

**Polk County Property, Forestry and Recreation Committee
Polk County Government Center, County Board Room
100 Polk Plaza
Balsam Lake, WI 54810**

October 3, 2006

Members present: Chair Mick Larsen, Marvin Caspersen, Russell Arcand, Jeff Peterson, Fred Grimm

Others present: Debbie Peterson, Paul Pedersen, Laurie Anderson, Sara McCurdy, Mike Voltz, Amanda Nissen, Rosalie Kittleson, Darrell Beeksma

Press: Gregg Westigard

Chair Larsen called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Motion (Caspersen/Arcand) to approve agenda. Carried.

Motion (Caspersen/Grimm) to approve minutes of September 5 as written. Carried.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Register of Deeds

Sara McCurdy appeared on behalf of Register of Deeds Laurie Anderson to seek committee approval of a resolution titled "Approval of Contracts Relating to the Provision of Noncertified Records of the Register of Deeds." Motion (Peterson/Grimm) to approve. Carried.

Forestry

County Forester Paul Pedersen gave his monthly report. The first item was a request from David and Katie Kinde for approval of an agreement allowing them to cross approximately fifty feet of county forest land in the Town of Sterling to access a forty acre parcel they are considering purchasing. Motion (Grimm/Arcand) to grant a non-transferable access permit to the Kindes as per county policy. Carried.

Pedersen requested approval of a resolution titled "2007 Forest Variable Acreage Shared Loan." Motion (Caspersen/Grimm) to approve. Carried.

Pedersen presented the Polk County Forest Annual Work Plan for 2007. Motion (Arcand/Peterson) to approve. Carried.

Pedersen presented an amended County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Motion (Arcand/Caspersen) to approve. Carried.

Pedersen asked the committee for suggestions as to an appropriate amount to be asked of those who have cabin leases on county forest land to help insure that they properly dispose of their cabins and other property when their leases expire. Consensus was that an additional \$300 deposit would be an appropriate amount.

There are five active timber sales at this time. As per the committee's request, Pedersen is looking into options for retaining some of the money from timber revenues from one year to the next.

Closed Session

Motion (Caspersen/Grimm) to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sec. 19.85(1)(f) – considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons. Carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

Present in closed session: committee members, Amanda Nissen.

Motion (Arcand/Caspersen) to return to open session. Carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

Treasurer

Nissen reported that a bid of \$65,300 had been received for a 38-acre parcel of tax deed property in the Town of McKinley from Robert Brown, Christopher Witkowski, and Andrew Litkowski. Motion (Caspersen/Peterson) to accept the bid. Carried.

Nissen gave a brief update on other tax deed properties.

Museum

Motion (Arcand/Caspersen) to request \$60,000 from Finance Committee for repairs to the museum roof and exterior painting. Carried.

Buildings

Department Director Debbie Peterson and Historical Society representative Rosalie Kittleson gave an update on recent improvements to the D.D. Kennedy Park.

Peterson introduced Darrell Beeksma of State of Wisconsin's Focus on Energy program. Beeksma went through an audit report of energy use in all six Polk County facilities, including the fairgrounds. He had many recommendations for saving energy, many of which involved lighting issues. He noted that both Excel Energy and the Focus on Energy program have grant monies available to help with energy saving projects.

Larry Jepsen appeared before the committee to discuss the possibility of working with Polk County's arts community to hang some works of art in county buildings. The committee was supportive of this idea, the consensus being that a committee of three – the county board chair and vice-chair plus the Property Committee chair – should be charged with making decisions as to appropriateness if such issues arise.

Recycling

Mike Voltz reported that the recent Clean Sweep program was a great success.

Voltz and Peterson are considering an opportunity for the Recycling Center to switch to a different electrical rate system which would require the facility to shed load during times of peak power use as a way to obtain lower rates.

Parks

Ms. Peterson shared a letter sent by the DNR to the Great Lakes Fish & Wildlife Commission regarding the presence of wild rice in the flowage area upstream from the Woodley Dam. It is not known at this time how this might affect plans for dam abandonment.

Motion (Grimm/Peterson) to approve the Cooperative Agreement on the Woodley Dam Snowmobile Bridge Project. Carried.

Vouchers

Ms. Peterson presented vouchers totaling \$89,913.84 for the period 9/7/06-10/2/06.
Motion (Caspersen/Larsen) to approve vouchers. Carried.

Other

It was agreed to invite Finance Director Tonya Weinert to our next meeting to discuss issues surrounding a possible fleet management program for county vehicles.

Adjournment

Motion (Caspersen/Grimm) to adjourn. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

--Submitted by Jeff Peterson, Secretary