

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: February 1, 2017

TIME: 3:30 p.m. Committee Room 2, 2nd Floor, Court House, Rhinelander, WI

PRESENT: Chair Sorensen; Committee Members: Pence, Van Raalte, Zunker
Forestry Staff: Bilogan, Fiene, Bradley.

OTHERS: Desmond, Corp Counsel; Charbarneau, LRES; Hanson & Reidinger, RASTA

CALL MEETING TO ORDER— At 3:30 p.m. Vice-Chair Van Raalte called the meeting to order, noting that it had been properly posted in accordance with the procedures set forth by the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA WITH THE ORDER OF AGENDA ITEMS AT CHAIR'S DISCRETION— It was moved by Zunker seconded by Pence to approve the current agenda with the order of agenda items at Chair's discretion. All aye. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL UPDATE. Jill Bradley was presented with a 5-year certificate. The new Forestry Maintenance tech has already resigned. The second candidate from the interviews accepted the position and started on Monday.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETING— It was moved by Zunker seconded by Pence to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2016 and January 4, 2017 FLR Committee meetings. All aye. Motion carried.

FOREST MANAGEMENT:

- a) YEAR-TO-DATE TIMBER STUMPAGE REVENUE REPORT—
Fiene reported that the final total for 2016 was \$1,239,613.15; 2017 YTD stumpage revenue was \$127,347.66 which is close to average for January.
- b) TIMBER SALES FOR DISPOSITION—None
- c) The Enterprise town chairman informed Bilogan that Sugar Bush Road is posted with weight limits. Bilogan asked whether the town would allow truck travel if the Forestry Dept. put gravel on the road in spring to fix low spots. Zunker moved to follow up with the graveling discussion. Van Raalte seconded. After discussion Zunker amended her motion to include any agreement must be signed. Pence seconded. All aye, motion carried.

CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION:

Motion by Pence, 2nd by Zunker to enter into closed session. Roll call vote taken, all aye, motion carried

- a) Pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(g) conferring with legal counsel concerning strategy to be adopted by the governmental body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. Topic: Burrows Lake Bridges
- b) Sec. 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Topic 1: Luber Lane cell tower contract. Topic 2: Possible acquisition of 3.5-acre parcel, WB172-2, located in the Town of Woodboro
- c) Sec. 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which this body has jurisdiction or responsibility. Topic: Annual Performance Evaluation and reclassification of Forestry Director position.
- d) Approve minutes of closed sessions December 7, 2016 and January 4, 2017

Chair Sorensen arrived at the meeting during the closed session.

A motion was made by Pence, second by Zunker, to return to open session. Roll call vote was taken, all aye. Motion carried.

TRUCK BIDS

Two bids were received for the advertised Forestry truck. Rhinelander GM bid was \$29,278 and Marthaler Chevrolet bid was \$22,699. The large difference was discussed. Bilogan feels it is related to the trade-in value. Van Raalte moved to accept the Marthaler bid subject to review of specifications. Zunker seconded. All aye, motion carried.

RASTA Grant Request details

Hanson and Reidinger from RASTA provided details of the projects they would like to complete with two RTA grants. One grant would be to build an elevated bridge over the wet area on the Cassian ski trail. The second project would be to relocate an existing bike trail to get out of the swamp area and rehabilitate trails to make more beginner and intermediate trails.

Bilogan explained that last time this was done, an agreement was signed by RASTA and the County. Also there was extensive discussions about the indemnification language. Hanson indicated that is no longer an issue, that the wording is acceptable. Bilogan also noted that if RASTA could not come up with the 50% match, the county would be responsible, since we are the official applicants. Finally, Bilogan wants a map with detailed information about the intended reroute. Are there going to be abandoned sections of trail? What is the intention of RASTA with regard to fat-tire trails?

Van Raalte made a motion to require a draft proposal, detail cost breakdown and detailed maps. Zunker seconded. All aye, motion carried.

Turcott Road Project Loan status update

Bilogan explained the state requires 20% of monthly stumpage revenue to repay any loans. The Town of Lynne would not be able to meet the full payment obligation each month, so the County would have to pay the state and get reimbursement from the Town.

Zunker said the Conservation Committee had allowed a DATCAP grant for \$20,000 which Lynne would have to match for a total of \$40,000 for the project.

VOUCHERS AND LINE ITEM TRANSFERS.

Van Raalte moved to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$2582.69. Sorensen seconded. All aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS— None

Hanson suggested the committee think about Forestry Technician pay, as two have quit.

WCFA Spring Meeting.

March 16-17 in Madison. Sorensen moved to approve travel for staff and committee members to attend. Van Raalte seconded. All aye, motion carried.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETINGS: None noted.

ADJOURNMENT—With business completed, it was moved by Pence seconded by Sorensen to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 p.m.. All aye. Motion carried.

JACK SORENSEN, CHAIR

JILL BRADLEY, RECORDING SECRETARY