

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: October 6, 2021

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

PRESENT: Committee Members: Sorensen, VanRaalte, Pence, Mott, Almekinder
Forestry Staff: Fiene, Rady, Tischendorf
WDNR – Manny Oradei

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Sorensen called the meeting to order at 3:30 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 Mott to approve the current agenda with the order of agenda items at Chair's discretion. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Pence to approve the minutes of September 1, 2021 meeting. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time.

FOREST MANAGEMENT – YTD STUMPAGE REPORT

YTD Stumpage Report – Fiene reported county forest stumpage for September was \$288,992.84 and year-to-date stumpage total of \$1,250,512.77. Currently \$100,500 over 2021 budget and hope to end the year at \$1,400,000 or better.

November Timber Sale Bid Opening Date - Plan to schedule our bid opening for November 1, 2021, the Monday prior to Forestry Committee meeting.

Expiring Contracts – Discuss/Approve Extensions:

Connor Forest Management Contracts #1671, 1675, 1676 – Last year Connor was provided 5th year extensions. Anticipated completion of 1676 within next couple weeks and then moving into 1671 which has not been started yet. Sale 1675 is approximately 75% complete and cannot complete the sale until the campground closes.

Recommendation by the department to approve six-month extensions at 0% increase on all three jobs due to economic value to the County. Also include verbiage they cannot move into another sale until 1676 is paid down below performance bond amount.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve six-month extensions to Connor Forest Management contracts #1671, 1675, and 1676 as recommended. Second by Mott. All aye, motion carried.

Verso Corporation Contract #1695 – Sale is about 75% complete and an extension would allow a 5th year to complete. Recommendation to approve a one-year extension with 0% increase.

Motion by Mott to extend the Verso Corporation contract 1695 for one year with 0% increase. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

Country Forest Products Contract #1718; Kleinschmidt Logging Contract #1719; CTO Logging Contract #1721 – All standard extensions within four years of sale date. Recommend one-year extensions at 0% stumpage increases.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve one-year extensions with 0% increases for Country Forest Products #1718, Kleinschmidt Logging #1719 and CTO Logging #1721. Second by Pence. All aye, motion carried.

Fiene stated that this should be the last year the department provides 0% increases as sales with higher market rates are completed and upcoming sales were sold at lower market rates.

AWARD ZIMMER PIT WEST GRAVEL BID

Rady informed the committee that this project was out for bids in the summer; however, we did not receive any bids at that time. Following contractor suggestions, it was re-bid this fall and five bids were received.

Recommendation is to accept the low bid by Michels Corporation at \$3.33/ton for gravel and breaker rock.

Motion by Mott to award the bid to Michels Corporation. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

DISCUSS/APPROVE TOWN OF ENTERPRISE PARCEL PURCHASE RESOLUTION – SEC. 17, T35N, R5E, NE ¼, SE ¼

Based on Forestry Committee's prior direction, an appraisal was completed and the property was appraised at \$59,000. Knowles-Nelson grant funding will only provide up to 50% of the appraised value and associated purchase costs.

Resolution presented to review/approve for application of Knowles-Nelson grant funding for the potential purchase of this property.

Discussion regarding purchase price and contingency verbiage for resolution at time of offer to purchase.

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

DISCUSS/APPROVE SURVEY PROPOSAL & CONTRACT – SEC. 8, T37N, R4E, TOWN OF LYNNE

Fiene reminded the committee the survey was approved to determine property lines for timber sale harvesting after a private landowner disagreed with the property lines. One proposal was received from JW Austin and Associates, a surveyor the county has worked with multiple times. The proposal was within the range approved by admin (up to \$30,000) with an estimated cost of \$26,000 - \$28,000.

Motion by VanRaalte to award the contract to JW Austin and Associates, LLC. Second by Pence. All aye, motion carried.

Almekinder arrived at 3:50 p.m.

PEL-CHO MUDD NUTZ STORAGE BUILDING REQUEST UPDATE

Per the request of the Committee, Fiene inquired about insurance on the building. He is waiting for a response back from the County Clerk regarding the amount the insurance would increase to cover the cost of the proposed building (approximately \$80,000).

TROUT CREEK DOG TRAINING AREA PORTABLE TOILET REQUEST UPDATE

Fiene received approval from Corporation Counsel to contract with A-1 Septic for maintenance, liability, etc. for a portable toilet at the Trout Creek dog training area. Fiene will work on drafting a contract for next spring.

VOUCHERS/LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Vouchers presented totaling \$187,661.80 including a non-blanket purchase orders for Hometown Feed Mill for trail seed for the grant funded ATV Trail. Approximately \$140,000 was for snowmobile maintenance for upcoming season and supplemental maintenance for the 2020-21 season. Another \$38,000 was to refund a performance bond for a completed timber sale to Fink Forest Products, \$3,100 for tree marking paint and another \$2,400 for the Monico ATV trail for gates and a wetland permit which is all grant funded.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MEETINGS

- Next meeting – November 3, 2021
- Award November Timber Sale Contracts
- Forestry Director Performance Evaluation and Goals
- Pel-Cho Mudd Nutz Storage Building Update
- Snowmobile Trail Land Use Agreement Status (Industrial and private)

ADJOURNMENT

With business completed, Chair Sorensen adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

JACK SORENSEN
CHAIR

TANYA TISCHENDORF
RECORDING SECRETARY