

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
December 6, 2013
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Dave Bizer, Mike Roiger, Myron Brooks, Jake Walcisak and Russ Aszmann. Also present were Mark Berglund, Star News and Scott Lindow, DNR.

Meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to approve the meeting minutes from November 1st as mailed and the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

The following bills were presented 1) Star News (timber sale ad) \$97.20; 2) Medford Motors Inc. (tire rotation, oil change, wheel alignment, replace both control arms) \$600.11; and 3) Ayres Associates (final payment Camp 8 Dam Inspection) \$1,050.00. Bizer motioned, Roiger second, to approve bills as presented. Motion carried.

Walcisak gave the timber sales update; Poyda is working on Sale #606, approximately 100 cords from completion and Wiitala-Vozka are plowing roads to begin work on Sales #605 & 608.

Walcisak reviewed the fall timber sales: #8-12 sale did not sell at spring sale, Schreiner Forestry high bidder; #2-13 off Bear Ave, Wiitala-Vozka high bidder; #3-13 off Little Rib Road, Gumz Logging high bidder; and #4-13 off Camp 8 Road, Czarnezki Forest Products high bidder. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to approve awarding timber sales to highest bidder. Motion carried.

Aszmann reviewed timber sales for renewal. 1) #603 Smola Bros. did not complete sale due to Hwy D construction & wet conditions. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve extension through October 31, 2014 with no increase in stumpage. Motion carried. 2) #609 Gumz Logging; 1st renewal, couldn't safely operate equipment on steep terrain with snow on ground. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve one year extension with no increase in stumpage but there will be a substantial increase if not done in one year. Motion carried. 3) #610 Wiitala-Vozka 1st renewal. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve one year extension with no increase in stumpage but there will be a substantial increase if not done in one year. Motion carried.

Walcisak reviewed Timber Sale #614 Janko Logging for close-out. Sale is all paid-up; good utilization. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to close-out Timber Sale #614 Janko Logging. Motion carried.

Aszmann reviewed letter from Arden Wiitala Jr regarding increasing the length of contracts for winter sales. He is also requesting no bid bonds during the bidding process. After discussion, it was decided to keep our sales on our schedule and continue with our bond checks as we have been doing.

Aszmann reported Camp 8 Dam removal of trees will be done by Highway Department when weather conditions allow.

Aszmann reviewed a Resolution to Authorize the Purchase of Forty (40) Acres of Land for Entry into the Taylor County Forest Program which if approved at the December 12th Finance Committee meeting, will be brought to the next County Board Session on January 22, 2014. The County would gain access through Taylor County land to existing County Forest property with the purchase of said property. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve Resolution and forward it onto the Finance Committee for their approval. Motion carried.

Aszmann reviewed the Secure Rural Schools Act. This is the transition year with funds going to school districts with US Forest lands in their district. Funds formerly went to the Towns and this year the Towns will get payments through State funding. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to approve 2014 SRS payment method and designate Title II (8%) and Title III (7%) funding. Motion carried. Each year the County will be able to decide between the 25% payment and SRS payment.

There was discussion on whole tree chipping operations and the need for different specs for timber sales if this method of logging is performed. It was decided to leave our policy as we have it; we will consider future timber sales as lump sum when appropriate.

After discussion, motion by Roiger, second by Brooks, to transfer 2007 Forestry Truck to Zoning Department. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be January 2, 2014 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Bizer motioned, second by Brooks, to adjourn at 11:50 AM. Motion carried.

Russ Aszmann, Secretary

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
November 1, 2013
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Dave Bizer, Mike Roiger, Myron Brooks, Jake Walcisak and Russ Aszmann. Also present were Dave Lemke, County Board Supervisor, Mark Berglund, Star News, Brad Dahlvig, WIGM and Scott Lindow, DNR.

