

**Poland Municipal Forest Board Meeting  
Tuesday, February 28, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by the Chair.

**Board Members Present:**

James Brammer

Bob Elias

B.J. Sulka

Mark Thompson

Dr. Ian Renne

Elinor Zedaker, *Chair*

**Board Members Excused:**

Chris Graff, *Village Council Representative*

**Quorum:** Yes

**Approval of the November minutes:** Elias made the motion to approve the minutes, Sulka seconded, all said AYE.

**Approval of the January minutes:** Thompson made the motion to approve the minutes, Elias seconded, all said AYE.

**Finance Report:** Elias presented the financial report. There is currently \$77,934.56 in the account with \$62,675.00 available. Thompson made the motion to accept the report, Sulka seconded, and all said AYE.

**Comfort Station:** Thompson stated that he spoke to the company. The comfort station should be delivered by mid-April. Thompson will acquire the permits for the new site and the demolition of the old pit toilet.

**Invasive Species:** Brammer explained the project details proposed by Grand River Forestry for the invasive species control. Thompson made a motion to hire Grand River Forestry to cut and treat invasive species in the Poland Municipal Forest.

The project will be done in two phases; the first phase will cost \$420.0 per acre and the second phase will cost \$220.0 per acre. The total area is not to exceed ten acres.

Elias seconded the motion, and all voted AYE.

**Bluebell Trail Bank Stabilization:** Thompson presented a report from EnviroScience on the bank stabilization project. The report will be posted on the web site. Renne spoke about the report that Dr. Schroeder wrote. They are worried about environmental impacts from this project and unforeseen consequences. Thompson then spoke in response to the comments and explained that there is proven scientific research and facts that are driving the project.

**Volunteers:** Thompson reported that Tulip Trail Bridge is completed. Two trees that were left for aesthetics and wildlife were cut down by someone with an axe. Work on Big Rock Trail will begin soon. The Bog bridges have begun and will continue as weather and time allows.

**Other/New Business:**

Brammer asked the Board if there was any interest in planting more saplings through the First Energy Green Team program. After some discussion, it was decided to order 400 saplings for the forest. More information will be provided at a later date.

Renne talked about the garlic mustard pull. A date is forthcoming. The group discussed MillCreek's plan for their deer control. The Board also discussed log jams in the creeks.

**Public Comments:**

- 1- Resident one voiced his opinions about the chemicals used for invasive species control and the acute effects on amphibians on the forest floor. He spoke about the letter he drafted to ODNR about the bank stabilization project and the possible effects on oxbows that form over time. He mentioned that planting trees under a forest canopy is futile, possibly planting them in the riparian zone would be better. He also voiced his opinion about EnviroScience only doing this for the money.
- 2- Resident two thanked us for looking into the log jam that is causing flooding in her yard.
- 3- Resident three asked if we can post when the invasive spraying will take place. Also asked who will be maintaining the comfort station and spoke out against the EnviroScience project.
- 4- Resident four thanked the volunteers for their work.

5- Resident five thanked the volunteers. The resident would like another public meeting with EnviroScience. They reported a dirt bike in the forest.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at 7:00pm**

Motion to adjourn was made by Renne, Brammer seconded all said AYE.