-story, one year contract; #7 Near snowmobile trail, end of Little Rib Avenue, marked selection cut, nice hardwood logs, summer sale; #8 south of Trout Avenue, large clear-cut acreage, small selection (marked) area, large volume; and Spruce Lake Area Timber Sale, County owned 40 acres, 4-5 acres of hardwood, lump sum sale. Bizer motioned to approve Timber Sales for Advertising, second by Mildbrand. Motion carried.

Ruesch reported at the WCFA meeting held November 6th, Mike Roiger was not re-elected as a Director for the Board.

The next meeting will be December 5, 2008 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Scott Mildbrand motioned, second by Dave Bizer, to adjourn at 11:28 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

**Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting – Special Meeting
October 29, 2008
West Entrance**

Present were Chuck Zenner, Scott Mildbrand, Dave Bizer, and Brad Ruesch. Excused absence: Mike Roiger. Also present was Scott Lindow, DNR.

Meeting called to order at 9:15 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Scott Mildbrand, second by Dave Bizer, to approve the meeting minutes from October 3rd. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mildbrand, second by Dave Bizer, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Ruesch handed out information regarding US Forest Service funding option selection. This information included which townships receive funding and what percentage towns will receive for 2008 – 2011.

Motion by Scott Mildbrand, seconded by Dave Bizer, that Taylor County makes its selection of the Forest Reserve Payment System by opting into HR1424 (PL 110-343-Sect.601(a), Division C) Safety Net and designates 15% of the Safety Net Full Payment Amount to be allocated Local Projects under Title II. A Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) will be established on a multiple County basis. Membership will be determined on a timely basis. Roll call vote: Scott Mildbrand, Aye; Dave Bizer, Aye; and Chuck Zenner, Aye. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be November 14, 2008 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Scott Mildbrand motioned, second by Dave Bizer, to adjourn at 9:28 AM. Motion carried.

Chuck Zenner, Chairman Taylor County Forestry & Recreation Committee

Dave Bizer, Member

Scott Mildbrand, Member

Mike Roiger, Member

Jim Metz, Chairman, Taylor County Board of Supervisors

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
October 3, 2008
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Mike Roiger, Scott Mildbrand, Dave Bizer, Russ Aszmann and Brad Ruesch.

Meeting called to order at 10:05 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Roiger, second by Mildbrand, to approve the agenda and the meeting minutes from September 5th. Motion carried.

Bills presented: County Hwy Department – County Forest road project (\$25,683.51). Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve payment of bill. Motion carried.

Ruesch reported on the discussion he has had with the DNR Fisheries Director Dave Neuswanger regarding stocking/size limit/bag limit of bluegill, crappie and perch on Miller Dam Flowage. No new regulations until next spring when the Conservation Congress meets.

Ruesch discussed entering the Kennedy Lake land acquisition (20.3 acres) into the County Forest program. The State Board of Public Lands has to have the deed prepared for the County.

Ruesch reported he has entered into discussion with the Taylor County Sheriff's Department regarding the possible use of part of the Pirus property for law enforcement shooting range capabilities. They would use the second driveway where the gravel pit excavation area is; with one berm separating the two shooting ranges. There was discussion on where the money would come for the building of the range. Ruesch will talk to Sheriff Daniels and let the Sheriff's Department take the lead in beginning the discussion of the range expansion.

Aszmann reported Smola's are working on Timber Sale #576 on Bear Avenue and they are half done. Aszmann is continuing work on setting up 4-5 timber sales for the fall sale.

Aszmann reviewed Steve Dassow Sale #583 for close-out. A good job was done, wood is all trucked and they have one invoice to pay. Motion to approve close-out Sale #583 Steve Dassow pending final payment by Bizer and seconded by Roiger. Motion carried.

The final proof for the Snowmobile map was reviewed. There will be 15,000 maps printed and the costs associated with the new map are being paid for by the Taylor County Snowmobile Council. Any changes from now on will be easier to update with the mapping having been done electronically by the Surveyor's Department and Quik Print.

Zenner reported the Budget Committee approved taking \$100,000 from the County Forest Expense Account for levy relief in the 2009 Budget.

Ruesch reported Decker Lumber will begin the Snowmobile Bridge project on Monday, October 6th. There was discussion on how they plan to do the project. John Kleist, DNR, has been contacted.