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Bizer motioned, second by Brooks, to approve the meeting minutes from October 4th as mailed and the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

The following bills were presented 1) Correction Creek Services (installing hunter walking trail gates) \$873.07; 2) Taylor County Hwy Department (road graveling, move equipment & road grading) \$16,619.55; 3) Nelson Paint Company (timber marking paint) \$222.48 & \$1846.26; 4) J.J.'s Brush Cutting Service (mowing on County Forest roads) \$1680.00; and 5) Quik Print (letterhead) \$58.08. Roiger motioned, Bizer second, to approve bills as presented. Motion carried.

Jake Walcisak, the new Assistant Forest Administrator, introduced himself to the Committee.

Timber sales update: Janko Sale #614 finished cutting but need to haul wood and they have begun work on Schreiner Timber Sale #607; Smola Bros. are continuing work on their Sale #603 and Poyda is working on his Sale #606.

Walcisak reviewed the fall timber sales: #8-12 frozen ground sale, sale did not sell at spring sale; #2-13 off Bear Ave, red pine thinning will require annosum treatment, regeneration areas; #3-13 off Little Rib Road, gas line bisects sale, high quality sale, long haul road; #4-13 49 acre sale off Camp 8 Road, overstory removal. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve timber sales for advertising. Motion carried.

Aszmann reported on the early opening of the Pine Line to snowmobiles that was in place last year on a trial basis. Motion by Bizer, second by Brooks, to approve extending the early opening on a one year trial basis. Motion carried.

Lemke discussed the forest management work needed at the Perkinstown Winter Sports Area. He's asking for help in establishing a sale on County property outside of the County Forest. The Committee said it was ok to proceed.

Aszmann reported he has been contacted by Discover Wisconsin to feature the Taylor County Forest. If Taylor County wants to be featured they would need to contribute to the \$36,000 costs.

Aszmann reported on the Camp 8 dam inspection report. The inspection shows the following needs 1) minor repairs, remove trees; 2) mowing; 3) update notifications information as part of the Emergency Action Plan; and 4) sign for ATV's on dam restrictions. Aszmann will make corrections and document with pictures. He will talk to the Hwy Department for help with brushing.

Aszmann reviewed the possible acquisition of land that boundaries on County Rd D. The County is interested for access to existing County Forest property. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve permission to proceed with negotiations, appraisal and County Board approval. Motion carried.

Aszmann requests purchase of one additional license for ArcMap GIS Software. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to approve purchase of license for ArcMap GIS Software. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be December 6, 2013 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to adjourn at 10:40 AM. Motion carried.

Russ Aszmann, Secretary
by Scott Lindow

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
October 4, 2013
West Entrance

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

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to approve the meeting minutes from September 6th as mailed and the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

The following bills were presented 1) K2 Electric (Miller Dam power & aeration) \$2675.00; 2) Kyle Komarek Excavating (culvert replacement) \$2010.00; 3) In Stitches & Ink (vests & hats) \$258.00; 4) Star News (ad for truck bids) \$153.90; 5) Ayres Associates (Camp 8 Dam inspection/50%) \$1050.00; 6) Glass To Go (windshield replacement) \$270.00; and 7) DNR (cruising stick) \$25.00. Roiger motioned, Brooks second, to approve bills as presented. Motion carried.

Aszmann and Scott Lindow are continuing to work on setting up the fall sales.

Five bids were reviewed for the purchase of a new truck. Bids were received from Medford Motors, Wheelers Chevrolet and Ewald Automotive Group (3). After review and discussion, Bizer motioned, second by Roiger, to approve purchase of truck from Medford Motors. Motion carried. The 2007 Forestry truck will be given over to the Maintenance Department.

Aszmann reported (6) vests and (4) hats with Taylor County Forestry Department logo have been received for use when on trail patrol.

Aszmann reported he has not received the Camp 8 Dam inspection report.

Aszmann reported the gravel project has been completed. Approximately 2 miles of road has been graveled, 3 culverts replaced, 2 new culverts installed and ditching has been completed.

