

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: February 6, 2019

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

PRESENT: Chair Sorensen; Committee Members: Mott, Pence, VanRaalte, Almekinder
Forestry Staff: Bilogan, Tischendorf, Fiene

Scott Krueger, Arnold Schauer, Enterprise Supervisors
Lisa Jolin, Solid Waste; Guy Hansen, RASTA

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 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 January 9, 2019 and January 22, 2019 FLR Committee meetings. Second by Mott. All aye, motion carried.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

2019 Stumpage Revenue Report— Fiene reported low January revenue due to swamp jobs with low value timber.

Timber Sale Contracts 1671, 1675, 1676 Connor Forest Management, LLC— Account has been paid in full and Fiene offered recommendations for current outstanding timber sales to help ensure prompt payments. Recommendations include: Hauling timber for one sale at a time, limiting the amount of timber hauled and invoiced to the amount of the performance bond, and no late payments or they will be placed on a pre-pay plan.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve recommendations by Fiene for remaining contracts with Connor Forest Management, LLC. Second by Mott. Motion by VanRaalte to amend and approve an inclusion of no new bids from CFM until all current jobs are satisfactorily completed. Second by Mott. All aye, motion passed.

FUTURE MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR GILLETTE/WICKHAM LAKE ACQUISITION

Input from Town of Enterprise— Mott provided the committee a list compiled from the Town of Enterprise January board meeting discussion.

Krueger expressed concerns about RASTA building trails, bathroom vandalism and garbage dumping. Krueger feels these are unnecessary improvements and prefer to keep it pristine. Does not want a back in boat landing or electric motors. Schauer confirmed his agreement.

Discussion regarding current motorized/non-motorized access roads and pathways. Town of Enterprise will need to complete appropriate forms to formally abandon John's Memorial Road as originally requested by the town with the sale of the property. Bilogan completed a title search and the land beneath the road is all county owned property.

Motion by Mott to remove structures, improve access road with minimal parking area, barricade existing roads around the lake to prevent motorized traffic, and installation of a minimum access pier to improve the area. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

REQUEST FROM SOLID WASTE FOR NEW DEMOLITION SITE

Demolition Site Proposal and Impact on Silent Trails Managed by RASTA – Bilogan explained that Solid Waste approached the forestry department for a new demolition site as the current site is projected to reach capacity in several months. Forestry department already has an approved grant for a permanent haul road into the proposed new site which eliminating the need for Solid Waste to create an alternate road.

Once approved, a withdrawal from forest county lands would need to be completed. The new site would also create the need to re-route the existing silent sports trail. RASTA President, Rich Reidinger provided a letter agreeing to the proposed new demo site provided three provisions are met including a combined road, the savings for the alternate road is utilized to create a trail re-route that will not be shared with vehicle traffic, and once the new demo site is filled, the trail could be re-established.

Jolin explained that the forestry committee approval of the site is the first step in the process. A meeting with the Town of Woodboro and a private landowner, DNR variance and planning and zoning are some of the additional approvals needed before the withdrawal process begins.

Motion by Mott to approve the withdrawal of county forest land as proposed for a new demo site incorporating the provisions provided by RASTA in a letter written by Richard Reidinger dated January 16, 2019. Second by Pence. Discussion held regarding spending staff time working on the withdrawal of the land without having all approvals first. Roll call vote – Mott aye; Almekinder, Pence, Sorensen and VanRaalte no. Motion failed.

Consensus by the committee for Solid Waste to move forward with additional approvals. Once approved, bring back to Forestry committee for approval to withdraw the land from the county forest.

TOWN LINE PARK WITHDRAWAL & SALE

Bilogan explained to move forward with the withdrawal and sale of Town Line Park, we will need current appraisals meeting federal yellow book standard. Additionally, we have confirmed with the state that we would be able transfer the federal recreational encumbrances from Town Line to the Gillette/Wickham property.

Committee confirmed that the area to be withdrawn and sold is the 8.4 acre parcel. Bilogan explained that the only access to the property is Town Line Lake Park Road, which is currently a town road. The Town of Crescent would like to abandon the road; however, no formal proceedings have happened.

Motion by Sorenson to approve Bilogan to complete federal yellow book standard appraisals for both properties. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

BACKES WITHDRAWAL UPDATE

Bilogan provided a survey map of the proposed withdrawal to the DNR for the Backes encroachment. DNR will not approve the application as submitted; however, they will approve the garage area plus 15-20 feet around the garage if we re-submit the withdrawal.

Backes plans to appeal with the DNR, but wishes to move forward with the withdrawal for the garage portion.

Motion by Almekinder to approve the withdrawal of the property plus 20 feet around the area the garage resides. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

TEMPORARY ACCESS PERMITS

Prior concern with Price County Electric temporary access permit having to go through committee and county board for approval. Bilogan recommended removing the word “logging” from the ordinance to allow director approval of any temporary access permit.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve proposed ordinance amendment. Second by Pence. All aye, motion carried.

DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT POOL

Proposed Equipment Sale and Purchases – The forestry department has a budgeted non-lapsing equipment account used to purchase large equipment items as needed. Currently the account has \$29,400.

Bilogan requested to sell a 2011 Ski-Doo snowmobile and 2018 two-place aluminum trailer and forward the funds back to the equipment account bringing the account balance to an estimated \$33,000. Already budgeted for 2019 is to replace a 2000 2-wheel drive pickup. Bilogan also requested to purchase a Gravely lawn mower to use for mowing the county parks. This would replace the current contract with the highway department, as the Forestry LTE’s would assume the mowing responsibilities.

Current average annual mowing expenses are \$9,886 resulting in an estimated 2019 savings of \$3,636 with additional annual savings of \$8,386 for the next few years with an estimated five-year savings of \$37,180 for the forestry department.

Motion by Mott to sell/purchased equipment as recommended. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

SPRING WCFA MEETING – MARCH 13-15, 2019 REQUIRING OUT OF COUNTY TRAVEL

The spring WCFA meeting will be held in Marshfield March 13-15th.

Motion made by Sorensen to approve out of county travel for forestry staff and committee members. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

LAND USE AGREEMENT SCHEDULING

Corporate Counsel is currently working with Roland Fir on the contract for beyond 2019. Bilogan will provide updates when possible with an update scheduled for the September committee meeting.

VOUCHERS AND/OR LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Vouchers totaling \$338,073.80 were presented to the committee. Included are annual severance payments to the townships, the 2nd half of the snowmobile supplemental payment, and the Gillette/Wickham property taxes. VanRaalte made a motion to approve payments. Second by Pence. All aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Future Management Plans for Gillette/Wickham Lake Acquisition
- September Meeting – Roland Fir Contract Update

ADJOURNMENT

With business completed, Chair Sorenson adjourned the meeting at 5:51 p.m.

ALAN VANRAALTE
VICE CHAIR

TANYA TISCHENDORF
RECORDING SECRETARY