The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Forestry Committee was called to order at 8:00 A.M., Monday January 9, 2017.

**Present from the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee were:** Arian Knops, Lyle Lieffring, Jerry Biller and Pete Boss. Phil Schneider - Absent.

**Also present:** Paul Teska – County Forest Administrator and Derek Jochimsen - DNR Liaison Forester.

**Present from the Public:**
Bob Grunseth and George Sishman

**Approval of Minutes:**
Motion by Boss/Lieffring to approve January 9, 2017 meeting minutes. Motion carried

**Public Comment:**
Discussion on the ATV Trails.

**Timber Sale Contracts, Closeouts and Renewals:**
Paul gave an update on Stumpage Revenue and the Schedule for the completion of Timber Sale Contracts between Rusk County and Ted Strzok signed on January 9, 2017.

- **Contract – 2476 Vacho Forest Product**  
  Motion by Biller/Lieffring to close out and cancel letter of credit. Motion carried.

- **Contract – 2511 Kreier Forest Product**  
  Motion by Biller/Lieffring to close and return cash Bond in the amount of $6,100.00. Motion carried.

A letter from the Blue Hills trail association was presented to the committee concerning the wood turtle and logging on the Ski Trail.

**Closed Session – Announced by Chair:**
- **Possible Parks and Forest Manager Positions**
Chair announces closed session for considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, WI Stats 19.85(1)(c).

Motion by Lieffring/Biller to enter into closed session. Roll Call: voting yes – Boss, Biller, Knops and Lieffring. Motion carried.

Also present: Derek Jochimsen – Liaison Forester, Ted East – Administrative Coordinator

Entered into closed session at 8:43 a.m.

Motion by Lieffring/Boss at 10:06 a.m. to return to open session. Motion carried.
USDA APHIS Beaver Damage Program/Contract:
The contract for the USDA APHIS Beaver Damage Contract is due. The Contract for 2016 was $5,800.00 and the current contract would be $7,900.00. Discussion on the current damage due to the increase in beaver population in the County Forest.

Motion by Biller/Lieffring to approve the 2017 USDA APHIS Beaver Damage Contract for 2017 for $7,900.00. Motion carried.

Parks and Recreation Projects:
A Park Aid Grant for Perch Lake Campground for an upgrade/renovation was budgeted for in 2017. The Park Aid Grant will be a 50/50 split between the County and State. The other option is a Motorized Recreational Grant that is an 80/20 split between the County and State depending on the decision if the Committee would make Perch Lake Campground a motorized campground.

Review and Approve Bills:
Motion by Boss/Lieffring to review and approve the bills. Motion carried.

Adjourn:
Motion by Lieffring/Knops to adjourn at 10:10 a.m. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be March 13, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at the Law Enforcement Center.