The firewood restrictions for the County Forest & County Campgrounds were reviewed. They are needed to stem the invasion by the emerald ash borer and other invasive species. After discussion, the Committee would like Aszmann to prepare an ordinance to bring to the Committee.

Aszmann, Roiger and Brooks reported on the WCFA Annual Fall meeting.

Aszmann reported on the Society of American Forester's meeting. There was discussion on managing northern hardwoods, regeneration, tree browsing by deer and canopy gaps in hardwoods.

The next meeting will be November 1, 2013 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance with a County Forest tour to follow.

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

Russ Aszmann, Secretary

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
September 6, 2013
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Dave Bizer, Mike Roiger, Myron Brooks, and Russ Aszmann. Also present were Brad Ruesch, retired Taylor County Forest Administrator, Mark Berglund, Star News and Scott Lindow, DNR. Present for a portion of the meeting was Jeff Ludwig, Maintenance Department.

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to approve the meeting minutes from July 5th as mailed and the amended agenda as posted. Motion carried.

The following bills were presented 1) WCFA 2014 dues \$1953.33; 2) Freudenthal Manufacturing (10 culverts) \$1535.45; and 3) advertising for Assistant Forest Administrator (Eau Claire Press Co. \$328.83, Star News \$248.86, Gannett Wisconsin Media \$2159.26). Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to approve bills as presented. Motion carried.

Aszmann reported Janko Logging is working on Timber Sale #614 and Jim Poyda is working on Timber Sale #606. Aszmann is continuing to work on setting up future sales.

There was discussion on purchasing a new truck with one of the two forestry trucks going to another department to replace an older vehicle. Jeff Ludwig reported his department has always used hand-me-down vehicles from other departments and at this time there is a need for a vehicle. Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to approve for advertising and purchase of a new truck. Motion carried.

Jeff Ludwig gave an update on the Miller Dam power supply. He reported the electrician should complete work by end of today on the hook-up for the power to operate the aerator for the dam. The wiring is also complete for a proposed future light near the dam structure.

Aszmann reported on the Pirus Shooting Range maintenance issues. In the past, a verbal agreement was in place that the Archery Club would take care of mowing & garbage pick-up at both places. There were consultations with various members of the Archery Club and Taylor County Sportsmans Club. Paul Carlson (Archery Club) has committed to maintaining the grounds. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to pay Paul Carlson \$50 each occurrence of mowing. Motion carried. The County will provide bags for garbage and the County will pick-up and dispose of bagged garbage.

Aszmann and Marie Koerner conducted interviews of candidates for the Assistant Forest Administrator position. After checking references, they have offered the job to Jake Walcisak, who has accepted the position. His start date will be October 7, 2013.

Aszmann reported he rode patrol on ATV's with Dave Kahan, Sheriff's Department, on the Perkinstown Motorized Trail. He feels that a shirt/hat which identifies him as being an employee of the Taylor County Forestry Department would be appropriate. After discussion, Bizer motioned, second by Roiger to approve purchase of vests/hats with Taylor County Forestry Department logo spending no more than \$300. Motion carried.

Aszmann handed out for review draft budgets for the Committee to review. After discussion, motion by Roiger, second by Bizer to approve budget as presented and send on to Finance Committee for their approval. Motion carried.

Aszmann reported Ayres Associates inspected the Camp 8 Dam on September 5, 2013. A preliminary report should be received within the next week.

Copies of the 2014 Annual Work Plan were handed out for review. It has been updated to reflect current year and also added a statement regarding the department doing a complete update to the forest reconnaissance starting in 2014. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer to approve the 2014 Annual Work Plan. Motion carried. The plan will be forwarded to the County Board for their approval.

The WCFA Annual Fall Meeting will be held in Rothschild on September 27th. Roiger will be going over on September 26th for Director's meeting. Brooks, Roiger and Aszmann will go together on Friday for the meeting.

