

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: August 8, 2023

TIME: 8:00 a.m. County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Court House, Rhinelander, WI

PRESENT: Committee Members: Winkler, Briggs, Sorgel (via zoom)
Excused: Almekinder, Schultz
Forestry Staff: Fiene, Rady, Tischendorf
WDNR: John Gillen

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Winkler called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.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 Briggs to approve the agenda with the order of agenda items at Chair's discretion. Second by Winkler. All aye, motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

Winkler requested three amendments to the draft minutes.

Motion by Briggs to approve the minutes of July 11, 2023 meeting with Winkler's amendments. Second by Sorgel. All aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

YTD Timber Stumpage Report – Fiene reported July stumpage of \$87,311.26 bringing the year-to-date total to \$504,343.58. Markets remain pretty slow with two current active jobs.

WCFA FALL MEETING – HAYWARD, WI, SEPTEMBER 27-28, 2023

Fiene explained the WCFA Fall meeting will be held in Hayward and the committee was provided a draft agenda with potential topics.

Motion by Briggs to approve staff / committee attendance and out of county travel. Second by Winkler. All aye, motion carried.

DISCUSS / APPROVE SALE & PURCHASE OF FORESTRY EQUIPMENT

Fiene stated the department is looking to sell a 2012 Tundra woods snowmobile and a 2013 Polaris Sportsman ATV in order to purchase a new ATV with tracks. Approximate blue book values combined is \$6,000 and estimated purchase of an ATV with tracks is \$15,000 - \$16,000. Additional funds would be used from the Forestry Equipment Appropriations Account.

Motion by Winkler to approve the requested sale and purchase of forestry equipment. Second by Briggs. All aye, motion carried.

DISCUSS / APPROVE SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY GRANT FOR ROZELL ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT

Fiene explained that there was a major washout on Rozell Road this spring and while the highway department was repairing the road, it was evident the culverts were all rusted and needed replacement. Fiene would like to apply for a sustainable forestry grant, which if approved, would cover the cost of new culverts and installation.

Motion by Briggs to approve the application for the sustainable forestry grant for Rozell Road culverts. Second by Winkler. All aye, motion carried.

DISCUSS / APPROVE FORESTRY CIP FOR 2024-2026

Fiene went over the four CIP projects that Forestry would like to submit to the CIP Committee for approval. Replacement of a 22-year old dump truck which is utilized for county forest road graveling and grading, Rozell Road culvert replacements, replace two forestry work trucks (2025 & 2026).

Motion by Winkler to rank all requested CIP items as high priority. Second by Briggs. All aye, motion carried.

Motion by Briggs to forward all requested CIP items to the CIP committee for consideration. Second by Sorgel. All aye, motion carried.

FRIENDS OF TOWNLINE LAKE PARK (FTLLP) UPDATE

Tracy Beckman stated FTLLP received donations of three benches (two memorial benches and a bench that attaches to the ADA pier) in addition to a 10-foot maple tree. Memorial benches would be set in a concrete pad and installed by FTLLP.

Motion by Briggs to accept the bench and tree donations. Second by Sorgel. All aye, motion carried.

DEPARTMENT BUDGET REVIEW

The committee was provided a copy of the department's year to date budget for review.

Informational Only.

VOUCHERS/LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Vouchers for the month totaled \$67,596.81 of which \$52,746.06 were grant funded or reimbursed expenses including ATV club maintenance and RASTA maintenance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Beckman clarified permission to plant the 10-foot maple tree.

Fiene informed the committee that the Tomkins encroachment issue has been completed.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MEETINGS

- Next meeting – September 12, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.
- 2024 Forestry Budget
- Outdoor Recreation Plan Draft, 2024-2028
- Bat Habitat & Conservation Agreement

ADJOURNMENT

With business completed, Vice-Chair Winkler adjourned the meeting at 9:09 a.m.

JIM WINKLER
COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR

TANYA TISCHENDORF
COMMITTEE SECRETARY