

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: November 14, 2023

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

PRESENT: Committee Members: Almekinder, Winkler, Sorgel, Schultz
Excused: Briggs
Forestry Staff: Fiene, Rady, Tischendorf

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Almekinder called the meeting to order at 8:00 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 Winkler to approve the agenda with the order of agenda items at Chair's discretion. Second by Sorgel. All aye, motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Winkler to approve the minutes of October 10, 2023 meeting. Second by Sorgel. All aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

YTD Timber Stumpage Report – Fiene reported October stumpage of \$30,796.42 bringing the year-to-date total to \$702,785.00. Markets remain slow for this time of year and without significant activity, it will be difficult to meet the budgeted stumpage revenue.

Award November Timber Sale Contracts – Fiene stated we sold 10 of 12 tracts offered for an estimated revenue of \$660,171.75. Minimum bid for sold tracts was \$384,285.00. Estimated sale of timber from 2023 sale offerings is approximately \$1.3 million. Fiene recommends awarding contracts to high bidders.

High bids received:	Tract 1-23	Wesley Bushor	\$ 12,840.00
	Tract 2-23	Smola Enterprises, LLC	\$ 44,167.00
	Tract 5-23	Enterprise Forest Products	\$ 17,335.25
	Tract 7-23	No Bids Received	
	Tract 8-23	Bell Timber	\$ 76,959.60
	Tract 9-23	CTO Logging, LLC	\$ 65,383.50
	Tract 10-23	Central Wisconsin Lumber	\$ 87,418.40
	Tract 14-23	Al Mann Logging, LLC	\$ 20,730.00
	Tract 16-23	Roberts Logging, Inc.	\$123,200.00
	Tract 17-23	Smola Enterprises, LLC	\$ 99,565.00
	Tract 18-23	No Bids Received	
	Tract 19-23	Fink Forest Products	\$112,573.00

Motion by Almekinder to award timber sale contracts to the high bidders as recommended. Second by Sorgel. All aye, motion carried.

FRIENDS OF TOWNLINE LAKE PARK (FTLLP) UPDATE

Fiene stated the park has been closed down for the season and portable toilets removed. The group received more donated docks that may be placed next year pending approval. Fiene believes FTLLP also finished the walking trail around the park area.

REVIEW/APPROVE 2024 RASTA TRAIL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

Fiene discussed the changes to the contract (added the new storage building at Perch Lake and updated the financial terms) with the committee. Updated maps will be included with the 2024 contract.

Motion by Winkler to approve the 2024 RASTA Trail Maintenance Contract pending Corporation Counsel approval. Second by Schultz. All aye, motion carried.

DEPARTMENT BUDGET REVIEW (BUDGET / ACTUAL REPORT)

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

Informational only.

PAID INVOICES REPORT

The committee was provided a list of the invoices paid in October 2023.

Vouchers for the month totaled \$96,137.50 including \$65,899.42 of grant funded projects and reimbursed expenses. Other large expenses included \$14,383.95 for the new tracked ATV and \$8,966.50 for tree seedlings to be planted in 2024.

Informational only.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Guy Hansen, RASTA provided a brief equipment update.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MEETINGS

- Next meeting – December 12, 2023
- 5-year Outdoor Recreation Plan – Fred Heider
- Bat Habitat Conservation Plan
- 2024 Forestry Work Plan & Resolution

CLOSED SESSION

It is anticipated that the committee may meet in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes, Sec. 19.85(1)(c) for purposes of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee. A roll call vote will be taken to go into closed session. (Topics – Forestry Director Performance Evaluation and Goals, and Approve Closed Session Meeting Minutes from July 11, 2023) AND it is anticipated that the Committee will return to open session by roll call vote to consider the remainder of the meeting agenda.

The committee will return to open session and may ratify any matter(s) discussed in closed session.

Motion by Sorgel to go into closed session at 8:31 a.m. Second by Winkler. Roll call vote: All aye.

Motion to return to open session at 8:55 a.m. Roll call vote: All aye.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Almekinder stated the committee will forward the Forestry Director’s evaluation to LRES and approved the closed session minutes from July 11, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

With business completed, Chair Almekinder adjourned the meeting at 8:56 a.m.

ROBERT ALMEKINDER
COMMITTEE CHAIR

TANYA TISCHENDORF
COMMITTEE SECRETARY