Aszmann reported on the Society of American Forester's conference he would like to attend on September 17 & 18 in Minocqua. The conference will have discussion on the Northern Hardwoods timber type. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer to approve attendance by Aszmann. Motion carried.

Aszmann reviewed the resolution expressing appreciation to Bradford Ruesch for his years as Taylor County Forest & Recreation Administrator. Motion to approve resolution by Roiger, second by Bizer. Motion carried. The Resolution will be presented at the next County Board session.

The next meeting will be October 4, 2013 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

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

Russ Aszmann, Secretary

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
July 5, 2013
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Dave Bizer, Mike Roiger, Myron Brooks, and Russ Aszmann. Also present were Mark Berglund from *Star News* and Scott Lindow, DNR. Present for a portion of the meeting was Sheriff Daniels. Mary Wagenknecht was on medical leave so Scott Lindow was acting secretary.

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

There were no bills.

The Sustainable Federal Forests Committee resolution was reviewed and discussed. Aszmann explained the resolution and the reasons for resolution. Aszmann stated the USFS should manage forests how they were originally intended and to increase timber production. Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to approve resolution. Motion carried. The resolution will be forwarded to the County Board for approval.

The proposed County Forest road project was discussed. The last major road project was in 2008. Aszmann proposed gravel and culvert project for the County Forest this summer. There was \$15,000 budgeted for project with \$9300 carried over from forest road aids. We usually spend \$4000-6000 for mowing and grading. The proposed project would utilize 2,000 yards of gravel, set 8-10 culverts and do some ditching. County will purchase crushed gravel from local pit owners. The County Highway Dept will be used to haul and spread gravel for this project. We will utilize private contractor for culvert and ditching project. The project will cost approximately \$25,000. Roiger motioned, second by Bizer to proceed with project as discussed. Motion carried.

Sheriff Daniels joined the meeting at 10:11 AM to discuss Assistant Forest Administrator position. Aszmann reported on discussions with Marie Koerner, Ken Schmiege, Bruce Daniels and himself earlier this week. Discussed what a new person could do to patrol and enforce on county recreational land. Schmiege indicated the individual could write citations as long as it is stated in the county code. Although county personnel can write citations, there was concern with training, safety issues, liability issues, etc. Daniels talked about the reimbursement program with the snowmobile trails program, and doing the same with the ATV program. The Sheriff's office can work together with Forestry Department to target areas that need attention. Daniels feels doing the patrol together would work well. Aszmann reviewed the job description for Assistant Administrator, which includes the duties of patrol. Roiger motioned, second by Bizer to approve job description and refilling position. Motion carried. This will be forwarded to the Personnel Committee for their review and approval.

Aszmann reported on Summer Tour he attended in Oconto County on June 27. The group toured logging equipment manufacturer, silviculture sites, and white-tail ranch. Roiger attended the business meeting and reported it was approved to hire an assistant for Jane at the WCFA office.

Zenner attended the Bi-annual Forest Policies Conference in Carter, WI. Discussed mostly was transportation. They talked about improving the rail system, getting more rail spurs and building log yards.

A letter from the USFS regarding a proposed snowmobile trail from the Mondeaux area to southern Price County is at the "taking comments" stage. Roiger stated some of this trail

proposal started in the 1970's and is being talked about now. Roiger motioned, second by Brooks to provide comments back to the USFS.

Scott reported on potential changes to the certification process. Certification with FSC may have some changes with the "group" certificates vs. "forest management unit" certificate to change audit frequency. It would be to the County's advantage to be FMU rather than a group certificate.

The next meeting will be August 2, 2013 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Bizer motioned, second by Roiger, to adjourn at 10:50 AM. Motion carried.

Russ Aszmann, Secretary

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
June 7, 2013
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Dave Bizer, Mike Roiger, Myron Brooks, and Russ Aszmann. Also present were Brian Wilson, Star News and Scott Lindow, DNR.