Ruesch reported that Bob Rusch and Ken Mannel will be attending the November meeting to discuss a "recognition plaque" for Wood Lake.

The next meeting will be November 14, 2008 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Mildbrand, to adjourn at 11:07 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

**Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
September 5, 2008
West Entrance**

Present were Chuck Zenner, Mike Roiger, Scott Mildbrand, Dave Bizer, Russ Aszmann, Brad Ruesch and Scott Lindow, DNR. Also present was Mark Bergland, Star News.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Mildbrand, second by Roiger, to approve the agenda and the meeting minutes from August 1st. Motion carried.

Bills presented: Klingbeil Lbr Co. – fence staples (\$3.49); Dennis Komarek – 4000 crushed gravel (\$18,000); County Hwy Department – move equipment to road project site (\$208.43); Medford Motors – oil change (\$31.95); Ben Meadows – flagging tape (\$51.78); Wisconsin County Forests Association – 2009 WCFA dues and acreage assessment (\$1,828.75) and Nelson Paint Company – boundary paint (\$1,126.24). Motion by Mildbrand, second by Bizer, to approve payment of bills. Motion carried.

The Resolution and letter opposing the US Forest Service Travel Management Plan written by the County Board Chairman for Florence County was reviewed and discussed. The language in the resolution was felt to be too threatening. The resolution will be held in abeyance with a wait and see policy.

Ruesch reviewed the changes/updates to the Annual Work Plan. Motion to approve the 2009 Annual Work Plan by Bizer and seconded by Roiger and forward to the County Board for approval at the September 23rd County Board session. Motion carried.

Ruesch reviewed the budgets for 2009. There was discussion on account balances and prospects for timber sales revenue in the coming year. Motion to approve the 2009 Budget and send to Budget Committee by Bizer and seconded by Mildbrand. Motion carried. The Committee consensus is \$100,000 from the County Forest Expense Account could be available for levy relief in the 2009 Budget.

Aszmann reviewed active timber sales. No one is working on the County Forest at this time. Aszmann is continuing work on setting up 4-5 timber sales for the fall sale.

Aszmann reviewed Viitila-Vozka Sale #567 for close-out. It was worked during the dry period, a good job was done and it is all paid up. Motion to approve close-out Sale #567 Viitila-Vozka by Roiger and seconded by Bizer. Motion carried. Steve Dassow Sale #583 has not been completed at this time.

Ruesch reported the gravel project on Trout Avenue is completed and a good job was done by the County Highway Department. The bill for the remainder of the job will be received later this month.

There was discussion on the November meeting date. It will be changed to November 14th.

The next meeting will be October 3, 2008 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Mildbrand, to adjourn at 10:55 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
August 1, 2008
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Mike Roiger, Scott Mildbrand, Dave Bizer, Russ Aszmann, Brad Ruesch and Scott Lindow, DNR. Also present was Jake Lubera and Karl Welch, US Forest Service and Mark Bergland, Star News.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Roiger, second by Mildbrand, to approve the agenda, with add-on #12 Board of Commissioners of Public Lands regarding Kennedy Lake and the meeting minutes from July 3rd. Motion carried.

Bills presented: J.J.'s Brush Cutting Service – mowing grass & brush on County Forest roads (\$1632.00). Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to approve payment of bill. Motion carried.

US Forest Service Representative Jake Lubera, acting Supervisor Ranger for Bob Hennes, gave an overview of the Forest Service activities for 2008. They have spent considerable time on the West coast helping with fire control. He also gave an update on the status of the Travel Management Proposed Plan which will designate routes and trails in the National Forest. This will provide for safe usage of forest lands and be a living map which could be updated each year.

Karl Welch, US Forest Service Timber Management Assistant for the Park Falls/Medford District, spoke on the timber sale status in the Chequamegon/Nicolet National Forest. Of the ten Timber Sales open at this time, the majority of them are for spruce salvage in the Chequamegon Forest. They also have sales for pine salvage area in the Nicolet Forest tornado damage area. He also spoke on the Medford Aspen project, which will come to Record of Decision on August 25, 2008 and then there is a 45 day comment period. After that, the sales will be let for bid. The project includes 1,750 acres of clear-cut with a yield of 33,000 to 34,000 cords. There was discussion on regeneration of aspen.

