

## **FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** November 7, 2018

**TIME:** 3:30 p.m. Committee Room 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Court House, Rhinelander, WI

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

**OTHERS:** Brian Desmond, Corp Counsel, Manny Oradei - WDNR

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

### **APPROVE MINUTES**

Motion by Pence to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2018 and October 8, 2018 FLR Committee meeting. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

### **FOREST MANAGEMENT**

- a. Year-to-Date Timber Stumpage Report
  - October slowed down significantly due to Mother Nature and the markets
- b. Establishing timber sale for the Town of Lynne on tow property SW ¼ SW ¼ Section 35 T36N R4E
  - Inquiry if Oneida County would be willing to facilitate a timber sale for the Town of Lynne
  - Recommendation by Corp Counsel that if Oneida County approves, billing should be for time and materials break even only, not to make profit
  - Potential to set precedence for other entities seeking Oneida County assistance in timber sale management,
  - Preference of committee members to decline, no motion made to approve.
- c. Proposed county timber sale on non-county forest land NE ¼ SW ¼ Section 7 T36N R9E
  - Request for evaluation for a proposed timber sale of 40 acres of county property – was previous Oneida County shooting range
  - Similar requests have been approved in the past for other county departments (OC Highway Dept)
  - Motion by Pence to approve to move forward with project. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.
- d. Award Timber Sale Contracts
  - Advertised 11 tracts, received bids on 7 tracts; however, CTO Logging was the only bidder on tract 23-18 and submitted an incomplete bid as he failed to provide bid for the logs. Recommendation by Corp Counsel to reject bid. Remainder of bids are all reputable contractors and recommend to award bids to high bidders pending verification of bid calculations with the exception of Tract 23-18.

- Motion by VanRaalte to approve winning bids for November Timber Sale as recommended. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.
- e. Thums Construction – Timber Sale #1616 Consider a 5<sup>th</sup> year extension or cancel contract.
  - Contact Russ Thums to offer him the opportunity to attend the meeting and request a 5<sup>th</sup> year extension. His preference was to cancel the contract and he understands Oneida County will retain the bond at this time. Motion by Almekinder to close the contract, retain the bond until the contract is resold or if advertised twice and no bids, retain the entire bond. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.
- f. Connor Forest Products – late payments and future contract activities.
  - Connor Management currently has several contracts with Oneida County and is past due on their stumpage by \$57,000.
  - Penalty of 1.5% late fees imposed after 30 days, and each 30 days thereafter.
  - Conrad Connor present. Connor proposed a payment plan to Bilogan of a minimum of \$5,000 per week until account is paid in full. Assuming \$5,000 per week, it would be end of January 2019 to bring account current.
  - Recommendation by finance that if we deviate from closing out the sales, to collect \$15,000 per week and no additional harvesting until paid in full. Contract verbiage would allow for cancellation of contracts; however, Fiene does not recommend cancellation at this time. Will provide update on payment plan at December meeting and decide if Connor will be allowed to proceed with additional contracts.
  - Motion by Sorensen to approve amended motion of payment of minimum \$5,000 per week through January 30, 2019. If default on payment schedule, Connor would be required to pay \$15,000 per week until paid in full. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Lac du Flambeau President Joseph Wildcat, Sr. provided letter and resolution handout to committee and read a letter referencing mining in the Town of Lynne.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A medical emergency occurred at 3:58 p.m. and emergency personnel were called. Motion made by Sorensen to adjourn the meeting at 4:09 p.m. Second by Pence. All aye, motion carried. Meeting will be rescheduled for next week.

  
 JACK SORENSEN  
 CHAIR

  
 TANYA TISCHENDORF  
 RECORDING SECRETARY