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Roiger motioned, second by Brooks, to approve the meeting minutes from May 3rd and May 21st as mailed and the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

Aszmann presented bill from Randy Thums Trucking and Excavating for \$328.50 for gravel/end loader work done on forest road. Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to approve payment; motion carried.

Aszmann reported on contract extensions. Wiitala-Vozka Timber Sale #605, second extension. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to extend timber sale for one year with a 5% increase in stumpage and \$50 renewal fee; motion carried. Jim Poyda Timber Sale #606, first extension. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to extend timber sale for one year with no increase in stumpage and \$50 renewal fee; motion carried. Schreiner Forestry Sale #607, first extension. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to extend timber sale for one year with no increase in stumpage and \$50 renewal fee; motion carried. Wiitala-Vozka Timber Sale #608, first extension. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to extend timber sale for one year with no increase in stumpage and \$50 renewal fee; motion carried.

Aszmann reviewed Timber Sales bid for awarding: #8-12 was not sold; no bids were received. It will be added to the Fall Sales. Timber Sale #1-13, high bidder was Tigerton Lumber Co. Roiger motioned, Bizer second, to approve Timber Sale to high bidder; motion carried.

Aszmann reported on Gary & Lori Krueger's request for use of existing forest road through part of the County Forest to access their property. After discussion, motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to approve use of existing forest road by Gary & Lori Krueger to obtain access to their land; motion carried. A road utilization agreement will be signed by Krueger and County.

Zenner welcomed Aszmann as new Administrator and wished him good luck in new position.

Zenner had requested Aszmann to look into other options in regard to the hiring of a new County Forest Assistant Administrator. He reported on wage scale and possible additional duties the new assistant could have. Namely the other duties would include the possible patrol of snowmobile/ATV trails, Pine Line, and campground checks. There was discussion on ability to write citation for violations and also scheduling work on a weekend day. There was lengthy discussion on law enforcement training to include conservation, training hours needed, citation ability. Also reviewed were other possible options for utilizing part time help. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to hire a full time Assistant Administrator with possible law enforcement education; motion carried. Aszmann will talk to Corp Counsel Schmiede in regards to the writing of county citations.

The Summer Tour will be held on June 26 – 28 in Oconto County. Roiger will attend the Director's meeting on June 26 & Aszmann will attend on June 27.

Zenner reported he will be going (possibly) to the Bi-Annual Forestry Conference in Carter Wisconsin. Discussion will be on current policies impacting forests in Wisconsin. Aszmann may also attend.

The next meeting will be July 5, 2013 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to adjourn at 9:50 AM. Motion carried.

Russ Aszmann, Secretary

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
May 21, 2013
Jury Room

Present were Chuck Zenner, Dave Bizer, Mike Roiger, Myron Brooks, and Marie Koerner, Human Resources.

Meeting called to order at 9:45 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

Bizer motioned, second by Brooks, to go into Closed Session at 9:45 AM pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85(1)(c), for the purpose of conducting interviews for the Taylor County Forestry & Recreation Administrator position. Motion carried.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to reconvene at 3:25 PM in Open Session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.83, to take action on the matter discussed in Closed Session. Motion carried.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to offer the Forestry & Recreation Administrator position to Russell Aszmann. Unanimous vote to approve.

Bizer motioned, second by Roiger, to offer midpoint in 40 hour salary matrix. Unanimous vote to approve.

Brooks motioned, second by Roiger, to adjourn at 3:35 PM. Motion carried.

Marie Koerner, Human Resources Manager

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
May 3, 2013
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Dave Bizer, Mike Roiger, Myron Brooks, Russ Aszmann, and Brad Ruesch. Also present were Brian Wilson, Star News, Dan Schumacher and Scott Lindow, DNR. Marie Koerner was also present for a portion of the meeting.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to approve the meeting minutes from April 3rd as mailed and the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

At this time, Marie Koerner asked the Committee about dates to conduct interviews for the Forest/Recreation Administrator position. The date for interviews is set for May 21st. Also discussed was the possibility of a shared forester technician position with Clark County. Ruesch felt the current staffing is adequate. After discussion on travel time and contract issues, it was decided to leave current staffing alone and contact Clark County if additional help is needed.