The Committee thanked Jake & Karl for the update on US Forest Service activities.

Ruesch opened the bids for the snowmobile bridge relocation project and the Committee reviewed the four bids that were received. The same bidders submitted bids again after the first bids were rejected because they all exceeded available funding and there was a change in timber treatment. Motion by Mildbrand, second by Bizer, to go with Decker Lumber, Alternative #2 with CCA.60 Treatment for \$65,000. Motion carried. Bid summary attached.

Aszmann reviewed active timber sales. Wiitila-Vozka is nearing completion on Timber Sale #567 and Steve Dassow has begun work on Timber Sale #583. Aszmann is working on setting up timber sales for the fall sale.

Ruesch gave an update on the new snowmobile map. John Easterly is working on intersection numbers and ad location spots. Ruesch is working with Quik Print and they are looking for an October completion date.

Ruesch reported Mike Riggle is working with Peterson Construction for the tires on the shooting range. Lageman Excavating will backfill the tires. The Taylor County Sportsman's Club will pay for the project.

Ruesch reported he has received a response from the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands regarding the Kennedy Lake area. The asking price is \$25,000 for the 20 acre parcel. Zenner inquired about the advantage to the County with this acquisition. Ruesch replied it would be for the preservation of a wild lake with the possible acquisition of adjoining land (80 acres of timberland). Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to draft a letter to the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands to purchase land near Kennedy Lake and prepare resolution

to bring to the County Board at their next meeting scheduled in October. The resolution should be run past the Finance Committee for their approval. Motion carried.

Scott Lindow reported the \$.10 an acre Wildlife Account may be reduced or cut from the State Budget due to state budgetary problems.

The next meeting will be September 5, 2008 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Bizer motioned, second by Roiger, to adjourn at 11:45 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

**TAYLOR COUNTY FORESTRY & RECREATION
BRIDGE & TRAIL RELOCATIONS BIDS**

8-01-2008

Decker Lumber

Alternate #1	Panel-Lam approach ramps (ACQ .60 Treatment)	or	CCA .60 Treatment
	\$75,700.00		\$74,300.00
Alternate #2	Solid Sawn stringer approach (ACQ .60 Treatment)	or	CCA .60 Treatment
	\$67,600.00		\$65,000.00

Janke Contractors

Alternate #1	LS	\$82,678.19
	Timber is either Doug-Fir, Copper Napthenate .75, or SYP, CCA .60	
Alternate #2	LS	\$72,999.99
	Timber is SYP, CCA .60	

Ruzic Construction

\$79,836.25

McMullen & Pitz

		\$101,700.00
Option Alternate – Steel Approaches		\$107,070.00

**Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
July 3, 2008
West Entrance**

Present were Chuck Zenner, Mike Roiger, Scott Mildbrand, and Brad Ruesch. Also present was Luke Klink, Star News. Dave Bizer was excused.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Roiger, second by Mildbrand, to approve the agenda and the meeting minutes from June 6th. Motion carried.

Sheriff Bruce Daniels reported the truck weight enforcement program has been implemented with the officers being trained by the State Patrol. The truck scales have been used and citations have been written. The manpower is not there to use the truck scales at a full time level, but attempts are made to have them out when time is available.

Bills presented: Farm/Home – ball hitch & cultivator (\$20.08); Rent-A-Flash – Miller Dam signs (\$129.95); and Medford Co-op – coated cable for Miller Dam buoys, grass seed and gas (\$617.88). Motion by Roiger, second by Mildbrand, to approve payment of bills. Motion carried.

Ruesch reported that 150' of coated ½" diameter cable has been purchased for the buoy system at Miller Dam. He will be using his boat and working with the Buildings, Grounds & Parks Department to get the buoy system in place. We have the buoys to be installed from previous systems.

The membership letter for the Lake States Resource Alliance was received. Motion by Roiger, second by Mildbrand, to approve payment of the \$250 membership fee. Motion carried.

Ruesch reported Wiitila-Vozka have begun work on their pine/hardwood/aspen sale. Last week they constructed 300' of forest road access as approved by Russ Aszmann, Assistant Forest Administrator.

