

LOCALNEWS

MINNESOTA DNR

Fall and its hunting seasons

BY LARRY PETERSEN  
DNR Area Wildlife Manager

Now that fall is just about here, I thought I would write up something before the grouse and archery deer seasons open Saturday.

Sometimes the forecast is not so rosy, and this is one of those years.

**Ruffed grouse**

Our drumming counts in Koochiching County were pretty much the same as last year. We do this survey in spring when the male grouse are at the peak of drumming. They make this noise by rapidly beating their wings.

Every year these surveys are done across the state to give us some insight on what the population is doing. If we hear more drums from the previous year, we assume the population is going up. When we hear fewer, we assume the population is dropping.

People are interested in these surveys because they do a pretty good job predicting the following fall harvest. These counts follow a fairly predictable pattern that run in about 10-year cycles. Peaks are usually in the years that end in a 9 or 0, while the lowest counts usually are in the years ending in a 4 or 5. Unfortunately, the current year — 2014 — has a bad last number. So our counts, plus a very wet June, indicate we will likely have a fairly low grouse population.

I have seen and heard very few reports of young grouse. Based on all of that, I predict a tough season for



Larry PETERSEN

grouse hunters. One hint might be to keep your eyes on the highbush cranberries. It is a pretty good crop this year. The berries last well into the winter and grouse really like them.

**Deer**

Gone are the mild winters we often — or at least the deer- enjoyed between roughly the late 1980s and late 2000s. Deer numbers were strong, and when they dropped due to a rough winter or two, they quickly rebounded. We had flexible hunting seasons that allowed taking antlerless deer.

Now, for the first time in many years, we have “bucks only” hunting in many permit areas in the northeast part of the state. This is the case in Permit Areas 108 and 119 in the International Falls vicinity. Four severe winters in the last six years have taken their toll on the deer population. It is particularly the deep snow that impacts winter deer survival. Because the deer population is quite low, conservative hunting seasons have been set which allow either no or very few antlerless deer to be taken.

So this year, all hunters — including youth — no matter what season (archery, muzzleloader, or firearm) cannot take an antlerless deer in a “bucks only” area. If you hunt in Permit Area 103, in the western part of Koochiching County, there are a few antlerless permits allotted. This allows any archery hunter to take any deer in that permit area. Firearm and muzzleloader hunters must have applied for and receive an antlerless permit to be able to take an antlerless deer in Permit Area 103 this year.

Based on the declining deer population these past few years, I predict a fairly low harvest in the International Falls area. It will probably be similar to those years after the severe winters in the mid-1990s. We did not have a good fawn crop in June 2013, so there will be fewer

yearling bucks.

There are some good areas though. Experienced hunters learn that wildlife populations are not evenly spread out. Some places are better and some are worse. We have areas that have very few deer, yet some places are pretty good. Despite the severe winter we just had, I am seeing more fawns than last year. Maybe soon the deer population will be rebounding.

One hint is hunters that hunt near human populations will do better than those who hunt deep in the forest.

If you have any questions on the upcoming or currently running hunting seasons please contact me at the office at 392 E Hwy 11, International Falls MN 56649; 286-5434; lawrence.petersen@state.mn.us

There is also a lot of information on the DNR website: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/index.html>

AGENDA

City of International Falls - City Council Regular Meeting  
4:30 P.M., Monday, September 15, 2014  
Council Chamber, 600 Fourth Street

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1. Minutes of the Tuesday, September 2, 2014 Regular City Council meeting (Council action-motion)

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS AND APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

1. CLAIMS

a. Transfer Claims

- to: City of Intl Falls Fund #101 General from: City of Intl Falls Fund #601 \$16,492.00 Water/Sewer (Council action- motion)
- to: City of Intl Falls Fund #403 Reserve for Capital Outlay from: City of Intl Falls Fund #601 \$15,958.50 Water/Sewer (Council action- motion)

b. Regular Claims (Council action-motion)

**AUDIENCE – OPEN FORUM** (The Open Forum is an opportunity for the audience to address the City Council on any matter not listed on the agenda. Please limit your comments to five minutes.)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

OPENING BIDS (AND/OR QUOTES)

- 1. Open/Read Sealed Bids - First Reading Contract Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_ for City of International Falls Automatic Water Meter Reading System (Council action-motion).