There were no bills at this time.

Aszmann reported there is no one working on Timber Sales due to wet conditions.

Aszmann reviewed Timber Sales for advertising: #8-12 off Trout Avenue, over story removal, regeneration area, winter sale and #1-13, 69 acres oak & hardwood logs, mostly summer sale. Bizer motioned, Roiger second, to approve Timber Sales for advertising; motion carried.

Ruesch reported on the Forestry trucks having been on a 6 year rotation for purchase. The 2007 has 63,000 miles and it would be in line for replacement. He also said that the Surveyor & Zoning Departments are in need of a new vehicle so the truck would stay in use in the County. Zenner reported he doesn't think the Forestry department needs 2 vehicles. Bizer motioned, second by Roiger, to advertise for bids for a new truck. Roll call vote Bizer, aye, Roiger, aye, Zenner, nay and Brooks, nay; motion denied.

Ruesch reported the Cam Am 4 wheeler is 6 years old and the trailer used to haul it is 20 years old and in need of repairs. There was discussion on purchasing an UTV for use on the County Forest and purchasing a new trailer to haul it. After reviewing usage of an UTV on the trails and forest roads it was decided to continue use of the ATV. Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to approve repairing the trailer; motion carried.

Ruesch reviewed year end balances and distribution of revenue; County Forest revenues \$506,000; Carry-over \$388,000; and Land Acquisition \$110,000 with a balance of \$475,000. It was a record year and he cautioned that those amounts can fluctuate greatly over the years. An average yearly estimate would be in the \$300,000 - \$350,000 range. Markets and weather conditions are contributing factors.

Aszmann reported on the new GPS unit. He had several maps & photos showing what he can do with this new unit. With the new GPS unit and the County GIS; setting up timber sales has been easier and more efficient. The unit will also work out well for the Zoning Department.

Ruesch reported Ayres has given a quote of \$2100 for the Camp 8 Safety Inspection. No date has been scheduled for inspection but it will be sometime this summer.

Ruesch reported that he has completed or has begun the following; ATV/Snowmobile grants are all filed with the State; Russ Aszmann has taken over as secretary for the Snowmobile Council; an agreement with the US Forest Service Cooperative Trail Agreement for the Snowmobile/ATV Trail system on the US Forest Service, he has been working with Tim Vetter, US Forest Service; he's been working on the Financial Report for the County Forest and he's working with Corp Counsel Schmiede on Pine Line issues. He also reported he will be attending a WCFA Personnel Committee meeting in Black River Falls on May 14th. Mr. Ruesch also said he has enjoyed working with the Committee and the County Board. At this point, Zenner also thanked Mr. Ruesch for his years of service to the County and a great job has been done.

The Summer Tour will be held on June 26 – 28 in Oconto County. At this time, only Roiger & Aszmann will be attending.

Bizer reported on the tour he took of the We Energies plant in Rothschild. Domtar will be supplying the timber waste which will be used to power the plant.

The next meeting will be June 7, 2013 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

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

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
April 3, 2013
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Dave Bizer, Mike Roiger, Myron Brooks, Russ Aszmann, and Brad Ruesch. Also present were Brian Wilson, Star News, and Dave Krug, Chairman Land Conservation Committee Chairman and Steve Oberle, Land Conservation Administrator.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to approve the meeting minutes from March 1st as mailed and the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

Aszmann updated the Committee on timber sale activity. No one is working on Timber Sales with spring break-up. He is completing work on timber sales for the spring sale.

Aszmann reviewed Timber Sale #597, Twin Forest Products, for close-out. A sub-contractor did work, good job done and all paid up. Roiger motioned, Bizer second, to close-out Timber Sale #597 Twin Forest Products. Motion carried.

