

## FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

**DATE:** December 12, 2023

**TIME:** 8:00 a.m. County Board Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Court House, Rhinelander, WI

**PRESENT:** Committee Members: Almekinder, Winkler, Briggs, Schultz, Sorgel (via zoom)  
Forestry Staff: Fiene, Rady, Tischendorf  
WDNR: Kristina Wells; RASTA: Guy Hansen

### **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 Briggs. All aye, motion carried.

### **APPROVE MINUTES**

Motion by Briggs to approve the minutes of November 14, 2023 meeting. Second by Winkler. All aye, motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None at this time.

### **FOREST MANAGEMENT**

*YTD Timber Stumpage Report* – Fiene reported November stumpage of \$114,846.15 bringing the year-to-date total to \$817,631.15. Currently 11 active jobs.

*Discuss / Approve 2024 Tree Planting Direct Contract* – Fiene stated there are approximately 80 acres to be planted next year. Site preparation of these areas was completed in the summer of 2023. Fiene would like to get a quote and direct contract for tree planting.

Motion by Winkler to request a quote and proceed with a direct contract as requested. Second by Briggs. All aye, motion carried.

### **DISCUSS / APPROVE BAT HABITAT CONSERVATION PROGRAM APPLICATION & RESOLUTION**

Fiene summarized the bat habitat conservation plan application and resolution. Fiene's opinion is that the county doesn't really have any options due to the ramifications of an incidental take of a federally endangered/protected species.

Motion by Winkler to approve the bat habitat conservation program agreement pending Corporation Counsel's approval and forward the resolution to County Board. Second by Briggs. All aye, motion carried.

### **DISCUSS / APPROVE TOMAHAWK TIMBERLANDS SNOWMOBILE TRAIL LAND USE AGREEMENT**

Rady explained there was a change in ownership of a large industrial landowner that encompasses approximately 15-20 miles of snowmobile trail. Recently received a land use agreement contract which is currently with Corporation Counsel for review.

Motion by Winkler to approve the land use agreement pending Corporation Counsel's review. If revisions are recommended, a special committee meeting may be scheduled to review/approve. Second by Sorgel. All aye, motion carried.

### **DISCUSS / APPROVE TRAIL ENGINEERING CONTRACT – HODAG SNO-TRAILS HWY 8 TRAIL RE-ROUTE**

Rady updated the committee regarding this grant funded project. The engineering of the bridge was previously awarded by the committee; however, approval is requested to direct contract the engineering of the actual

snowmobile trail. Bids were solicited from three contractors and Rady is recommending awarding the contract to the low bidder Cedar Corporation for approximately \$22,000. Other proposals received were Cooper Engineering at \$25,000 and REI Engineering at \$35,000.

Motion by Winkler to award the contract to Cedar Corporation for approximately \$22,000. Second by Schultz. All aye, motion carried.

**FRIENDS OF TOWNLINE LAKE PARK (FTLLP) UPDATE**

No updates received.

**DISCUSS / APPROVE 5 YEAR OUTDOOR REC PLAN (2024-2028) & RESOLUTION**

Fiene updated the committee regarding the changes that were incorporated into the previous draft of the Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Motion by Briggs to approve the 5-year Outdoor Recreation Plan (2024-2028) and forward the resolution to County Board. Second by Winkler. All aye, motion carried.

**REVIEW / APPROVE 2024 ONEIDA COUNTY FORESTRY WORK PLAN & ASSOCIATED RESOLUTION**

Fiene explained the work plan is a requirement for the DNR and outlines the general plans and accomplishments of the department for the current and upcoming year.

Motion by Winkler to approve the 2024 Oneida County forestry work plan and forward the resolution to County Board. Second by Briggs. 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 November 2023.

Vouchers for the month totaled \$5,393.24 including \$1,401.54 for gasoline and \$1,000.00 to A-1 Septic to have parks & campground toilet vaults pumped for the season.

Informational only.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Guy Hansen, RASTA is ready for snow.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MEETINGS**

- Next meeting – January 9, 2024
- Town of Lynne Gravel Contract
- Bid Specs – Trail Inspection Snowmobile
- WCFA Spring Conference Attendance

**ADJOURNMENT**

With business completed, Chair Almekinder adjourned the meeting at 8:57 a.m.

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ROBERT ALMEKINDER  
COMMITTEE CHAIR

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TANYA TISCHENDORF  
COMMITTEE SECRETARY