

BAYFIELD COUNTY

FORESTRY DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

APRIL 7, 2010

Members Present: On a roll call vote Committee members present were; David Good, Chairman; William Kacvinsky, Kenneth Jardine, Shawn Miller and Marco Bichanich. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Good at 6:05 P.M.

Staff in Attendance: Jason Bodine, Administrator, Steve Probst, Assistant Administrator and Barbara Suminski, Office Manager.

Others in Attendance: Steve Coffin, DNR Liaison, Todd Naas, WDNR Wildlife Biologist, Sally and Richard Boya, Mark MacIntyre, John Lux and Jim Olson and guest.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Good at 6:05 P.M.

Approve Minutes: On a motion by Marco Bichanich and seconded by Bill Kacvinsky the meeting minutes for March 3, 2010 were approved and the motion carried.

Monthly Financial Report: The Administrator informed the Committee that the budget would require amendment to include the Town Road Maintenance funding. On a motion by Bill Kacvinsky and seconded by Shawn Miller the monthly financial report was approved.

Presentation by Todd Naas, WDNR Wildlife Biologist: Todd Naas gave a presentation on the CY 2009 Bayfield County Openings Maintenance Report. Mr. Naas also gave information in regard to the CY 2010 proposal. On a motion by Bill Kacvinsky the reports are to be placed on file and the motion was seconded by Marco Bichanich and the motion carried.

Forestry Administrator: Prior to the presentation by Mr. and Mrs. Boya the Administrator, Jason Bodine explained to the Committee that he has received numerous calls relating to the timber sale on the East Long Lake Road. He also informed the Committee that he had mailed a letter in regard to the sale to all persons who had contacted him. Steve Probst had also met with the Town of Iron River regarding the sale.

Presentation by Sally and Richard Boya: Mr. and Mrs. Boya requested permission to appear before the Committee to share their concerns regarding a timber sale that is located on the East Long Lake Road, Iron River. The Boya's were concerned that the impact of the proposed fifty-five acres cut would destroy the wildlife and their habitat, they were concerned about oil spills and their quality of life and the potential of lower lake levels due to raised temperature from reduced shade and that evaporation would occur faster. They were concerned that there would be wash-outs and that the harvesting would be close to water sources. The Committee also received prior to the meeting in their meeting packets a written document received from Mr. and Mrs. Boya regarding their concerns.

Mr. John Lux was present and wished to speak to the Committee. Although Mr. Lux had not requested to address the Committee prior to the meeting date the Committee Chair approved his speaking. Mr. Lux stated that he was concerned about losing the value of his home and increased taxes. Mr. Jim Olson was also allowed to address the Committee and he stated that his concerns were in regard to how the sale would have a negative effect to the environment, in particular tiger salamanders.

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Spring 2010 Timber Sale Offering: The Administrator brought before the Committee the listing of Timber Sales for the Spring bid offering. There are 18 timber sales on 1739 acres containing 28,712 cords equivalents of pulpwood and 857 M board feet of saw timber. On a motion by Shawn Miller and seconded by Marco Bichanich the Timber Sale Offering as presented was approved.

Land Use Request: Midwest Forest Products was requesting renewal of a Land Use Agreement they have had in the past. Their last agreement expired on October of 2008 and was a five year agreement. Midwest has leased approximately six acres of land located in Section 10, T47N R8W as a wood yard. In CY 2003, the permit was raised to \$200.00 per year. The Administrator was recommending a fee of \$300.00 per year. On a motion by Bill Kacvinsky to approve a five year agreement at \$200.00 per year with Midwest and seconded by Marco Bichanich, the motion carried.

Land Use Request: CAMBA was requesting to use trails in Cable for the second annual CAMBA festival of the Trails event on June 4th through June 6th. A motion was made by Shawn Miller to approve the use of trails and the motion was seconded by Marco Bichanich and the motion carried.

Land Use Request: The Cable Area Chamber of Commerce was requesting to use trails in Cable for the Cable area Off-road Classic mountain bike race on May 15, 2010. Bill Kacvinsky made a motion to approve the request and Marco Bichanich seconded the motion and the motion carried.

General Discussion Items.

Jolly Trail: The ski season is over and the Jolly Trail revenue from the Donation Tube was in the amount of \$ 706.36. The final tally of individual users was 1,608. The Administrator will be meeting with David Thie next week to discuss and compare information.

Gravel Pits: The new permit was tabled at the last Zoning Committee meeting. The Department is waiting for an official letter from DNR water regs regarding the navigability of a nearby stream. The pit was contested. The Timber Sale to remove the timber off of the site has been established and will be offered this Spring. The winning contractor will have three months to complete the sale.

Survey Project: Bob Mick has completed the project and is in the process of finalizing the data.

Equipment Trailer: After much analysis, the Administrator has decided not to purchase a trailer this year. The Department will work with the Highway Department when there is a need for moving equipment.

Spring Planting: Spring planting should begin around April 19th or very near that date. Containerized stock will be used for all red pine sites this year. This was a saving of \$10.00 per acre over planting bare root stock.

Request: The Administrator informed that Committee that John Brilla wished to talk with them in regard to contract extensions and the Administrator asked him to submit a formal request prior to the April meeting.

Summer Interns: We will have two summer interns this year. Jeremiah Neitzel will begin on May 3, 2010 and Crystal Stace will begin on May 31, 2010.

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Presentations: Mike Amman will be making a presentation next week at the conference, Critical Issues in the Forest Industry, at the American Inn in Ashland.

Meetings: The Administrator will be meeting with the Red Cliff Tribe to discuss management objectives and access management.

Web Site: Andrew O'Krueg has been working on the Forestry Department's web site and has made accessible the Timber Sale information on line.

Steve Coffin, DNR Representative: Committee informed that the fire danger is up and that staff are moving around the State, but there is no major change for the Bayfield County area. Steve also stated that Bayfield County Forestry in their management of Timber Sales is following all required guidelines and regulations required by the Department of Natural Resources.