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Approve Taxicab license for “A Taxi-Van Limo Service”- Jean Clement (Council action-motion)
- 2. Discussion of City working conditions and environment, Councilor Rognerud (Council action-motion)

**CONSENT AGENDA** The Consent Agenda allows the City Council to take action on routine matters by one motion that shall not be debated and shall be adopted by unanimous vote of those present. Any individual council member may remove an item from the Consent Agenda for discussion on the regular agenda (Council action – motion).

- 1. Approve attendance at League of Minnesota Cities 2014 Regional Meetings: Pull up a Chair.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Planning Commission recommendation regarding application to change zoning of parcel from R-1B Residential to M-1B Manufacturing for Shannon’s Inc., Allon Shannon, President (Council action-motion)
- 2. Adopt the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources – Wetland Protection and Management Plan for the City of International Falls (Council action-motion)
- 3. Adopt resolution approving the new Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Master Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) and Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment to the CJDN Subscriber Agreement (Council action-motion)
- 4. Set meeting for Preliminary Budget/Levy approval (Council action-motion)
- 5. Any other business

REPORTS OF ALL BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

- 1. Reports of the Administrator, Attorney, and Department Heads a.
- 2. Reports of the Mayor, Council Committees, Boards and Commissions a.

REPORTS OF MAYOR, COUNCIL COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

AUDIENCE – OPEN FORUM

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1. August 2014 Traveler Fun Lead Campaign Results - Convention and Visitors Bureau

REMINDERS

- 1. Next regular City Council meeting is Monday, October 6, 2014 at 4:30 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Note: Matters inappropriate for consideration at the meeting or not in the order specified shall not be considered except 1) with the unanimous consent of the members of the City Council, or 2) scheduled public hearings or bid lettings, but not before the time stated in the notice.

The City of International Falls complies with the Americans with Disability Act. Individuals with disabilities requiring special aids should contact the City Administrator, 600 Fourth Street, International Falls, MN, 56649, 218-283-9484, at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

Independent School District #361

Koochiching County International Falls, MN  
Mission Statement: To prepare all learners for a changing world by developing their potential within a climate of mutual respect and trust.

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Monday, September 15, 2014 • Falls High School Cafeteria

PRELIMINARIES:

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: 5:00 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Gordon Dault \_\_\_\_\_ Darrell Wagner \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Hebner \_\_\_\_\_ Dena Wenberg \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Holden \_\_\_\_\_ Kevin Grover \_\_\_\_\_  
Willi Kostiuk \_\_\_\_\_

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4.0 PREVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ carried/failed

5.0 OPEN FORUM

5.1 Shawn Mason & Michael Wellcome  
5.2 Public Open Forum

6.0 Approve the minutes from the regular meeting of August 18, 2014.

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ carried/failed

7.0 Approve the bills due and payable amounting to \$278,720.85.

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ carried/failed

OLD BUSINESS:

8.0 Motion to approve or deny lettering for a Falls High School Bowling Team. Moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ carried/failed

9.0 Discussion and potential action on electrical upgrade at Bronco Stadium.

NEW BUSINESS:

10.0 Program Consent: Moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ to approve items 10.1 – 10.4.

10.1	Accept donations in the amount of 14,107.79.	
	8/13/14 Northland Foundation Grant; Age to Age Group	\$5000.00
	8/14/14 Bremer Bank; ISD # 361 School Calendar	\$250.00
	8/14/14 Domino's; ISD # 361 School Calendar	\$250.00
	8/21/14 Coca-Cola Bottling of Intl Falls; ISD # 361 School Calendar	\$500.00
	8/21/14 Broncos Basketball Booster; HUDL Software	\$800.00
	8/25/14 Stewart's Super One Foods; Swim Timing Pads	\$3000.00
	8/25/14 Memorial Donation to Wallace Haglund Scholarship Fund	\$50.00
	8/25/14 Boise Paper Corp; To FES Wishing Willow Tree	\$1000.00
	8/28/14 Northstar Publishing; ISD # 361 School Calendar	\$250.00
	8/28/14 Boise Paper Corp; ISD # 361 School Calendar	\$1500.00
	8/28/14 In Honor of Gail Rasmussen from the Birthday Club; Project Read	\$80.00
	9/3/14 Target-Take Charge of Education; West End Elementary	\$191.30
	9/3/14 Target-Take Charge of Education; Falls Elementary School	\$693.14
	9/3/14 Target-Take Charge of Education; Falls High School	\$623.35
	TOTAL	\$14,107.79

10.2 Approve the non-financial agreement between ISD 361 and Koochiching County Public Health for coordination of services of School Social Worker and Agency Social Workers.

10.3 Approve the Bronco Arena Concession Agreement with International Falls Recreation Hockey Association for the period of November 1, 2016.

10.4 Approve an agreement with RRCC for use of district baseball field.

11.0 Personnel Consent: Moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ to approve items 11.1 – 11.8 carried/failed

- 11.1 Accept the resignation of Heather Sjoblom as an Educational Support Professional effective August 21, 2014.
- 11.2 Accept the resignation of Gail Nevalainen as an Educational Support Professional effective August 26, 2014.
- 11.3 Approve the release from duty of Mary Hummel due to coverage of position by the Northeast Special Education Cooperative.
- 11.4 Accept the resignation of Tawnya Porter as a regular route non-union bus driver effective July 28, 2014.
- 11.5 Acknowledge Sarah Bradley as a volunteer volleyball coach for the 2014 season.
- 11.6 Acknowledge Alicia Hendrickson as a volunteer cross country & track coach/driver for the 2014 and spring 2015 seasons.
- 11.7 Acknowledge Kristy Taylor as a volunteer girls' swim/diving coach for the 2014 season.
- 11.8 Approve the hire of Ryan Puncocar as an Assistant Baseball Coach for the 2015 season and in accord with Schedule "C" of the Master Agreement between ISD 361 and Local 331.

REPORTS AND INFORMATION:

12.0 Administrative Reports:

- 12.1 Tim Everson, Principal
- 12.2 Melissa Tate, Principal
- 12.3 Kevin Grover, Superintendent

13.0 Committee Reports:

**CLOSED SESSION:** Enter into a closed session to discuss Local 510 negotiations. Moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ carried/failed

**REOPEN AND ADJOURNMENT:** Reopen the meeting and adjourn the meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m. Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_ carried/failed



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**pjbennett71@hotmail.com**



PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be conducted by the Koochiching County Board of Adjustment relative to the following item on **Thursday, September 25, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.** in the County Board Room, Koochiching County Courthouse, International Falls, Minnesota.

A variance application received by **Donn and Susan Fuller** requesting a deviation from the required 50ft setback from the ordinary high water level (OHWL) of Rainy Lake in order to remove and replace their existing cabin with a new 30 x 30ft 2-story cabin. The parcel is located along Town Road 498 and is described as part of Lot 2 as described per inst. # 229796 and Lot 3, Block 3, Plat of Point-of-Pines, Sec. 28, Twp 71N, Rge 23W, Koochiching County, Minnesota.

All interested parties are invited to attend the said hearing to be heard. If more information is desired, please contact the Koochiching County Environmental Services, ph.(218)283-1158.


September 8, 2014

Dale Olson  
Zoning Administrator  
Koochiching County


## Laminate...

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Pre-School to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade



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Fun, Games, Caring Adult Leaders all while learning about the Bible and Jesus!

**For more info: 218-283-3365 or just show up on September 17<sup>th</sup>.**



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