Ruesch reviewed two timber sales for close-out: #550 Mike Olson-all trucked and paid up and #572 Greg Lukes-red pine sale-all trucked and paid up. Motion by Roiger, second by Mildbrand, to close-out timber sales #550 Mike Olson and #572 Greg Lukes. Motion carried.

At this time the bids were opened for the snowmobile bridge relocation project. Ruesch handed out the summary on bids. Due to all bids being over grant dollars available he suggested all bids be rejected and the project re-advertised. There was also discussion on the specs regarding the treated lumber used for the project. Motion by Roiger, second by Mildbrand, to reject all bids, due to fact they all exceeded the available funding, and re-advertise with a change in timber treatment specifications. Motion carried.

Ruesch gave an update on the new snowmobile map. John Easterly is close to being done digitizing the maps. The ads have gone to Quik Print for a quote on cost.

Ruesch reported Mike Riggle is working with Peterson Construction for the tires for the shooting range. Ruesch will contact area Forest/Recreation administrators to find out if there is a firm for the harvesting of the lead in the tires presently being used. Containers for spent brass were discussed with an open container being a good alternative to the present wood boxes.

Roiger reported on the Summer Tour held in Marathon County on June 26 – 27th. They toured the Marathon County shooting range, Eau Pleine Park and Rib Mountain. The next day there were tours of Wausau Homes and the Mosinee Paper Mill.

Ruesch reported a representative from the US Forest Service would like to speak to the County Board/ Forestry & Recreation Committee. The US Forest Service will be contacted about attending the August 1st meeting.

The next meeting will be August 1, 2008 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Mildbrand, to adjourn at 11:00 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

**Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
June 6, 2008
West Entrance**

Present were Chuck Zenner, Mike Roiger, Dave Bizer, Scott Mildbrand, Russ Aszmann and Brad Ruesch. Also present was Scott Lindow DNR. Luke Klink, Star News, joined us at 10:15.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve the agenda, with the addition of #19. ATV Ordinance Review, and the meeting minutes from May 2nd. Motion carried.

Bills presented: None.

The Committee reviewed the ad for the installation of the snowmobile bridge and approach ramps that will be placed in the Star News for the acceptance of bids for the snowmobile bridge on the Little Rib River. The bids will be reviewed at the next committee meeting.

Aszmann reviewed the spring timber sales bids: #1-08 Hwy 13 Wayside Sale, hilly but it has a good amount of pine on it, Wiitila-Vozka Logging high bidder; #2-08 borders the Lincoln County line, winter sale, Steve Dassow high bidder; and #3-08 Smaller select cut hardwood, summer sale, Steve Dassow high bidder. Motion by Roiger, second by Mildbrand, to award timber sales to high bidders. Motion carried.

Aszmann reviewed the timber sale for renewal. Sale #557 Steve Dassow. Sale is over 90% complete and it appears to be an over-run of product. Motion by Mildbrand, second by Roiger, to give a one year extension with no increase in stumpage or renewal fee. Motion carried.

Aszmann reported there is no activity on timber sales at this time due to wet conditions. He is working on marking timber for fall timber sales. Winter and Spring sale establishment conditions were poor, so additional acres will need to be established this summer and fall.

Ruesch reported on Miller Dam aerator project. The compressor has been delivered, the Taylor County Zoning permit has been issued and the US Forest Service is supposed to place an ad in local paper regarding 30 day comment period. The Tribe is concerned about the rice situation. This new aerator will be moved on the flowage so as not to interfere with wild rice. The project should cost about \$12,000-\$15,000, with donations and grant money covering most of the cost.

There was discussion on the Miller Dam buoy/cable system. The Buildings, Grounds & Parks Committee has voted to discontinue the practice of having the cable system before the dam. Ruesch reported he has received an email from Terry Cummings, DNR, stating there is no legal requirement for the buoy/cable system. It is a safety factor. Some members of the Committee were not comfortable with taking it out and feel it would be responsible to explore other options.

Ruesch gave the Snowmobile Map update. John Easterly has begun to digitize the maps and when that is completed a review group will look for accuracy before going to Quik Print.

Ruesch reported he has spoken with Mike Riggle regarding the shooting range and the replacement of tires on the 50/100 yard ranges. Peterson Construction has been contacted for the tires. There has been no firm found for the harvesting of the lead/brass in the tires presently being used.

