

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: July 10, 2019

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

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

Brian Desmond, Tom Wiensch - Corporation Counsel; Lisa Jolin – Solid Waste;
Bart Sexton; Jamie Holly – Futurewood Corporation; Kim Gauthier – Newbold
Town Clerk; Scott Watson – RASTA Representative

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 Mott. All aye, motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Pence to approve the minutes of June 5, 2019 FLR Committee meeting. Second by VanRaalte. Two corrections noted by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

YEAR-TO-DATE STUMPAGE REPORT – Fiene reported stumpage revenue for June \$50,436.04. Another job will be starting up and after July 15th, we should begin to see some hardwood thinning.

CONSIDER CORPORATE SURETY BONDS AS ACCEPTABLE PERFORMANCE BONDS ON TIMBER SALES – Desmond explained that the county has received a request from Futurewood Corporation to accept corporate surety bonds. This is a policy decision of the committee. Currently cash and letters of credit are acceptable performance bonds. Surety bonds can be a bit more complex.

Holly, Futurewood Vice-President, provided information to the committee regarding surety bonds and the primary reason they prefer surety bonds is they do not tie up a company's line of credit or affect their credit rating. The US Forest Service, WDNR and many counties currently accept surety bonds. Another advantage of the surety bond is that it does not expire until the contract is fulfilled, unlike letters of credit that may need to be extended.

No objection by the forestry department to allow surety bonds as acceptable performance bonds with the understanding that we can reconsider if we find them difficult to draw on.

Motion by Mott to accept corporate surety bonds with the understanding that any problems that would occur, we could reconsider and require cash or letter of credit. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

CONSIDER CONTRACT EXTENSION FOR VERSO CORPORATION – CONTRACT #1642 McNAUGHTON GAS-ELECTRIC – Written request received from Verso Corporation

requesting an extension. Forestry Department's recommendation is to approve a one-year extension and if the contract is not complete at the end of the extension, the county will retain the entire performance bond.

Motion by Mott to approve one-year extension for contract 1642 with the provision that if the timber is not harvested within the year, the county will retain the entire performance bond. Second by Pence. All aye, motion carried.

APPROVE ATV TRAIL DIRECT CONTRACTS – BOWMAN RE-ROUTE AND PEL-CHO ENTERPRISE TRAIL

Rady explained these are projects funded by grants and were originally planned to have the Oneida County Highway department finish these projects. Due to equipment and terrain, the highway department would not be able to complete this until the winter delaying the opening of these trails until next season.

As these projects are each under \$25,000 we have the ability to direct contract. We currently have a contractor working in the area that is willing to accept the projects.

Motion by Pence to approve contracts with QSP Utility as recommended. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

PROPOSAL FOR LANDFILL DEMO SITE 4, OPTION 3

Consensus from Forestry department and Solid Waste on currently proposed site that does not infringe on silent trails, homeowners, etc.

Sexton explained this site appears to meet the needs/requests of all interested parties. RASTA is very comfortable with the proposed site.

It is understood Solid Waste will fund any expenses relating to the withdrawal. Fiene explained the need of justification when submitting the withdrawal to the state. It is recommended to have an in-kind payment or deposit into the forestry land account from Solid Waste to use for replacement county forest land. This will be looked at favorably during the withdrawal process.

Motion by Almekinder to move forward with the proposed parcel as presented. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

ROLAND FIR UPDATE/BTG CONTRACT

No progress at this time. Committee would like Fiene to provide available options at the August meeting with a decision made by October. Committee directed Fiene to contact Cassian and Little Rice town boards to inform them of the potential issue and alternative routes may involve the approval of town roads.

ACCESS PERMIT UPDATE

Wiensch provided a draft of the proposed revised agreement for landowners requesting approval to construct or improve a road on county forest land in order to access their property.

Fiene provided input on the draft agreement; however, the committee prefers to review the draft and provide discussion at the next meeting.

VOUCHERS AND/OR LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Vouchers totaling \$11,398.59 were presented including \$2,608 performance bond refund to Verso Corporation and \$1,800 for ATV maps reimbursed by grant money.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Received letter from Gauthier, Newbold Town Clerk requesting the FLRC consider mowing/enhancing Town Line Park for residents to utilize the area.

Watson, RASTA representative, received comments from trail users regarding the great cooperation of logging and trail use within the area.

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Roland Fir and BTG Land Use Agreement Update
- Consider the Policy and Form for Contract/Licenses for Private Entities That Own Land Adjacent to County Forest Land Who Wish to Obtain the Right to Construct or Improve Logging Roads on County Forest in Order to Access Their Lands Update
- Funding Opportunities Committee Update
- Approve Town of Lynne Gravel Contract
- Invitation from Pel-Cho Mudd Nutz ATV Club to Tour the New ATV Trail in the Town of Enterprise

ADJOURNMENT

With business completed, Chair Sorensen adjourned the meeting at 4:38 p.m.

JACK SORENSEN
CHAIR

TANYA TISCHENDORF
RECORDING SECRETARY