The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee was called to order at 9:45 A.M. on Monday, January 10, 2011. Present from the committee were: Phil Schneider, Bob Nawrocki and Tony Hauser. Absent were Roger Svoma and Pete Boss. Also present were: Paul Teska – County Forest Administrator; Don Kissinger – DNR Forester, Pete Wisdom – DNR Area Supervisor, Larry Gotham – Morgan & Parmley; Bob Grunseth – Hawkins ATV Club.

Nawrocki made the motion to approve the previous minutes, 2nd by Hauser, carried.

Hawkins ATV Club - Bob Grunseth - Presented a proposal for an ATV Trail in the Town of South Fork. Requesting to apply for funding in April 2011. Teska stated that he is an employee short at this time, the trail development in the Blue Hills is behind schedule and the Flambeau River State Forest cannot secure funding until after 2011, asked Grunseth if this project could be put off until 2012. Numerous wetlands need to be crossed and the bridge on Skinner Creek is touchy areas for Water Regulations DNR people. Grunseth is going to talk to the appropriate DNR person and ask them about those areas and will come back next month with an answer on if this project is even possible and if it is, if they could put it off until 2012.

Larry Gotham of Morgan & Parmley – Island Lake Dam. Reported items completed on project: Signing, Emergency Action Plan, debris removed, bench marks, concrete repairs on the dam. All that is left to do is the Dam Failure Analysis and re-surfacing of the dam.

Timber Sale Contracts - Teska reported that there are 17 active sales at this time. Pulp markets are good and log markets are bad.

Parks Supervisor I Position - Teska reported that the ad has gone out. Feb. 10 deadline for applications. Teska will bring 6 recommendations to the Forestry Committee on Feb. 14. Hauser made the motion that Forestry Committee members to be on the interview committee will be Phil Schneider and Bob Nawrocki, to do the interviews on Friday January 25, 2010. 1:00 P.M., 2nd by Nawrocki, carried.

2010 County Forest Report - Committee went over. Motion by Nawrocki to approve and recommend to County Board for Approval, 2nd by Hauser carried.

2011 RBF Projects - Motion by Nawrocki to apply for RBF Grants for McCann Lake Boat Landing and Perch Lake Boat Landing, 2nd by Hauser, carried.

Hauser made a motion to pay the bills, 2nd by Nawrocki, carried.

2011 Park Aids Projects - We did not budget in 2011 for any park development. Environmental Challenge is proposing a project at Josie Creek Park. Discussion on squaring up the parking lot at Josie Creek Park. Hwy Dept. estimates $10,000.00. We can apply for park aids but are required to do a $5,000.00 match. Teska would like to do a resolution to take $5,000.00 from 2010 Excess Stumpage Revenue. There is almost $800,000 excess stumpage revenue. Motion by Hauser to recommend Forestry requesting $5,000.00 from 2010 Excess Stumpage Revenue for Josie Creek Park Development Project, 2nd by Nawrocki, carried.

Motion to adjourn at 11:30 by Nawrocki, 2nd by Hauser, carried.