The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Forestry Committee was called to order at 8:00 A.M., Monday March 13, 2017.

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

Also present: Paul Teska – County Forest Administrator and Derek Jochimsen - DNR Liaison Forester, Mike Zimmer – Parks Supervisor.

Present from the Public:
Bob Grunseth, George Sishman, Don Mansky and Lionel Klein.

Approval of Minutes:
Motion by Biller/Lieffring to approve February 13, 2017 meeting minutes. Motion carried

Public Comment:
Don Mansky inquired about the Birch tops on the roadway.

Timber Sale Contracts, Closeouts and Renewals:
- Contract #2441 – Great Lakes Logging, Motion by Schneider/Biller to close out and cancel letter of credit. Motion carried.
- Contract #2479 – Darin Duncan, Motion by Biller/Lieffring to close out and cancel letter of credit. Motion carried.
- Contract #2427 – Northwest hardwoods. Motion by Biller/Schneider to close out and return cash bond in the amount of $11,856.25. Motion carried.
- Contract #2508 – Darin Duncan. Motion by Biller/Schneider to close out and cancel letter of credit. Motion carried.
- Contract #2473 – Marquardt Trucking, Motion by Schneider/Boss to close out and draft on Letter of Credit in the amount of $20,275.25 for non-performance if Letter of Credit is not renewed by April 1, 2017. Motion carried.

Discussed Contract renewals and how much cut wood is sitting in the woods and needs to be hauled.

Recreational Development/Maintenance Grant Applications:
Mike Zimmer, Parks Supervisor discussed 2017 Grant Applications with the Committee. The 2017 Grants are as follows:

SNOWMOBILE APPLICATIONS: (100%)
- Snowmobile Maintenance $83,700.57
- Hawkins Corridor 25 – Main Creek Snowmobile Bridge $77,600.00

ATV APPLICATIONS: (100%)
- ATV/UTV Maintenance $14,862.15
- Perch Lake Campground Trail $19,493.00

TROUTE APPLICATIONS: (100%)
- Betty Lake Road Troute $1,240.80
- Serley Camp Road Troute $396.00
PERCH LAKE CAMPGROUND DEVELOPMENT:
- Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP) (50/50%)
- Motorized Stewardship (80/20%)
- All-Terrain Vehicle Trail Aids

Perch Lake Campground Development Cost:
- Electric Service from Audie Lake to Perch Lake Campground $15,000.00
- Electric Service between campsites (50, 30, 20 amp) $20,000.00
- Water Distribution System $21,500.00
- Well $10,000.00
- Clearing, Grubbing, Grading, Drainage, Base Course material $67,820.00
- Pavilion $32,000.00
- Playground $15,000.00
- Signs $1,200.00
- TOTAL ESTIMATE $182,520.00

COUNTY CONSERVATION AIDS: (50/50%)
- Hunter Walking Trail $4,954.00

RBF GRANTS: (50/50 %)
- Potato Lake Boat Landing $5,000.00
- Audit Lake Boat Landing $5,000.00

Perch Lake Campground Development:
Discussed the options of grant funding, future expansion and the condition of the bathroom. The County should have ½ the money in the Parks Development budget to make sure that once the grant is issued, the funds are available. 2017 Parks Development budget is as follows:

EXPENSES:
- Perch Lake Campground Development $182,500.00
- Boat Landing
  - Potato Lake $5,000.00
  - Audie Lake $5,000.00
  - $10,000.00
- TOTAL $192,500.00

FUNDS:
- 2017 Current Budget
  - Carry Over $10,000.00
  - Powerline $30,000.00
  - Levy $8,000.00
  - RBF Grant $5,000.00
- TOTAL $53,000.00
- Park Aid Grant (Perch Lake) $92,250.00
- Additional Funds Needed (? Powerline) $48,250.00
- TOTAL $192,500.00
Motion by Lieffring/Biller to apply for 2017 Grant Application as outlined. Motion carried.

**Off Road Use Policy on County Forest Land:**
Pictures of damage in the County Forest were given to Committee. Paul would like a commitment for reducing off road damage from the Committee if the County is going to develop an ATV campground at Perch Lake. The Committee would like to develop a new Off Road Use policy/plan to stop future damage.

**Parks Manager Position Resolution:**
Personal has set the salary at $27.75 based on point factor points.

Motion by Schneider/Lieffring to approve the Parks Manager Resolution and forward on to County Board. Motion carried.

**Timber Sale Ad:**
The 2017 estimated Spring Timber Sale has a total minimum bid of $538,575.00 with 1,103 acres. Shearing in Tract #9-17 which will be part of the contract and the logger’s responsibility to get the shearing done before the wood is cut.

Motion by Boss/Biller to advertise the 2017 Spring Timber Sale. Motion carried.

**County Forest Pits/Gravel Stumpage Policy:**
Paul would like to use $25,000.00 of Murphy gravel stumpage for 2016 for road maintenance in 2017. Consensus of the Committee was to make this transfer to the County Forest Road Aids budget.

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

Phil gave report on Wisconsin County Forest Association meeting he attended.

**Adjourn:**
Motion by Schneider/Lieffring to adjourn at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be April 11, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at the Law Enforcement Center.