

## FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

**DATE:** May 3, 2017

**TIME:** 3:30 p.m. Committee Room 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Court House, Rhinelander, WI

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

**OTHERS:** Tom Wiensch, Corp Counsel; Jim Bollman, MSA; Dan Mortenson, Cooper Engineering,  
Heather Berklund and Manny Oradei, DNR

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER—** At 3:30 p.m. Chair Sorensen called the meeting to order, noting that it was 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 Van Raalte seconded by Pence to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2017 FLR Committee meetings. All aye. Motion carried.

### **FOREST MANAGEMENT:**

- a) YEAR-TO-DATE TIMBER STUMPAGE REVENUE REPORT—  
Fiene reported that the YTD stumpage revenue through April was \$537,967.55.
- b) TIMBER SALES FOR DISPOSITION—None
- c) Timber Contract Extensions—Contracts 1605, 1606, 1607, 1610, 1612, 1615 were granted second extensions. Pence moved to approve with 15% increase. Zunker seconded. All aye, motion carried.
- d) Resolution to grant PCA temporary access across County Forest for the purpose of a private land sale. Area is in Town of Lynne (NE1/4 SE ¼, Sec. 27, T37N R4E). Corp Counsel stated that all real estate transactions have to go through County Board and drafted a resolution. Van Raalte commented that this is not applicable to Ordinance 3.09; that is purchasing, not access. Wiensch agreed with the committee, that the Ordinance is unclear. Mott moved to present resolution to Oneida County Board. Zunker seconded. All aye, motion carried.
- e) Review Timber Sale Bids. Van Raalte moved to award contracts for 11 sales. Tract 12-17 had no bids. Zunker seconded. All aye, motion carried. Fiene recommended accepting the high bids as the loggers have all worked for Oneida County before without problems.

### **ENGINEERING PROPOSALS FOR ENTERPRISE ATV/UTV TRAIL EXPANSION**

Two bids were received, MSA for \$64,100 and Cooper Engineering for \$42,000. Reps from each company attended the meeting to answer questions from the committee. Cooper's price did not include the price of previously unidentified flood plain permit, which would increase the price \$2400-\$5000. Bilogan noted that field staff were concerned with job site observation hours. MSA indicated 65 hours, and Cooper estimated 40-50 hours. Bilogan calculated that it would add \$3000 to bring Cooper up to 65 hours. That would still make a \$14,000 difference in price. Both representatives said they met the proposal requirements, and no one had any information of a difference in services to be provided. Mott moved to accept the lower bid and award the contract to Cooper Engineering. Pence seconded. Roll call vote: Mott, Pence, Van Raalte and Zunker all voted aye, Sorensen abstained. Motion carried.

## **LAND ACQUISITION—**

The committee discussed purchasing approximately 231 acres of privately owned land surrounding Gillette & Wickham Lake, located in the N1/2 of Section 19, T35N-R9E, Town of Enterprise; (Tax Parcel #'s: EN 289, EN 290, EN 290-1, EN 291, EN 291-1, EN 292, EN 293, EN 294, EN 294-1, EN 295, & EN 295-1). Bilogan spoke with all the owners and were all emphatic that they wanted to sell. The Town of Enterprise had previously stated they had no opposition to the Gillette Lake purchase, however the Stewardship grant would require the town to issue a letter of approval. The committee's consensus was that the issue should be brought before the Oneida County Board for discussion.

Wiensch spoke briefly why this topic had been moved from closed session to open. Developing a negotiation strategy or determining an offer would be a good reason for closed session, but just discussion of a possible purchase was not sufficient.

There was discussion about whether the Town of Enterprise would be willing to accept a reduced income if the 231 acres was put into the County Forest. Oradei commented that the town would also have a reduced need for services. Bilogan was enthusiastic about the possibilities for recreation for the citizens whether as a park, a campground or even just a boat landing.

Mott moved to direct Bilogan to create a report about the purchase of the property for both the Town of Enterprise and the County Board. Van Raalte seconded. Bilogan will attend the next town meeting. All aye, motion carried.

## **2017 ATV TRAIL OPENING**

The clubs have requested an early open date, based on the conditions of the trails. Van Raalte moved to open the trails on May 12, 2017. Mott seconded. All aye, motion carried

**2017 SUMMER TOUR.** Sorensen moved to allow staff and committee to attend the summer tour in Bayfield County. Van Raalte seconded. All aye, motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS—**

Heather Berklund was pleased that the partnership with the DNR resulted in a successful timber sale. She also added that it is now peak fire season, and be sure to get permits to burn.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Mott moved to convene in Closed Session to discuss the following purposes:

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, located in the Town of Little Rice, E1/2 of the NE1/4, Section 10, T36N-R5E.

b. Approve minutes of the closed session on April 5, 2017.

Zunker seconded the motion. Roll call vote to go into closed session. All aye, motion carried.

A roll call vote will be taken to return to open session.

Mott moved to return to open session, Pence seconded. Roll call vote. All aye, motion carried. No announcements regarding motions made in closed session.

## **VOUCHERS AND LINE ITEM TRANSFERS.**

Vouchers which totaled \$63,249.81 were presented to the committee. Mott moved to authorize payment, Van Raalte seconded. All aye, motion carried

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

Van Raalte asked that Ordinance 3.09 be discussed with regard to changes to reduce micromanaging.  
RASTA letter regarding new haul road.  
Bilogan's report on the Gillette-Wickham Lake purchase.

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

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JACK SORENSEN  
CHAIR

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JILL BRADLEY  
RECORDING SECRETARY