The Summer Tour will be held in Marathon County on June 26 – 27th. Aszmann will be going on the 26th & 27th. Roiger will be going to June 25th Director's meeting and also the 26th.

Ruesch handed out the Annual Financial Report for 2007. Report attached.

The 2007 Account Balance & Distribution report was reviewed. Ruesch reviewed account balances and distribution amounts. He also reported on the State audit – stating no discrepancies were found. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to approve the carry-over account balance distributions. Motion carried.

Ruesch handed out for review the ATV Ordinance with change of weight to read 900 lbs. not ~~650~~. Motion by Roiger, second by Mildbrand, to approve change from 650 to 900 pounds (weight of ATV). Motion carried.

Also discussed was the legality of ATV's with tracks on the trail system. They are not legal.

Ruesch reviewed the Black River Rock Dodgers, Jump River Runners and Snow Groomers Association maintenance program expense and supplemental funding request.

Ruesch also discussed the Pershing Wildlife boundary expansion; he has not had any word from the Highway Department regarding the County Forest road project; and he has not heard anything regarding the truck scales purchased last year.

The next meeting will be July 3, 2008 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to adjourn at 11:15 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

TAYLOR COUNTY FOREST
FINANCIAL REPORT 2007

Revenue Total	504,212.72
70% County Budget	362,283.36
20% State Fund *	94,591.36
10% Town Fund	47,338.00

*There is no debt balance with the State, so these funds are transferred to the land acquisition account to be used for land or easement purchases.

Budgeted Revenue	100,205.00
Actual Revenue	362,283.36
Surplus Revenue	<u>262,078.36</u>

Expense Budget	312,370.32
Expense	167,204.99
Balance	<u>145,165.33</u>
Balance forward to 2008	387,466.69

Town Fund Distribution	47,338.00
Rib Lake 94%	44,498.00
Westboro 6%	2,840.00

Land Acquisition Distribution

Prior Balance	224,078.66
2007 Transfer	94,591.36
Account Balance	<u>318,670.02</u>

Timber Sale Contracts

Spring Sale Total (4 sales)	88,872.05	124 acres
Fall Sale Total (5 sales)	181,989.00	305 acres
<u>2007 Total</u>	<u>270,861.05</u>	<u>429 Total Acres</u>

<u>2006 Total</u>	<u>288,259.50</u>	<u>394 Total Acres</u>
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<u>2005 Total</u>	<u>393,277.50</u>	<u>504 Total Acres</u>
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<u>2004 Total</u>	<u>296,081.57</u>	<u>573 Total Acres</u>
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SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT 2007 – 2008

<u>Rock Dodgers:</u>	30,486.24
Snowmobile Contract	13,650.00
ATV Contract	6,050.00
Supplemental Funding Request	10,786.24
<u>Jump River River Runners:</u>	24,937.27
Snowmobile Contract	14,350.00
ATV Contract	3,550.00
Supplemental Funding Request	7,037.27
<u>Clubs Grooming Association:</u>	83,657.18
Snowmobile Contract	44,675.00
ATV Contract	19,520.00
Supplemental Funding Request	19,462.18
<u>Supplemental Request</u>	10,786.24
	7,037.27
	<u>19,462.18</u>
	37,285.69
Maintenance Program Total	139,080.69
Snowmobile Grant	72,675.00
ATV Grant	29,120.00
Supplemental Request	<u>37,285.69</u>
TOTAL	139,080.69

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
May 9, 2008
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Mike Roiger, Dave Bizer, Scott Mildbrand, Russ Aszmann and Brad Ruesch. Also present was Scott Lindow DNR.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve the agenda and the meeting minutes from April 4th. Motion carried.

Chairman Zenner and fellow committee members welcomed new member Scott Mildbrand.

Bills presented: None.

Aszmann reported there is no activity on timber sales at this time due to spring break-up and wet conditions.

Ruesch reported Dennis Komarek has 4000 yards of gravel stockpiled that he would sell for \$4.50 a yard. Trout Avenue needs 2 miles of gravel placement on the south end. The Highway Department could be contacted to get a price for completing the job. Motion by Roiger, second by Mildbrand, to approve the purchase of the Komarek gravel at \$4.50 yard. Motion carried. Ruesch will contact Tom at Highway to discuss County Highway Department doing the job.

