The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Forestry Committee was called to order at 8:00 A.M., Monday, March 9, 2015.

**Present from the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee were:** Phil Schneider, Arian Knops, Pete Boss, Bob Nawrocki and Jerry Biller.

**Also present:** Paul Teska – County Forest Administrator, Pat Zimmer – DNR Liaison Forester, Randy Tatur – County Board Chairman.

**Present from the Public:**
Bob Grunseth, Bob Stout, George Sishman, Mike Hraban

**Approval of Minutes:**
Motion by Nawrocki/Biller to approve February 9, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion carried

**Public Comment:**
Mike Hraban commented on the rock on the Snowmobile Trails. He would like to see Forestry and Tourism work together to better customer service. The Forestry Committee informed Mike that the Forestry Committee and Paul work hard to promote all users of the County Forest.

**2015 Snowmobile/ATV Grant Applications:**
Mike Zimmer presented the 2015 ATV/Snowmobile and Troute Grant Applications.

**SNOWMOBILE APPLICATIONS:**
- Snowmobile Maintenance – 331.92 Miles @ $250.00/mi. $82,980.00
- Weyerhaeuser Club Trail 12 Mandatory Relocation $54,150.00

**Snowmobile Trail Development**
- Weyerhaeuser Trail 113 (2.75 mi.) $2,187.50
- Serely Camp Trail to Weirgor Rd. (1.85 mi.) $8,941.57
- Fire Lane Rd. to Betty Lake Rd. (0.84 mi.) $6,380.61
- Serely Camp Trail Spring Crk. Bridge $31,000.00

**ATV APPLICATIONS:**
- ATV Maintenance 24 miles x $600.00/mi. + Insurance $15,266.22
- UTV Maintenance 24 miles x $100.00/mi. $2,400.00

**ATV Trail Rehabilitation**
- Perch Lk. Rd. to Cty. Rd. F./Cty. Rd. O to Kozak Lane (13.12 mi.) $227,304.22

**ATV Trail Development**
- Serely Camp Trail to Weirgor Rd. (1.85 mi.) $74,122.11
- Fire Lane Rd. to Betty Lake Rd. (0.84 mi.) $42,481.95
Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee
Meeting Minutes
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Serely Camp Trail Spring Crk. Bridge $ 31,000.00

TROUTE APPLICATIONS:

Betty Lake Rd. Troute (4.7 mi.) $ 1,710.80

Paul Teska submitted an estimated 2015 revised Roads and Trails Timeline to the Forestry Committee.

1. FEBRUARY 2015
   - Confirm Sustainable Forestry Grant
     - Extension - $52,000.00
     - New - $56,000.00

2. MARCH 2015
   - Apply for ATV Funds (by April15)
     - Serley Camp ATV Dev.
       - 1.85 Miles to Weigor Road
       - .84 Miles – Betty Lake to Serley Camp
     - Serley Camp ATV Troute Dev. (variance app.)
       - 1.5 Serley Camp Road.

3. MAY/JUNE 2015
   - Deer Lake Pit
     - Serley Camp Road 1.5 Miles
       - 6,000 Yards Primary
       - 3,634 Yards Crush
         - Estimated Cost $28,532.55 – Stripping and Crushing
     - Serley Camp ATV Trail (2.69 Miles)
       - 7,365 Yards Primary
       - 3,700 Yards Crush
         - Estimated Cost $32,407.44 – Stripping and Crushing

*** Highway Department will Front this cost and Charge Forestry (ATV Funds) when placing gravel on ATV Trail.

   - ATV Rehab (See Rehab Project Details)
     - 3,960 Yards Primary
     - 4,150 Yards Crush

   - Total Deer Lake Pit Crushing

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<th>Crush</th>
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<td>Serley Camp Road</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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4. JUNE/JULY 2015
   - Highway Department Builds Serley Camp Road 1.5 Miles
     - SERLEY CAMP PROJECT
5. **JUNE/JULY - HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT DOES ATV REHAB PROJECT**
   - Murphy Pit
   - **PRIMARY GRAVEL**
     - Sawyer County to Betty Lake Road (.55 mi.): 1,750 yards
     - TOTAL: 1,750 yards
   - **CRUSH GRAVEL**
     - Sawyer County to Betty Lake Road: .55 miles, 900 yards
     - Perch Lake Rd. to Three Lakes Rd.: 1.50 miles, 2,400 yards
     - Co. F to Co. O (Bridges West of F): 1.84 miles, 2,950 yards
     - TOTAL: 6,250 yards
   - **DEER LAKE PIT**
     - Primary Gravel: DeJung Road to Three Lakes Rd (1.25 miles) 3,960 Yards
     - Crush Gravel: DeJung Road to Three Lakes Road (2.61 miles) 4,150 Yards
     - TOTAL: 4,150 yards

   - **ATV GRANT = $115,000.00**

6. **JUNE 2015 – HIGHWAY DOES ATV MAINTENANCE $10,000.00 (PRIOR TO JUNE 30TH)**
   - Crush Gravel on ATV Trail Depending on Conditions.
     - Dry = Blue Hills Inn North to F
     - Wet = Blue Hills Inn South

7. **JUNE/JULY - HUNTER WALKING TRAIL (WEST OF W) (Highway does work)**
   - County Conservation Aids - $4,900.00

8. **OCTOBER/NOVEMBER - HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BUILDS HERVAS ROAD 1.2 MILES - $110,492.00**
   - Crown, Ditch and Culverts just prior to Freeze up.
   - Haul Primary and Crush when ground is frozen.

