

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: June 3, 2020

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

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

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 May 6, 2020, 2020 FLR Committee meeting. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

FOREST MANAGEMENT – YTD STUMPAGE REPORT

YTD Stumpage Report – Fiene reported stumpage for May of \$1,923.64 and June with \$4,555.31 so far bringing the year-to-date total to \$685,375.31. We currently have no timber activity and the indication is that the markets are very poor right now.

Thums Contract #1616 – Closed November 2018, Request to Re-purchase – Fiene provided handout showing history of 7 Island Hardwood Sale. Initially sold November 2014, Sale originally sold November 2014 to Thums Construction. This is a difficult access sale due to swamp areas. Sale was re-offered twice with no bids received. Fiene recommends selling the sale to Thums at minimum appraised price.

Motion by Mott to approve re-sale of 7 Island Hardwood to Thums Construction as recommended. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

DISCUSS/APPROVE CAMPGROUND FEE RESOLUTION AND ONEIDA COUNTY CODE REVISION

At last year's budget process, the Admin Committee requested Forestry Department assess current fees and recommended increasing the campground fee. Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee approved the increase to \$15/night at the November 2019 meeting.

Motion by Mott to approve the resolution as written and forward to County Board. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

COUNTY PARK SHELTER RENTAL – POSSIBLE COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

Park shelters are currently closed. Fiene would like to open the shelters; however, after conferring with Corporation Counsel and the Health Department he is looking for guidance from the committee regarding larger gatherings. Handout provided showing current shelter registrations for 2020.

Motion by Almekinder to allow reservations for county park shelters as of June 3, 2020 with recommendations to follow Oneida County Health guidelines regarding social gatherings. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

2021 STAFFING REQUEST – LIMITED TERM EMPLOYEES (LTE’S)

Request for 500 hours for Ranger position and 1,000 hours for Parks Laborer hours for 2021. Without LTE’s we would not be able to maintain parks, campground or trail mowing without disrupting regular forestry operations.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the LTE requests for 2021 budget as presented. Second by Mott. All aye, motion carried.

DISCUSS/APPROVE BACKES ENCROACHMENT WITHDRAWAL APPLICATION AND RESOLUTION

Received final appraisal and survey map. Appraisal came in at \$765 for the .03 acre parcel. As approved prior, the sale of the land will be at three times the appraised value.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the resolution to withdraw and sell the .03 acre parcel to Kathryn and William Backes and forward to County Board for approval. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

Motion by Pence to approve the submission of the withdrawal application to the WDNR pending County Board approval. Second by Mott. All aye, motion carried.

LITTLE RICE LANDOWNER – POTENTIAL SALE TO COUNTY OF PARCEL LR 38, SEC. 3, T36R5E UPDATE

Current landowner previously approached County regarding a possible purchase of this property. Forestry department estimates timber value at \$13,460. Land purchase account currently has \$31,000 from sale to the landfill. If approved, Forestry would apply for a 50% Knowles-Nelson grant.

Motion by Mott to move forward with an appraisal for the property. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

BTG LAND USE AGREEMENT UPDATE

Rady provided handouts of the most recent email to BTG’s contact (dated April 21, 2020) and current snowmobile trail map. Oneida County is not able to converse directly with BTG and have been instructed to work directly with Joe Mattke from Steigerwaldt on their behalf.

Snowmobile clubs have been advised to look for alternative routes; however, this will be very difficult given the amount of land affected and the complexity of routing trails through wetlands, etc.

Mott suggested reaching out to Mattke to inquire about the possibility of setting up a Zoom meeting with BTG and Corporation Counsel to finalize the agreement.

15 YEAR PLAN DRAFT

Revised Chapter 500 – Motion by VanRaalte to approve revised Chapter 500 with typo corrections. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

Suggestion by Mott to be more specific when referencing sections within the plan.

Review Chapter 700 – Motion by VanRaalte to approve Chapter 700 with typo corrections. Second by Mott. All aye, motion carried.

Review Chapter 800 – Consensus by committee to postpone review of Chapter 800 to the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MEETINGS

- 15 Year Plan – Chapters 800 & 900
- Clements Appraisal Update
- BTG Update

ADJOURNMENT

With business completed, Chair Sorensen adjourned the meeting at 4:32p.m.

JACK SORENSEN
CHAIR

TANYA TISCHENDORF
RECORDING SECRETARY