Aszmann reported on the WCFA Spring Conference he attended in Madison on March 20 – 22. Discussed were direct sale dollar amounts, condition of the paper industry in Wisconsin, DNR Treaty Rights, enforcement of OSHA regulations and TROUTES.

Ruesch reported on Federal Forest Title I & II payments. Title I payments (85%) go to the townships that have Federal Forest acreage and Title II payments (15%) go into RAC for projects on the Federal Forest. There will be a 5.1% reduction in total payment to the Counties. Payments to towns will not be decreased; the decrease will come out of the Title II payment. Zenner reported he has had discussion with Ron Johnson regarding usage of the Federal Forest. They will continue working on getting the US Forest Service to set up more sales on the Forest.

Aszmann reported he had opportunity to use a demo GPS unit. After which he ordered a new unit for \$7,480 with trade-in of \$500 for the old unit included in that price. He reported the new unit will be more accurate, faster and efficient. Delivery is expected by the end of this week.

Ruesch reported on TROUTES - "Hybrid Trail" (Troute") means an all-terrain vehicle trail and route combination that allows all-terrain vehicles and motor vehicles to utilize the same linear surface and the combination is used as a trail connector. Trail connector means an all-terrain vehicle trail that connects one trail to another trail or services. There are three classifications: road receiving gas tax money, not receiving gas tax money and approved before August 1 and after August 1st. Money received for the three classifications are \$600/\$300/\$264. We have 5.8 miles in the County Forest that would receive this funding which amounts to \$2116. This money will be used for maintenance of the 5.8 miles of County Forest Road.

Ruesch's retirement on May 17th was discussed. Possible scenarios were discussed; one being an administrator being hired to serve both Land Conservation and Forestry & Recreation Departments. After discussion, Bizer motioned, Roiger second, to hire a replacement Forest & Recreation Department Administrator. Motion carried.

The replacement process was then discussed as to whether to advertise or hire from within. Roiger made a motion to recommend to the Personnel Committee to hire from within. The motion died without a second. The position opening will be advertised.

The next meeting will be May 3, 2013 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
March 1, 2013
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Dave Bizer, Mike Roiger, Russ Aszmann, Brad Ruesch and Scott Lindow, DNR. Myron Brooks was absent.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Zenner. Bizer motioned, second by Roiger, to approve the meeting minutes from February 1st. Motion carried.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

Aszmann updated the Committee on timber sale activity. Twin Forest Products is working on Timber Sale #597 with Chad Roesler doing the logging. It is hopeful they will be able to complete the sale before spring break-up.

Aszmann reviewed Timber Sale #595, Steve Dassow, for close-out. He is waiting for 3 mill slips and payment of invoices. Bizer motioned, Roiger second, to close-out Timber Sale #595 Steve Dassow, pending final payment. Motion carried.

Ruesch reported the WCFA Spring Conference will be held in Madison on March 20 - 22. Aszmann will attend.

Ruesch read an e-mail from Andrea at the Chamber of Commerce office regarding the Forestry and Recreation Department manning a booth at the elementary school in conjunction with the Home Show on March 16-17. After discussion, motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to not participate in the Home Show. Motion carried.

Ruesch reported on the change to the FSC language used in our invoices, prospectus, contracts and truck tickets. The change is FSC PURE to FSC 100%. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to change the wording to FSC 100% on the Timber Contract, Stumpage Invoice, Prospectus and Truck Tickets. Motion carried. A new stamp has been ordered to reflect this.

Aszmann reported the current GPS unit is not compatible with his new computer without new software installation. The current GPS unit was purchased in 2005 and is a 2003 model. After reviewing several options, a firm quote is needed with a trade-in value for the old unit. Motion by Bizer, second by Roiger, to purchase a new GPS unit not to exceed \$10,000 and trading in the old GPS. Motion carried.

