The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Forestry Committee was called to order at 8:30 A.M., Monday December 9, 2013.

Present from the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee were: Phil Schneider, Bob Nawrocki – arrived at 8:45 a.m., Tony Hauser, Pete Boss and Jerry Biller. Also present: Paul Teska – County Forest Administrator, Pat Zimmer – DNR:

Present from the Public: Bob Grunseth, George Sishmann, Don Mansky

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting:
Motion by Boss/Hauser to approve the Rusk County Land and Forestry November 11, 2013 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Adjustment of Agenda:
Motion by Hauser/Boss to adjust the Agenda as necessary. Motion carried.

Public Comment:
Bob Grunseth requests a copy of the bills from Barron County Re-route – Grant #4208.

Don Mansky asked if all Rusk County Forestry Vehicles could have “Rusk County Forestry” on the side of them and washed on a regular basis. Discussion on the cost of the signs.

George Sishmann talked about putting up the signs that change the open and close date of ATV routes.

Timber Sales Contracts, Closeouts and Renewals:
- Contract #2392:Futurewood Corporation - Motion by Boss/Hauser to close out and cancel letter of credit. Motion carried.

Overrun Policy: Paul provided a spreadsheet on 2012 and 2013 Contracts that are closed and if they have an overrun or underrun. 2012 has a 1.8% underrun and 2013 has a 9.57% overrun out of a total 60 Timber sales. Discussion was held on the style of marking, cutting the sale in a timely manner and what the priority was on when marking a sale. Paul’s recommendation is a 25% overrun Policy on Contracts older than 2 years old or not having an overrun Policy. The Committee does not want to move forward on the Overrun Policy at this time.

Forestry Department Staff Training:
Paul sent Dane Gravesen to Rhinelander for WisFers and GIS training and needs Committee approval.

Motion by Hauser/Boss to approve the training for Dane in Rhinelander. Motion carried.
Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee
Meeting Minutes
DECEMBER 9, 2013

Josie Creek Club House:
Pistol Club Improvements: Dennis Fiser from the Pistol Club is meeting with Paul and Mike Naczas to discuss putting heat in the Josie Creek Club House. Pistol Club would be paying for all cost to put in heat and would be only used by that Club. The Committee would like to discuss the plans at the next month’s meeting.

Timber Base Computer Program upgrade:
The Forestry Department purchased the Timber Base Software Program in May 2012. Bill Isle gave a demonstration on the upgrade to Paul and Connie. He has agreed to sell the upgrade to the County for an additional $4,000.00. Discussion on the upgrades, future upgrades and the cost of the Software. Paul's recommendation is to purchase the program at $3,000.00 for the total cost of $8,000.00, the cost of a new Timber Base program.

Oak Wilt Policy in Rusk County Forest:
Update the Oak Wilt Policy in;
- Section 610.3.1, Page 600-8

The following Timber Management guideline will be used on the Rusk County Forest:

1. No harvesting should occur in Forest stands with a significant Oak component from April 15 through July 15.
   ("Significant") defined:
   1) The Oak density is such that grafting between Oaks is common.
   2) It would be devastating if the stand had Oak Wilt

Timber Sale Awarding Policy:
Update the Timber Sale Awarding Policy;
- 505.3.5 Awarding Sales:

(2) All individual species in the timber sale prospectus must be bid at the minimum bid or higher. Any bid not meeting this requirement will be rejected.

- Section 505.3.8 (b) Duration and Extension of Contracts:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTRACT AGE</th>
<th>STUMPAGE RATE INCREASE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Contract</td>
<td>0 – 2.0 Years</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Renewal</td>
<td>2.0 – 2.5 Years</td>
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<td>2nd Renewal</td>
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<td>5th Renewal</td>
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<td>6th Renewal</td>
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• Section 907.1, Page 39 - Timber Sale Contract:

*Rusk County may change, suspend or terminate any timber sale contract with no penalties to the county if any of the following occur:*

1. *Error in timber sale planning or design cause or may cause serious environmental damage or violate any County State or Federal law or regulations.*
2. *Any Forest Health issues arise that may cause serious damage to the Rusk County Forest. (ie.Oak Wilt disease)*

The Committee is concerned about enforcing the Oak Wilt Policy on old Contracts and making sure that all Contractors are aware of the Oak Wilt in Rusk County. Paul is going to address the issue on the cover letter sent to Contractors when sending out Bid Letters as well as renegotiating existing Contracts.

**Rusk County Forest Comprehensive Land use Plan:**
Motion by Hauser/Biller to forward the Forest Comprehensive Land use Plan resolution to the County Board. Motion carried.

**Review Bills:**
Motion by Hauser/Biller to review the bills. Motion carried

Meeting Date was changed to Tuesday, January 21\textsuperscript{st}.

**Adjourn:**
Motion by Boss/Biller to adjourn at 9:53 a.m. Motion carried.