

## FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

**DATE:** June 1, 2022

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

**PRESENT:** Committee Members: Almekinder, Briggs, Schultz, Sorgel, Winkler (via Zoom)  
Forestry Staff: Fiene, Rady, Tischendorf  
WDNR – John Gillen; RASTA – Scott Watson, Guy Hansen

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair Almekinder 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 Sorgel 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 Winkler to approve the minutes of May 4, 2022 meeting. Second by Sorgel. All aye, motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None at this time.

### **FOREST MANAGEMENT**

*YTD Stumpage Report* – Fiene reported stumpage for May was \$4,439.34. Year-to-date revenue is significantly behind the last few years with no improvements in the market. Currently have three active jobs.

*Transfer of Timber Sale Tract 12-22 Not-A-Picnic Hill Resale from Schreiner Logging to Chad McKee Logging* – Agreement between Schreiner Logging and Chad McKee Logging to allow transfer of timber sale at Schreiner's bid prices. Fiene recommends the sale transfer.

Motion by Briggs to approve the timber sale transfer as recommended. Second by Schultz. All aye, motion carried.

*Direct Sale of Tract 9-21 Willow Pond Sale to Kleinschmidt Logging* – Timber sale has been offered three times and has not received any bids. Kleinschmidt provided a direct sale bid meeting minimum bid pricing. Recommendation by Fiene to approve the direct sale to Kleinschmidt.

Motion by Sorgel to approve the timber sale to Kleinschmidt as recommended. Second by Winkler. All aye, motion carried.

### **POTENTIAL PURCHASE OF APPROXIMATELY 18 ACRES: T37N R7E, SEC. 23 PT OF NE ¼ NE ¼, TOWN OF CASSIAN**

Fiene stated he was contacted by a landowner with approximately 18 acres of property that runs adjacent to Sheep Ranch Road. The owner is looking to sell the property and inquired as to the County's interest in the property.

Fiene feels the property will be somewhat expensive as it does have town road access and estimates a purchase price of approximately \$65,000. The property does fit the criteria; however, it would not be as beneficial to the public as some other properties that may become available. Fiene recommends not pursuing the property at this time and see what the owner comes back with for a purchase price. If the price is reasonable, Fiene will bring the option to pursue a purchase back to the committee.

Informational only, no action taken.

**DISCUSS/APPROVE MSA CONTRACT AMENDMENT #1 – ALMON PARK SHELTERS**

Fiene provided a brief overview regarding the original contract signed with MSA for the Almon Park Shelters. After further discussion with MSA and Corporation Counsel, MSA agreed to amend the contract to strike the liability limit verbiage.

Motion by Winkler to approve the contract amendment with MSA. Second by Briggs. All aye, motion carried.

**DISCUSS/APPROVE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FORESTRY DEPARTMENT TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH WDNR**

Fiene explained this resolution replaces/updates the prior resolution from 1998. The WDNR has requested an updated resolution that authorizes the Forestry department to enter into grant agreements with the WDNR.

Motion by Sorgel to approve the resolution authorizing the Forestry department to enter into agreements with the WDNR and forward on to County Board. Second by Schultz. All aye, motion carried.

**2023 STAFFING REQUEST – LIMITED TERM EMPLOYEES (LTE’S)**

Fiene outlined the limited term employee requests for the ranger position and parks maintenance. As approved for 2022, the requests are for 500 hours for the ranger and 1,200 hours for the parks laborer positions.

Motion by Winkler to approve the 2023 LTE staffing requests and forward to the LRES Committee. Second by Briggs. All aye, motion carried.

**FRIENDS OF TOWNLIN LAKE PARK TEMPORARY DOCK REQUEST**

Fiene provided an update regarding a temporary dock for the Father’s Day fishing event. After further discussion with Corporation Counsel, the department’s recommendation is that if DNR approval is granted, the County would be okay with the request as long as the dock is removed at the end of the day.

Motion by Briggs to allow Friends of Townline Lake Park to use a temporary dock for the Father’s Day fishing event with DNR approval. Second by Schultz. All aye, motion carried.

**SEC. 8 T37N R4E SURVEY, TOWN OF LYNNE UPDATE**

Fiene provided background regarding the concerns of a landowner regarding the boundary lines of a timber sale resulting in approval for a professional survey of the area for approximately \$30,000.

The survey has been completed, the landowner does not agree with the survey results and wishes to contest it. After discussion with Corporation Counsel, the recommendation is to inform the landowner the County will proceed with the timber sales based on the boundaries provided by the survey. It would then be the landowner’s responsibility to contest the boundaries.

Motion by Winkler to proceed with the timber sales as planned and have Fiene contact the landowner. Second by Schultz. All aye, motion carried.

**RASTA PRESENTATION**

Scott Watson, RASTA President provided a 20 minute presentation highlighting advocacy for continued growth and maintenance of the trail systems and outlining additions/updates to the trail systems during the 10-year partnership with the County. Provided information showing the current contract cost breakdown and volunteer hours, equipment, etc.

Informational only. No action taken.

**VOUCHERS/LINE ITEM TRANSFERS**

*Vouchers* - Vouchers presented totaling \$8,485.14. Approximately \$5,000 was a refund for a grant advance that was received for an ATV project. The expenses for the project came in under the estimate and the

advance amount received. Additionally, a line item transfer needs to be completed to transfer the funds from the continuing appropriations account for the ATV grant.

Motion by Schultz to approve the vouchers and line item transfers as presented. Second by Briggs. All aye, motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None at this time.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MEETINGS**

- Next meeting – July 6, 2022
- Town of Lynne Survey Update

**ADJOURNMENT**

With business completed, Chair Almekinder adjourned the meeting at 4:26 p.m.

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ROBERT ALMEKINDER  
CHAIR

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TANYA TISCHENDORF  
COMMITTEE SECRETARY