Ruesch reported on a Dam Safety Seminar in Ladysmith on April 16, 2013. Motion by Roiger, second by Bizer, to send Ruesch and/or Aszmann to the seminar. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be April 3, 2013 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to adjourn at 10:56 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
February 1, 2013
West Entrance

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

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

Ruesch reported he processed a bill of \$6,883.87 for the (2) night vision goggles and accessories for the Sheriff's Department. A letter was received from Dave Bender, Sheriff's Department, thanking the Forestry & Recreation Committee for their contribution.

Aszmann updated the Committee on timber sale activity. Steve Dassow is working on Timber Sale #595 and should be completing as weather permits. It was reported that the timber sale markets have tightened up.

Aszmann reviewed Timber Sale #604, Smola Bros., for close-out; seed tree/regeneration sale; good job done and payment due. Roiger motioned to close-out Timber Sale #604 Smola Bros., Bizer second, pending final payment. Motion carried.

Ruesch reported the Spring Conference will be held in Madison on March 20 - 22. The agenda should be here for the March meeting for review.

Ruesch reported inspection for Camp 8 Flowage will be conducted this year. There is money budgeted for completion. It was reported the DNR website was corrected to show ownership of Chelsea Dam to reflect Chelsea Conservation Club as owners.

Ruesch reported on the ATV/UTV Trail/Route development project. He has posted on our website the County Highway Route connections. Work is continuing on map development. Route development will be on the agenda at the Towns Association meeting in February.

Ruesch reported there is water going over Miller Dam. There has been no change; the agitator is ready for installation and we are waiting for the power hook-up to be installed.

Ruesch handed out the payment schedule for the Rural Secure Act payment for 2013. Also reviewed was the preliminary financial report for 2012 for the Forestry Department.

The next meeting will be March 1, 2013 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to adjourn at 10:35 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary

Forestry & Recreation Committee Meeting
January 4, 2013
West Entrance

Present were Chuck Zenner, Dave Bizer, Myron Brooks, Mike Roiger, Russ Aszmann and Brad Ruesch. Also present was Scott Lindow, DNR, Mark Berglund, Star News, and Officer Dave Bender from the Taylor County Sheriff's Department.

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

Ruesch reported he processed a bill of \$482.00 for the agitator for Miller Dam.

Aszmann updated the Committee on timber sale activity. Smola Bros. have finished work on Timber Sale #602 and will be completing work on Timber Sale #604.

Aszmann reviewed Timber Sale #602, Smola Bros., for close-out; very north end of County Forest, good job done and all paid up. Roiger motioned to close-out Timber Sale #602 Smola Bros., Bizer second. Motion carried.

Ruesch reported all Timber Sales needing renewal have been renewed and all new contracts have been signed and Letters of Credit received.

Dave Bender, Taylor County Sheriff's Department, Chief Patrol Officer and SWAT Team Leader, spoke on funding needed for night vision goggles. He reported the Team of seven is self-funded and they each purchase the equipment needed. The cost of night vision goggles is \$3500 per set. The equipment (goggles) would be County property and available for use by all Sheriff Department personnel. The Taylor County Sportsmen's Club has already given funding for the purchase of one unit. After discussion, Bizer motioned, Roiger seconded to approve funding of two units. Roll call vote: Bizer, aye, Roiger, aye, Brooks, aye and Zenner, aye; motion carried

Ruesch reported on the ATV/UTV Trail/Route development project. He has posted on our website the County Highway Routes and County Trails that are open at this time. The signage looks good on County routes. He does not have all the information needed from the townships. There is also the issue with age limits in the various townships.

Ruesch reported there is water going over Miller Dam as of January 2nd. He has purchased and received the agitator for installation and is waiting for the power hook-up to be installed.

The next meeting will be February 1, 2013 at 10:00 AM in the West Entrance.

Roiger motioned, second by Bizer, to adjourn at 10:50 AM. Motion carried.

Brad Ruesch, Secretary