

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: July 7, 2021

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

PRESENT: Committee Members: Sorensen, VanRaalte, Almekinder, Mott
Excused: Pence
Forestry Staff: Fiene, Rady, Tischendorf
RASTA: Guy Hanson, Scott Watson; DNR Liaison – Manny Oradei; Corporation Counsel – Mike Fugle

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Sorensen called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Zoom access was not available. 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.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the minutes of June 2, 2021 meeting. Second by Mott. All aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time.

FOREST MANAGEMENT – YTD STUMPAGE REPORT

YTD Stumpage Report – Fiene reported county forest stumpage for June was \$63,896.19 and year-to-date stumpage total of \$691,696.83. Current yearly stumpage revenue is above the 5-year average and there are three active timber sales.

Discuss/Approve Survey – Sec. 8, T37N, R4E, Town of Lynne – Fiene met with Romportl from Land Information and the estimate for the survey is \$20,000 - \$30,000. Fiene reached out to the private landowner to set up a meeting and is currently waiting for a response.

Discussion regarding when the survey should be complete (2021 or 2022) and the additional funds requested.

Motion by VanRaalte to forward a request to the Administration Committee to approve up to \$30,000 from the contingency fund with the understanding the Committee may need to take it to the County Board. Second by Mott. All aye, motion carried.

Carbon Credit Recommendation & Timber Producers Cooperative Update – Sorensen had a discussion with Jeff Verdoorn from Oneida County Economic Development. Verdoorn would like to review these two topics and report back at the next meeting. Sorensen directed Fiene to contact Verdoorn to confirm him as an agenda item for the August meeting.

Motion by VanRaalte to table until the August meeting. Second by Mott. All aye, motion carried.

DISCUSS/APPROVE POTENTIAL PARCELS TO CONSIDER WITHDRAWAL/SELLING

Fiene provided an update from the last meeting. Fiene spoke with Doug Brown from WDNR and his opinion is there is a chance of withdrawal approval for all parcels if qualifying reasons are identified AND the sale proceeds are deposited into a land purchase account.

Sec. 36, T35N, R9E, SE1/4, NE1/4, Town of Enterprise – Fiene recommends moving forward with withdrawal application.

Sec. 4, T37N, R4E, SE1/4, SE1/4, Town of Lynne - Fiene recommends moving forward with withdrawal application.

Sec. 11, T37N, R4E, NW1/4, SE1/4, Town of Lynne – Fiene recommends holding off on the withdrawal application until he hears back from the WDNR regarding their possible interest in the parcel.

Part GL 2, Sec. 2, T36N, R8E, Town of Crescent – Fiene recommends moving forward with withdrawal application as long as there aren't any potential plans for a future campground as this parcel may be needed to meet minimum acreage requirements for campground approval.

Discussion regarding whether or not to move forward with withdrawal possibilities if the money cannot offset the Gillette-Wickham property purchase as discussed at County Board.

Motion by Almekinder to pursue withdrawal applications for the three recommended parcels. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

ATV PROGRAM

State ATV Trail Contracts – Rady outlined the agreement between the Department of Transportation and Oneida County for the development of an ATV trail from Monico to the Forest County Line. Assistant Corporation Counsel Wiensch proposed some changes to the DOT; however, only one change was approved. Corporation Counsel Fugle's opinion is that the state typically will not make requested changes so the choice is to accept the agreement as provided or don't complete the project.

Motion by Mott to approve the memorandum of agreement between WisDOT, North Central Region and Oneida County for an ATV Trail dated June 1, 2021. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

Rady outlined the 2nd contract with the state as a land use agreement for an ATV trail on the Woodboro Wildlife Area. Assistant Corporation Counsel Wiensch was able to negotiate with the state to make several changes with one exception. Corporation Counsel Fugle pointed out that this contract also requires the signature from the Town of Woodboro. Rady confirmed the town does want the trail.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the recreational land use agreement subject to the Town of Woodboro's agreement. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

Pel-Cho Mudd Nutz Building Request at Zimmer Parking Lot – Pel-Cho Mudd Nutz ATV Club is exploring the possibility of constructing a 40 x 50 foot pole barn equipment storage building with a 6" concrete floor and 12 foot sidewalls at the Zimmer Parking Lot on county land. Would also like to have power available if possible.

Fiene prefers all maintenance, liability and ownership remain with the ATV Club similar to the current agreement with the RASTA grooming shed at the Nose Lake parking area.

Fiene was directed to look into this further and report back to the committee.

RASTA

Discuss/Approve Request for Additional Roll-Up Door – Discussed at June meeting and directed to get a quote for the committee. Received a quote for \$650 with installation. Door would be delivered mid-August.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the purchase of the door. Second by Mott. All aye, motion approved.

Discuss/Approve RASTA Request for Temporary Camping at Perch Lake Park for the WEMS Mountain Bike Race on September 25, 2021 – Past approval has been provided to allow camping at Perch Lake Park. Based on prior agreement, there was a \$10 fee per night per unit.

Motion by VanRaalte to add the “camping fee of \$10 per night per unit” to the agreement. Second by Mott. All aye, motion carried.

Motion by Almekinder to deny allowing campfires within Perch Lake Park during the WEMS Mountain Bike Race. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the amended contract. Second by Mott. All aye, motion carried.

Discuss/Approve Code Amendment for Ebike Usage on Designated Biking and Non-Motorized Trails – Fiene provided information on Ebikes and the various class distinctions. Recommendation to amend county code to allow Class 1 and Class 3 Ebikes on designated bicycle trails. RASTA accepts the recommendation as presented.

Motion by VanRaalte to authorize Fiene to modify Chapter 14 of the County Code to allow Class 1 and Class 3 Ebikes and modify the 15-year plan if necessary. Second by Mott. All aye, motion carried.

TOWNLINE LAKE PARK AGREEMENT UPDATE

Fiene has been informed that the Friends of Townline Lake Park are officially incorporated. The plan is to bring a Corporation Counsel approved maintenance agreement to the August Forestry Committee meeting.

Informational only.

VOUCHERS/LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Vouchers presented total \$41,438.45 including approximately \$35,000 in ATV maintenance to the four ATV clubs for 2020-21 season. Additional vouchers for Cooper Engineering, Rhinelander GM and Swiderski Equipment.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MEETINGS

- Next meeting – August 4, 2021
- Survey Update – Sec. 8, T37N, R4E, Town of Lynne
- Carbon Credit Project Update – Jeff Verdoorn, Economic Development
- Timber Producers Cooperative Update – Jeff Verdoorn, Economic Development
- Pel-Cho Mudd Nutz Storage Building Request Update
- County Code Amendment to Allow Ebikes on Designated Biking Trails
- Discuss/Approve Townline Lake Park Agreement
- Potential Land Purchase – Town of Enterprise

ADJOURNMENT

With business completed, Chair Sorensen adjourned the meeting at 4:27 p.m.

JACK SORENSEN
CHAIR

TANYA TISCHENDORF
RECORDING SECRETARY