The monthly meeting of the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee was called to order at 9:00 A.M. on Monday, November 14, 2011. Present from the committee were: Phil Schneider, Pete Boss, Roger Svoma, Tony Hauser, Bob Nawrocki. Also present were: Paul Teska – County Forest Administrator; Terry Tappon – DNR Forester. From the public, Don Mansky, Bob Grunseth, Dave Williams.

Motion by Boss to approve the minutes of the previous meeting with changes and adjust the agenda as necessary 2nd by Nawrocki carried.

Adjust the minutes of the last paragraph, first page, to read “Cassandra, the Finance Assistant” (not Director). Blue Hills Trail Association, Inc.; Blue Hills Trail

Bob Grunseth representing the Hawkins ATV Club reported on a meeting with Jerrad Macholl the Parks Supervisor and Karmen Harden the DNR Forestry Water and Soils Person. They met at and travelled on the proposed ATV Trail Area.
Discussion held on the proposed trail and permits. Need cost estimates after a final route is agreed upon. April 15 is the application deadline. Dave Williams of the Rusk Riders ATV thanked the county for all the work on the new trail. Should be ready to sign it after the Spring Closure in 2012.

50 $/Acre resolution, motion to approve and present it to County Board for approval, by Hauser, 2nd by Svoma, carried.

Gonsowski/Thorson Property in Town of Wilson - Teska presented the committee with a Land Use Plan he received from Gonsowski/Thorson. They are interested in selling some of their land to the County, but also wish to retain some of the land for their family. Discussion held. Committee instructed Teska to do some preliminary negotiating and see what they are asking for it in price.

Northwest Properties Access Permit - On the Weirgor All-Weather Road in the West Side of Murry Township. Requesting a temporary frozen ground permit to access their land in Sawyer County. Motion by Svoma to grant Northwest Properties the Access Permit, and to do a direct timber sale to Northwest Properties to cut the road out. 2nd by Hauser, carried.

Forestry Dept/Highway Dept. 2-way radios - Highway Dept. bid out 6 vehicle mobile units to be installed in trucks. Total cost is $2,100.00. Is an installation charge by the Highway Dept. at an estimate of $1,000.00; for a total of $3,100.00. Motion by Boss to purchase 6 2-way radio’s from Kenwood, and have the Highway Dept install them. Not to exceed $3,100.00, 2nd by Hauser, carried.

Assistant Forest Administrator Position - Teska reported that Assistant Forest Administrator, Pat Zimmer has given his verbal notice of termination. He has accepted a job with the DNR. Teska stated to the committee that he appreciates the help and support that the Forestry Committee gave him in trying to get a pay increase for the Assistant Forest Administrator Position. Discussion held. Teska stated that if we would have treated Zimmer the right way from Day One, we would not be losing him. Teska is very sorry to be losing Zimmer; he should have been the next County Forest Administrator. Randy Tatur stated that he along with the Forestry Committee appreciate Pat’s hard work and years of dedication to the County and are very sorry to see him go.

Timber Sale Contracts - Contract # 2335, Chris Hershey Job. The cutter on the job Addison Bender stopped into the office to report that approximately 4 cords of unscaled wood had been hauled off the job in error by the trucker. Apparently the trucker loaded scaled wood and needed additional wood to fill his load so just backed up to a pile of unscaled wood and loaded it rather than pulling up to a pile of wood that had been scaled. Motion by boss to charg double stumpage for the 4 cords, 2nd by Svoma, carried.
Close Outs - # 2215 - Tim Vacho, came in and paid in full. Hauser motion to close out and cancel the letter of credit, 2nd by Nawrocki, carried.

# 2303 – Robert Soltis. Motion by Boss to Close out and cancel letter of credit, 2nd by Hauser, carried.

# 2364 - Bill Kreier. Motion by Nawrocki to close out and cancel the letter of credit when final stumpage payment is made. 2nd by Boss. Carried.

Motion to pay bills by Nawrocki, 2nd by Boss, carried.

Lea Lake Dam Inspection - Teska had received a letter from the DNR that the DNR needed to do a dam inspection in 2012. Lea Lake was built in 2004. Teska contacted the DNR and Frank Dullum, the Dam person regarding this. Dullum contacted the state people and they are allowing us to go to 2014 for the dam inspection.

Boss made the motion to close the snowmobile bridge bids at 11:00 A.M., 2nd by Hauser, carried. Hauser is abstaining from voting on bid awarding decisions.

CROOKED CREEK BRIDGE
Great Lakes Marine $ 33,870.00 (1)
Hauser Enterprises $ 34,600.00 (2)
SBS Structures $ 35,320.00 (3)
Decker Lumber $ 49,700.00
Janke General Cont. $ 56,830.00
McMullen & Pitz $ 69,750.00
Custom Mfg. $ 45,815.00

MIDDLE FORK MAIN CREEK
Great Lakes Marine $ 29,465.00 (1)
Hauser Enterprises $ 37,300.00 (2)
SBS Structures $ 34,470.00 (3)
Decker Lumber $ 69,600.00
Janke General Cont. $ 52,000.00
McMullen & Pitz $ 67,000.00
Custom Mfg. $ 42,920.00

Teska to check on if there is still a county a policy if a bidder within the county bids, there is a 10% advantage to accept the bids within the county.

Teska reported that on the Middle Fork Main Creek the grant is split. ½ is RTA grant and we are waiting for the grant award. We have half the snowmobile grant money for this project, but are still waiting for the RTA portion.

Motion by Nawrocki to accept the bid by Great Lakes Marine, contingent upon receiving the final RTA Grant, 2nd by Svoma, carried.

Motion Boss to accept the bid of Hauser Enterprises on the Crooked Creek Bridge, 2nd by Nawrocki, based on the bid being within county 10% awarding policy. Carried.

Motion by Boss to adjourn at 11:00, 2nd by Nawrocki, carried.