Ruesch gave the Snowmobile Map update. There are fewer map ads to work with, the trails have all been identified by the Clubs and John Easterly has to begin to digitize the maps. When that is completed Quik Print will be contacted to begin the layout of the ads for the map. The maps should be ready for next season and when completed the new map will be out on the Taylor County website.

Aszmann reviewed the spring timber sales: #1-08 Hwy 13 Wayside Sale, which has a scenic easement, Ice Age Trail going thru it, power lines and it's hilly but it has a good amount of pine on it; #2-08 borders the Lincoln County line, has the snowmobile trail going through it, 12 acre clear-cut and selection cut, winter sale; and #3-08 Smaller select cut hardwood, off main haul road, summer sale. Motion by Bizer, second by Mildbrand, to approve #1-08 through #3-08 sales for advertising. Motion carried.

Ruesch reported on the ATV Trail opening on the Perkinstown Motorized Trail in the Chequamegon Forest. They had an automatic date of May 1st for opening. Then they put an announcement on the radio requesting ATV'ers abstain from using the trail until May 10th.

Ruesch handed out the specs for the bridge placement on the Little Rib River. There are two options: 1) pre-fabricated bridge ramps (Wheeler Bridge) and 2) built on site with decking and planking. The specs were discussed and the deadline of installation (put in for next season use). The extra funding has been received; half from Snowmobile and half from ATV funding accounts. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to advertise for bids for bridge installation for bid opening at July meeting. Motion carried.

The Summer Tour will be held in Marathon County on June 26 – 27th and headquarters will be at Stoney Creek Inn. The reservations have to be in by June 12th.

The next meeting will be June 6, 2008 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to adjourn at 11:00 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

**Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
April 4, 2008
West Entrance**

Present were Chuck Zenner, Mike Roiger, Dave Bizer, Russ Aszmann and Brad Ruesch. Also present were Scott Lindow, DNR, Luke Klink, Star News, Lester Lewis and Wayne Hamann.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve the agenda and the meeting minutes from March 7th. Motion carried.

Bills presented: Medford Farm & Home, rubber strap & tie down (\$11.78) and monthly Medford Co-op vehicle gas bill (\$222.25). Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve payment of bills. Motion carried.

Aszmann reviewed Timber Sale #566 Smola Bros for close-out. All wood is hauled, paid up and good job done. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to approve timber sale close-out #566 Smola Bros. Motion carried.

Aszmann reported Timber Sale #550 Mike Olson is finished but has wood to haul. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to extend Timber Sale #550 through June 30, 2008 for paperwork and accounting purposes. Motion carried.

Aszmann reported on timber sales: 1) Mike Olson has completed work on Sale #550 and has remainder of wood decked for hauling and 2) Steve Dassow had been working on Sale #557 and is 80% completed.

He also reported it has been difficult to mark timber for the upcoming spring timber sales due to the depth of the snow. He hopes to begin marking trees next week.

Ruesch reported on the area around Spruce Lake (which is under the jurisdiction of the Parks Department) needs to be logged off. Its small acreage (5-6 acres) but with large logs. It could be used for the Log-A-Load project.

Wayne Hamann gave a report on the Log-A-Load which is a project of the Great Lakes Timber Producers Association. It involves an "Educational cut" for kids in the 5th grade. There are 5 or 6 stations where the students can view harvesting, skidding, DNR Fire Control, hand cutters and regrowth. It is a two day event with proceeds going to Children's Miracle Network and The Great Lakes Timber Producers. Regarding stumpage, they pay the price and the response has been good from the 6 Counties in Region 6 which includes Taylor County. The Rib Lake School Forest is a possible site for the project. Mike Roiger said that it would be a good for the Committee to support this project.

Ruesch gave the Snowmobile Map update. As soon as all maps are turned back in and John Easterly has time, the digitizing of the maps will begin. Ads are still coming in and Quik Print will be contacted soon to begin the layout of the ads for the map. The maps should be ready for next season. It was reported the clubs went over on maintenance funding for the trails and expected payback from the State will be 50 – 60% pro-rate.

Ruesch reported the Miller Dam aerator project located at the Federal campground on Miller Dam is proceeding. The aerator/building will be located near the Northern most campsite in a non-intrusive area. Steve Oberle, Land Conservationist, will be putting in for a grant for the project. The project is estimated to cost between \$10,000 and \$15,000. The operation and maintenance agreement will be between the Lake Association and the US Forest Service.

