

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

October 22, 2007

Members present: Mick Larsen, Russ Arcand, Marvin Caspersen, Kay Friberg, Jeff Peterson

Others present: Debbie Peterson, Jeff Fuge, Gregg Westigard, Marlin Baillargeon, Paul Pedersen, Larry Jepsen, Grant Burdick, Dale Wood, Rosalie Kittleson

Chairman Larsen called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Motion (Caspersen/Friberg) to approve the amended agenda. Carried.

Motion (Caspersen/Arcand) to approve minutes of October 2, 2007 as written. Carried.

Public Comments

Buildings, Solid Waste and Parks Department Director Debbie Peterson introduced new office manager Becky Schmidt.

Parks

County Board Chairman Larry Jepsen presented a draft proposal for utilization of the county property in the area of the Woodley Dam as a “fully functioning educational park.”

Buildings

A revised lease agreement with Alltel for the lease of space on the county’s communications tower in the Town of McKinley was presented for the committee’s approval by Corporation Counsel Jeff Fuge. Motion (Caspersen/Peterson) to remove Tonya Weinert’s name from page eight and leave as “Finance Director.” Carried. Motion (Peterson/Arcand) to approve the lease agreement in its entirety. Carried.

Forestry

County Forester Paul Pedersen distributed a proposed annual work plan and timber sale prospectus for 2008. No action was taken; these items will be placed on future agendas for further consideration.

Closed Session

Motion (Caspersen/Arcand) to enter closed session as per WI Stat. 19.85(g), "Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved." Carried on unanimous voice vote. Entered closed session at 3:06 p.m. with Mr. Fuge, Ms. Peterson and Mr. Jepsen remaining in the room.

Open Session

Motion (Arcand/Caspersen) to return to open session. Carried on unanimous voice vote. Returned to open session at 3:45 p.m. No action taken on matters considered in closed session.

Museum

Historical Society Museum Director Rosalie Kittleson appeared before the committee to report on the building project and associated fundraising efforts. The Society now has sufficient funds in hand to complete the current addition. Ms. Kittleson presented a check for \$50,000 to the county representing a donation from the Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation, which was accepted with gratitude on a Caspersen/Friberg motion.

Fairgrounds

Fair Society Board members Marlin Baillargeon and Grant Burdick presented information related to the possible purchase of a parcel of land adjacent to the fairgrounds. Various funding options were explored.

Motion (Peterson/Arcand) to authorize the Fair Society to seek an appraisal for an easement to the Ice Age Trail Foundation for access along the fairground's east property line as long as there is no cost to the county in doing so. Carried.

Motion (Arcand/Caspersen) to direct the Fair Society to develop a long-range plan for building and other improvements at the fairgrounds, such plan to be in place before any further building or improvements projects other than routine or emergency maintenance are undertaken. Carried.

Director's Report

Ms. Peterson reported on her attendance at a regional solid waste managers meeting in Hudson and other recent activities.

Next Meeting

The Committee will meet on November 5 and 19 at 2:30 p.m. in the same location.

--Submitted by Jeff Peterson, Secretary