9. **NOVEMBER/DECEMBER – HIGHWAY DOES SERLEY CAMP ATV TRAIL DEVELOPMENT (IF WE GET THE GRANT)**
   - ATV New Development (Apply in April)
     - .84 miles Betty Lake Road to Firelane.
     - 1.85 Miles Serley Camp to Weigor Road.
     - Highway to do work (Possibly this Fall or Winter).
Highway to front the Crushing Cost for the ATV portion ($32,000.00) will charge Forestry (ATV Funds) when placed on ATV Trail.

*** FORESTRY COMMITTEE – MOTION TO HAVE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Serley Camp Road, County Forest Road 1.5 miles $108,000.00
- ATV Trail Rehab Project $115,000.00
- Hervas Road County Forest Road 1.2 miles $110,492.00
- Serley Camp ATV Trail Development (If we get the Grant) $116,000.00
- ATV 2014-2015 Maintenance $10,000.00
- 2015 County Conservation Aid Hunter Walking Trail $4,900.00

Motion by Boss/Nawrocki to apply for the 2015 ATV/Snowmobile and Troute Grant applications. Motion carried.

Discussion on who will present the Grant Applications to the ORV Council, Counties share of project cost and the work being done on the trails. Bob Grunseth said he would talk with the ATV Club about making the presentation to the ORV Council.

The New Trail Proposal – Wilson Meadow Dam Trail: The County will look at the proposal after the snow melts. Investigation of the wetlands and a feasibility report will have to be done before applying for a grant next year.

Motion by Biller/Knops to apply for the Wilson Meadow Dam trail Grant in 2016. Motion carried.

Motion by Nawrocki/Knops to approve the ATV and Snowmobile Resolutions and present them to the County Board. Motion carried.

USDA-APHIS Beaver Management Program/Agreement:
The USDA-APHIS Beaver Management Program/Agreement is to manage beaver for the Rusk County Forestry Department on County Land. The cost of their service is $6,800.00 from April 6, 2015 and will expire on October 30, 2015.

Motion by Knops/Biller to enter into the Beaver Management Program/Agreement contract with USDA-APHIS. Motion carried.

Lea Lake Dam:
Paul informed the Committee an access road cannot be installed to mow and maintain the bottom half of the Dam because it could compromise the Dam.

County Forest Timber Sale Ad:
Motion by Biller/Knops to advertise 2015 Spring Timber Sales and open bids at the April 13th, 2015 Committee Meeting at 9:00 a.m. Motion carried.

Timber Sale Contracts, Closeouts and Renewals:
Contract #2422 - Ron Smugala, Motion by Biller/Nawrocki to close out and cancel letter of credit.
Contract #2439 - Chris Hershey/Allen Suzan. Motion by Nawrocki/Knops to close and cancel letter of credit after final payment is made.

Paul informed the Committee that Timber sale revenue is 690,000.00 for the Winter.

**WCFA Spring County Forest Administration Meeting:**
WCFA Spring County Forest Administration Meeting is March 18, 19 and 20th in Minocqua. Paul will able to attend the 18th and would like to send Jerrad Macholl and Dane Gravesen on the 19th and 20th.

Motion by Knops/Nawrocki to send Jerrad Macholl and Dane Gravesen to the WCFA Spring Meeting in Minocqua. Motion carried.

**County Forest Off Road Use Policy:**
Discussion on the Flambeau State Forest, Price and Sawyer County Off Road Use Policy and how Rusk County would structure a similar policy that would benefit people using the Rusk County Forest. The Committee would like a portion of Stumpage Revenue to be put in the policy to maintain County Forest Roads.

**Closed Session – Announced by Chair:**
Possible Land Acquisition – Purchase or Trade
Chair announces closed session for negotiating sale of city/county owned property: Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, WI Stats 19.85(1) (e).

Motion by Knops/Biller to enter into closed session. Roll Call: Voting Yes – Nawrocki, Biller, Knops, Boss and Schneider. Motion carried.

Also Present: Pat Zimmer – Liaison Forester, Randy Tatur – County Board Chairman

Entered into Closed Session at 10:08 A.M.

Motion by Knops/Biller at 10:18 A.M. to return to Open Session. Motion carried.

**Review and Approve Bills:**
Motion by Knops/Biller to review and approve the bills. Motion carried.

**Adjourn:**
Motion by Knops/Biller to adjourn at 10:19a.m. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be April 13, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. at the Law Enforcement Center.