Ruesch reported the annual fee for inactive status of the non-metallic mine on the Pirus Shooting Range is due and payable. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to pay the \$15 fee for the Pirus property. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be May 2, 2008 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to adjourn at 10:45 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
March 7, 2008
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Mike Roiger, Dave Bizer, Russ Aszmann and Brad Ruesch. Also present were Scott Lindow, DNR and Luke Klink, Star News.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve the agenda with addition of #12 Board of Commissioners of Public Lands land sale offering and adjoining property and the meeting minutes from February 1st. Motion carried.

Bills presented: Town of Rib Lake for grading County Forest roads (\$900.00), motel bill for Ruesch/Aszmann for WCFA Conference (\$62.00) and monthly Medford Co-op vehicle gas bill (\$311.25). Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve payment of bills. Motion carried.

Aszmann reviewed Timber Sale #565 Smola Bros for close-out. All wood is hauled, paid up, new gated road and good job done. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to approve timber sale close-out #565 Smola Bros. Motion carried.

Aszmann reported on timber sales: 1) Smola Bros. are finishing working on sale #566; 2) Mike Olson is finishing work on Sale #550; and 3) Steve Dassow is working on Sale #557 and he will probably need an extension if he doesn't complete now. Olson & Smola jobs will be on next month's agenda for close-out. Ruesch reported on the payments to Rib Lake and Westboro (land in County Forest) received 10% of County Forest timber sale activity income. Rib Lake received \$44,467 and Westboro received \$2,833.

Ruesch reported on the WCFA Spring Conference held February 28-29 at Eagle River. Speakers reviewed the following topics: Certification-FSC vs. SFI; WISFirs – DNR Forestry computer program; budget crisis in Madison; silviculture & invasive species; woody biomass and its effect on forest regeneration (guidelines) and possible bad bug infestation.

Ruesch gave the Snowmobile Program update. It has been an excellent season statewide. The Groomers have used all their funds already and additional funds will have to be applied for but the share of funds available will be small. April 15th is the application deadline for next year's funding. Ruesch also reported he has received the engineering contract for the snowmobile bridge installation. He will begin work on putting a package together for advertising and bring to the Committee.

Ruesch reported the Miller Dam aerator project located at the Federal campground on Miller Dam is proceeding. A meeting with the US Forest Service, DNR, and the Lake Association is set for March 28. The aerator system now being used is an inefficient system costing \$350 a month to run.

Ruesch reviewed the letter to Mrs. John Desris regarding land she owns on Kennedy Lake. Her husband recently passed away and the letter asked about the possibility of purchase of this land by the County Forestry Department. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to send the letter. Motion carried.

Board of Commissioners of Public Land is offering their land holding in Taylor County for sale. Government Lot 7, Section 22, T33N-R2E, Town of Rib Lake, is of interest to the County Forest. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to investigate the acquisition of the State owned land. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be April 4, 2008 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Bizer motioned, second by Roiger, to adjourn at 10:52 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

**Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
February 1, 2008
West Entrance**

Present were Chuck Zenner, Mike Roiger, Dave Bizer, Russ Aszmann and Brad Ruesch. Also present were Scott Lindow, DNR, Luke Klink, Star News and Mike Riggle, Taylor County Sportsman's Club.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve the agenda and the meeting minutes from January 4th. Motion carried.

Bills presented: None.

Ruesch reported on the Ordinance/Resolution drafted by Steve Anderson, Corp Counsel. The Ordinance will amend the County Code and the Resolution will amend the previous Resolutions that approved the archery range and facility and the shooting range development. At this time Mike Riggle gave an overview of the results of the borings taken at the Pirus gravel pit. He had Jack Peterson and Scott Peterson review the results and they are of the opinion that there is gravel there but it needs to be graded for quality. Riggle went on to say that with all info data, he feels there is not an economical way to get the gravel out of the pit. Ruesch and Zenner went on to say that we need to move on and present to County Board. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve Ordinance to Amend Section 42.04(1), County Parks, Rifle and Archery Ranges, Taylor County Code and Resolution Amending Resolution 18, Approving An Archery Range And Facility, And Resolution 19, approving Shooting Range Development Project, Which Were Both Adopted On October 10, 2000. Motion carried. It was signed by all Committee members and will be forwarded to the Highway Committee. Ordinance/Resolution attached.

