The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Forestry Committee was called to order at 9:00 A.M., Monday, July 9, 2012. Present from the committee were: Phil Schneider, Tony Hauser, Pete Boss, Bob Nawrocki and Jerry Biller. Also present were: Paul Teska – County Forest Administrator; Terry Tappon – DNR Forester

From the public: Don Mansky, Bob Grunseth, George Sihsman

Motion by Boss/Biller to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2012 meeting. Motion carried

Motion Nawrocki/Hauser to adjust the agenda as necessary. Motion carried

ATV/Snowmobile Trail: Teska reported on Serley Camp ATV Trail denied by the council. We will be using Maintenance Funds to cover the breaker with crushed gravel. Discussion held on funding and what part of the trails is open. The DNR needs to do more research on Troute routes for future development.

Grunseth reported on the Skinner Creek Trail - He proposed an alternate route area from the original proposed route. He is going to do the research on the new trail and work with Jarrad Macoll - Parks Supervisor and Carmen Hardin – DNR Forest Hydrologist.

Public comment – Asked about breaker rock on the ATV trail. Future improvement would include gravel to come from Maintenance funds Discussion held.

Secretary Bookkeeper Position – Connie Meyer accepted the position. She was introduced to the Committee.

Timber Sales Policies – 4 year old timber sale contract bidding Policy – Paul Teska provided a copy of our current bidding policy. Teska recommends leaving the policy as is. Hauser concerned about the name game. If you have a 4 year policy it forces the logger to get the job done in a timely manner. Discussion held. Teska stated that the county has the right to reject any bid. Tappon reported that exceptions were made in the past and feels that a contractor does not need any more than 6 sales. Tappon also feels that a 5 year policy has been accepted state wide. Legally the name game is acceptable. Timber would have to be remarked if we would close sales and take bonds. Schneider stated that he would like to take out number 5 of the contract and extensions policy. Boss feels that the contract would help manage the bidder. Tappon feels that there is a down side of letting a contractor bidding on to many contracts due to his ability to do the job and does not need any more than 6 contracts. Paul feels that there is 30 years’ experience between Teska and Tappon and the Board should take their recommendation.

Hauser made the motion to reduce the Contract Extension Policy to a total of 4 years starting with all new sales (October Sales). Seconded by Boss. Schneider.- No Boss-Yes Hauser – Yes Nawrocki –No Biller-Yes Motion carried.

Number of sales Limit Policy – No Changes

2013 Budget – Teska reported limited changes to the 2013 budget but is looking for anything the committee would like to see changed from last year’s budget. At the next meeting he will bring in a more completed budget. Committee went over the budgets.
Camping fees put on the next month’s agenda.

Committee thanked Carol Benik for her many years of service.

Motion by Boss/Nawrocki to approve bills  Motion carried.

Future Forestry meetings will be moved to 8:30.

Motion by Hauser/Biller to adjourn.  Motion carried.