

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Monday, May 12, 2025 @ 9:00 A.M.
Lincoln County Service Center, Room 257
801 N. Sales St., Suite 106, Merrill, WI 54452 **715-539-1034**

Members Present: Greg Hartwig, Norbert Ashbeck, Ken Wickham, Andy Zelinski, William Bialecki

Absent:

Members Excused:

Visitors: Dean Bowe, Amy Krueger, Bill Groth, Ribbin Gigl (virtual), Nick Behrens (virtual), Renee Krueger (virtual), Dave Kleinschmidt, Glen Lambright, Hesston Meier, Lance Meier, Amanda Waldburger, Andrew Waldburger,

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, May 12, 2025, in Conference Room 257, Lincoln County Service Center. The meeting was called to order by Hartwig at 9:00 a.m.
2. Approve minutes of April 14, 2025. Motion by Wickham, second by Zelinski to approve minutes of April 14, 2025 meeting as printed in the packet. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
3. Review year to date budget report. Dean stated that everything is looking good. Dean stated that the land agent account is up due to having to clean up junk on one of the tax delinquent properties reports. Discussion followed. The Committee reviewed year to date budget report and placed on file.
4. Comments from members of the public or invited guests. None.
5. Discuss request for a permit to erect a temporary produce stand at Larson Lake Park and take action if necessary. Dean was contacted by someone inquiring about putting up a temporary stand at Larson Lake to sell produce. Discussion followed. Interested parties spoke. Motion by Wickham second by Bialecki to postpone until next meeting and check about liability with Corporation Counsel. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
6. Open and award timber sale bids. Dean announced bid opening procedure, bids were opened and read. We received 62 bids on 22 timber sales totaling \$1,059,384.5. Five timber sales received no bids. Motion by Wickham second by Zelinski to approve awarding sales to the highest bidder pending checking for mathematical or other errors. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
7. Award Hay Meadow pavilion bid. Dean mentioned several interested parties attended the pre bid meeting but two bids were received. Discussion followed. Motion by Wickham to accept bid from J&J Lee and to include electrical components, second by Ashbeck to approve. All Ayes, motion carried.
8. Approve committee member attendance, mileage and per diem for WCFA Summer Tour in Washburn County, June 18-20, 2025. Discussion followed. Motion by Zelinski to approve, second by Ashbeck. All Ayes. Motion carried.
9. Approve preliminary 2026 budget. Dean identified an item that was added this year is GIS license for the foresters. Discussion followed. Motion by Wickham to approve 2026 preliminary budget, second by Ashbeck to approve all. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
10. Set minimum bids, authorize advertising and set date for tax-delinquent property sale. Dean shared a power point presentation of photos and land valuation of the tax delinquent properties. Discussion followed.
Property 1-25: Minimum bid of \$5,100 by Ashbeck, second by Bialecki, all Ayes. Motion Carried.

Property 2-25: Minimum bid of \$1,900 by Wickham, second by Ashbeck, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Property 3-25: Minimum bid of \$70,000 by Ashbeck, second by Wickham, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Property 4-25: Minimum bid of \$103,000 by Zelinski, second by Wickham, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Property 5-25: Minimum bid of \$25,000 by Wickham, second by Ashbeck, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Property 6-25: Minimum bid of \$57,000 by Ashbeck, second by Bialecki, All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Date set as July 14, 2025. Motion by Zelinski to approve date, second by Ashbeck. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

11. Approve fee structure changes for camping, pavilion rentals and trail passes. Dean explained current fees are listed in packet as well as proposed fees. Upgrades will include electric at New Wood and cut and split firewood provided at New Wood and Otter Lake campgrounds. Discussion followed. Motion by Wickham to approve new fee structures as presented, second by Zelinski. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

12. Approve advertising for a skid steer grapple attachment. Dean showed grapple that was rented in the past. Consider buying a grapple with a cost of \$2,000 to \$5,000. Discussion followed. Motion by Ashbeck to get bids, second by Bialecki. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

13. Approve advertising for a skid steer posthole auger attachment. Dean said similar situation as the grapple. Use it for putting in posts. Motion by Wickham to solicit bids, second by Ashbeck. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

14. Approve blocking secondary roads crossing wetlands subject to damage by motorized use. Dean indicated he included maps to consider blocking roads used by logging contractors. If these roads experience damage this is a violation of water quality rules and will cost either the county or logging contractor time and money to repair. Discussion followed. Motion by Zelinski to approve blocking secondary roads, second by Wickham. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

15. Approve Administrator's timesheets. Motion to approve by Wickham, second by Bialecki. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

16. WDNR Report. Bill Groth stated they are busy staffing for fire. Fire danger was red.

17. Review Administrator's written report. No questions. Report placed on file.

18. Close timber sales.

Johnson Brothers	T003-24	Close and Refund Bond.
Kleinschmidt Logging	T039-18	Close and return Letter of Credit.
Smola Enterprises	T024-24	Close and return Letter of Credit.

Dean recommended closing and refunding bonds contingent upon final payments being made on T024-24. Motion by Wickham, second by Zelinski close sales per Dean's recommendation. All ayes. Motion carried.

19. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land & Parks Committee
Monday, June 9, 2025 at 8:00 a.m., LCSC Conference Room 156
Monday, July 14, 2025 at 8:00 a.m., LCSC Conference Room 156

20. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn meeting by Wickham, second by Ashbeck at 11:05 a.m. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Minutes prepared by Amy Krueger and Dean Bowe