Ruesch reviewed Timber Sale #563 Sappi Paper for close-out. The sale had been given a one month extension to January 31, 2008. Paperwork has been completed, bond returned, Steve Dassow did a good job logging. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve timber sale close-out #563 Sappi Paper. Motion carried. Ruesch also reported Kafka Sale #570 has been closed out but there is a little wood left to haul otherwise it is completed.

Aszmann reported on timber sales: 1) Smola Bros. are working on Porky Dr. sale; 2) Mike Olson is working on Sale #550, weather is cooperating and if it holds up, he should be able to complete job; and 3) Steve Dassow is working on his sale east of the four corners.

The WCFA Spring Conference will be held February 28-29 at Eagle River. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to approve Roiger, Ruesch and Aszmann to attend Conference with a stay overnight. Motion carried.

Roiger gave the Snowmobile Trail update. Trails are in good shape with grooming done at least once a week. The Groomers have used all their funds already and additional funds will have to be applied for.

Ruesch reported work has begun on the Snowmobile map reprint. The ad participant letter has been sent out to previous advertisers and also possible new advertisers. The Surveyor's Office has been contacted regarding digitizing the snowmobile map. With the new GIS capabilities, the map with trail locations could be easily updated once it has been completed.

Ruesch reviewed the Miller Dam aerator project the Lake Association has determined is the #1 priority. They will work with the previous aerators design and the site has already been picked out near the power source.

Barb Roepke has contacted Ruesch regarding a Boy Scout project for her son. He spoke to her regarding the building which will need to be constructed at the aerator site as a possible project. They will have to work with the US Forest Service and the Lake Association. Steve Oberle has applied for a \$5300 Conservation Grant for the project.

The next meeting will be March 7, 2008 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to adjourn at 10:48 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
January 4, 2008
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Mike Roiger, Dave Bizer, Russ Aszmann and Brad Ruesch. Also present were Scott Lindow, DNR, Luke Klink, Star News and Tyler Peterson, student Rib Lake High School.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to approve the agenda (add-ons #14 Log-a-Load and #15 Spring Conference/Eagle River) and the meeting minutes from December 7th. Motion carried.

Bills presented: None.

Ruesch reported the County Forest land purchase was finalized after the Christmas holiday. It has been entered into the County Forestry program. Recon data will be done when weather permits.

Aszmann reviewed Timber Sale #561 Haenel Logging for close-out. Sale along Porky & Trout, spruce thinning, good job, paid up. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve timber sale close-out #561 Haenel. Motion carried.

Contract extensions were given to Mike Olson #550, 3 months (March 31st) & \$50 renewal fee and Sappi #563, one month (waiting for mill slips) and no renewal fee.

Aszmann reported on timber sales: 1) Smola Bros. will begin Porky Sale on Monday (1/7) and they're hauling from another sale; 2) Greg Lukes has utility poles to haul and that should clean-up the sale; 3) Steve Dassow is working on his sale and 4) Tom Hartwig Logging will begin their sale shortly and it is near snowmobile trail so will look at area when work begins.

Ruesch reported on preliminary 2007 Revenue figures and the final will be coming when the 2007 books are closed.

Roiger and Ruesch gave the Snowmobile Trail update. Trails are in good shape with water issues in a few places. Radio station WKEB will be giving reminders regarding ATV use when the temperature goes above 28°. Also discussed was law enforcement regarding registration checks, mufflers, etc. and the trail change in the Stetsonville area.

Ruesch reviewed the quotes for new computers: Aszmann \$1555, Ruesch \$1497 and half of secretary's \$1300+. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to approve purchase. Motion carried.

Ruesch reported on Log-a-Load which is an educational event/fundraiser for children with medical needs program. Loggers and truckers donate their time. Lindow reported the maximum direct sale amount is \$3000 with the Town's still receiving their 10%. More information will be brought back to the Committee.

The WCFA Spring Conference will be held February 28-29 at Eagle River. It will be on the agenda next month regarding registration.

The next meeting will be February 1, 2008 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to adjourn at 10:41 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary