

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: March 7, 2018

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

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

CALL MEETING TO ORDER— At 3:30 p.m. Chair Sorensen 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 Van Raalte seconded by Zunker to approve the current agenda with the order of agenda items at Chair's discretion. All aye. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETING— It was moved by Pence, seconded by Van Raalte to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2018 FLR Committee meetings. Mott requested future updates on the possible Nokomis gravel pit and Oneida County procedures for performance bonuses. Van Raalte requested that the minutes be clarified to indicate that the committee had accepted the staff recommendation for the contract cancellation policy. All aye. motion carried on the change. Minutes approved--all aye, motion carried.

FOREST MANAGEMENT:

- a) **YEAR-TO-DATE TIMBER STUMPAGE REVENUE REPORT**—
Fiene reported that the YTD stumpage revenue was \$294,379.59
- b) **Current status and future projection for the timber market.** Fiene reported he talked to several mills. They are close to capacity, as is usual for spring break up, and the general feeling is that this is a downturn similar to 2008. Since this is historically the beginning of downtime for Oneida County, he hopes that when the market starts to recover, it will coincide with the increasing harvest, generally in the late fall on Oneida County contracts.

Land Survey work for County Forest in Town of Little Rice, T36N-R4E, Section 30. Bilogan distributed a map to show where a recent survey discovered some errors in the property lines. The affected area is approximately 20 acres, which was viewed as County Forest, but which was private land. Mott moved to notify landowners of the error and proceed to formalize the revised property lines. Pence seconded. All aye, motion carried.

Oneida County contractor's equipment insurance for snowmobile clubs. The deductible is now \$5,000 per incident, which the club would pay, and there were questions why the county pays the premium. Sorensen explained that chairman Hintz wanted a recommendation from the committee as to whether to continue to pay the premiums. Bilogan had a document from 2010 showing that the Finance Committee approved payment to be taken from tourism dollars. Van Raalte moved to table the discussion until there is more information. Mott seconded. Tracy Hartman, Oneida County Clerk will check the old records to see if she can get more information. She will return next month with more details.

Development of the 2019-2023 Oneida County Outdoor Recreation Plan – Bilogan explained the plan is necessary to apply for Stewardship grants. Fred Heider (North Central WI Regional Planning Commission) developed a survey which will be available online for the first time. The survey will solicit public comments about current Oneida County Forestry recreation areas and suggestions for improvement. Bilogan explained how the surveys have worked in the past, and Sorensen felt this would be a helpful tool to get funding to put some infrastructure in the Gillette-Wickham parcels. Mott asked whether random citizens would be selected. Heider responded that they would provide posters to recreation groups, so all the members would be able to access the survey. There were suggestions about how to reach the most people.

Bill Treder, Chairman of the Town of Crescent was asked to attend. There is an uncertainty about the town road and boat landing with the Townline Park parcel that Forestry is considering selling. A portion of the access is via a town road. The new owner would need an easement if the Town abandons the road. At the next town meeting, the town board will look at all options and determine what they will do.

Contract approval for rebuilding the Burrows Lake ATV Bridges located in SENE, Sec. 10, T36N-R5E. Bilogan reported that Pitz requested two amendments to the contract, which the County agreed to, but he has not returned the signed contract.

Bilogan provided a final proof of the proposed dedication signs for Almon Park and Zimmer Road. The committee agreed the signs should be ordered. There will be one at Almon Park and two for Zimmer Road.

Van Raalte moved to permit interested staff and committee members to attend the following meetings, noting that the summer tour requires out of state travel due to lack of available lodging in Florence County .

Spring WCFA meeting March 14, 15, and 16, 2018
WDNR ATV/UTV Stakeholders Meeting April 12, 2018
Sustainable Forestry Conference April 19, 2018
WCFA Summer Tour June 27, 28, and 29 , 2018
Proposed metallic mining workshop hosted by the WCCA, Oct 9-10, 2018

Zunker seconded the motion. All aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS—

Guy Hansen Asked whether the 5 year recreation plan included maintenance in its scope. Bilogan replied that it looked only at development projects.

VOUCHERS, AND/OR LINE ITEM TRANSFERS.

Vouchers which totaled \$36,647.79 were presented to the committee, along with amended line-item transfers for 2017 close out. Van Raalte moved to approve payment, Mott seconded. All aye, motion carried

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Oneida County procedure for awarding employee performance bonus.
Nokomis gravel pit
Backes encroachment

ADJOURNMENT—With business completed, it was moved by Pence, seconded by Mott to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 p.m. All aye. Motion carried.

JACK SORENSEN
CHAIR

JILL BRADLEY
RECORDING SECRETARY