

## FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

**DATE:** January 12, 2021

**TIME:** 1:30 p.m. County Board Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Court House, Rhinelander, WI

**PRESENT:** Committee Members: Sorensen, VanRaalte, Pence, Almekinder  
Excused: Mott  
Forestry Staff: Fiene, Tischendorf  
DNR Liaison: Oradei

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair Sorensen called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The meeting has 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**

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the current agenda with the order of agenda items at Chair's discretion. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments at this time.

### **SNOWMOBILE TRAIL OPENING UPDATE**

Fiene updated the committee regarding the original vote by the snowmobile council to open the trails which was rescinded the following day with another vote by the council to keep the trails closed. Upcoming snow in the forecast, however, actual snowfall will determine trail opening.

### **REVIEW / APPROVE BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR NEW FORESTRY PICKUP TRUCK**

Fiene stated the specifications provided are to replace a 2009 4-wheel drive forestry work truck. During budget time, Fiene contacted Rhinelander GM for a quote which came in at approximately \$31,000 which is well within in the budgeted amount for vehicle replacement.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the truck bid specifications and putting the specifications out for bids. Second by Pence. All aye, unanimous vote, motion carried.

### **REVIEW / APPROVE RESOLUTIONS FOR KRIESEL & OSTERMAN ACCESS PERMITS**

Fiene explained the resolutions were two landowners that requested access permits at a prior forestry committee meeting. The request was approved by the committee and all associated fees have been paid in full.

Motion by Pence to approve the resolutions and forward to County Board. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

### **REVIEW / APPROVE WEST SOO LAKE AFFIDAVIT**

Fiene explained the affidavit relates to the Backes encroachment and subsequent withdrawal of the property. Part of the resolution requires the town file an affidavit regarding the town right-of-way providing access to the landowner.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the affidavit as presented. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

### **APPROVAL TO DEVELOP FIREWOOD PERMIT FOR RECREATIONAL CLUBS**

In the past, the department has received requests from snowmobile and ATV clubs to allow them to take firewood for personal use when downing trees for trail maintenance. Fiene requested the department approve the development of a separate firewood permit to issue to a club member as these areas do not typically allow public access to gather firewood. Permits would be specific regarding the harvestable firewood.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the development of a firewood permit as presented. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

**REVIEW / APPROVE FINAL DRAFT 15-YEAR PLAN & RESOLUTION**

A summary of the changes requested by the WDNR review were provided to the committee. County Board supervisors will be provided a complete copy for review.

After the DNR review, Doug Brown provided high praise for the content and formatting of the plan. A big “Thank you” and “Great job” to forestry staff and committee members for comments and hard work on this document.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the 15-year plan as presented and forward to the County Board for approval. Second by Pence. All aye, motion carried.

Motion by Pence to approve the resolution with proposed changes and forward to county board. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

**VOUCHERS/LINE ITEM TRANSFERS**

Vouchers presented totaling \$53,798.32 of which the majority includes grant funded projects. Two charges each of \$7,605.00 to MSA Professionals for ATV project, the Willow Spillway rehab project for \$10,095.08, and the Trail 8 rehab for \$17,638.82 and trail reconstruction for RASTA of \$3,637.13. Additionally we had the parks truck bumper repaired at a cost of \$1,808.71 and tree marking paint for \$2,536.45.

Revised blanket purchase order list for 2021 was provided to the committee.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the vouchers, line item transfers and blanket purchase order list as presented. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None at this time.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MEETINGS**

- Next meeting – February 3, 2021
- Discuss Future Possibilities of Waiving Fees for Military & Veterans
- Withdrawal Resolution of Land Associated with Town Line Lake Park

**ADJOURNMENT**

With business completed, Chair Sorensen adjourned the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

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JACK SORENSEN  
CHAIR

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TANYA TISCHENDORF  
RECORDING SECRETARY