

## FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

**DATE:** August 4, 2021

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

**PRESENT:** Committee Members: Sorensen, VanRaalte, Mott, Pence  
Absent: Almekinder  
Forestry Staff: Fiene, Rady, Tischendorf  
WDNR – Manny Oradei, Hilary Keller

### **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 July 7, 2021 meeting. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Tischendorf received an email from Kelby Scheel requesting Zoom remain an option for Forestry committee meetings. Scheel reiterated his support of Zoom.

### **FOREST MANAGEMENT – YTD STUMPAGE REPORT**

*YTD Stumpage Report* – Fiene reported county forest stumpage for July was \$47,859.87 and year-to-date stumpage total of \$739,556.70 Current yearly stumpage revenue is above the 5-year average and there are eight active timber sales.

*Discuss/Approve Survey – Sec. 8, T37N, R4E, Town of Lynne* – Fiene informed the committee the Administration Committee approved up to \$30,000 to complete the survey. Land Information is currently working on the Request for Proposal.

*Carbon Credit Recommendation – Jeff Verdoorn* – Verdoorn provided handouts to the committee summarizing his recommendation. Verdoorn believes there is a lot of risk and does not recommend the county pursue “selling” carbon credits at this time.

Informational only, no action taken.

*Timber Producers Cooperative Update* – Verdoorn provided handouts to the committee summarizing his recommendation. Verdoorn recommends holding off on investing in the cooperative while there are current negotiations by another party to purchase the Verso mill and until the cooperative can provide a solid business plan for the Park Falls and/or Verso mill.

Informational only, no action taken.

### **2022 FORESTRY DEPARTMENT FURNITURE REQUEST**

No longer need this request.

### **PEL-CHO MUDD NUTZ BUILDING REQUEST UPDATE**

Fiene inquired with the WDNR and a withdrawal of the land is not necessary; however, the county would need to have ownership of the building and contract with the club for all maintenance, repairs, etc.

Additionally would want to make it clear that it is a storage building only and not to be utilized for club functions/gatherings.

Also suggested by a private landowner to check with the Hodag 4-wheelers and RASTA to see if there is any interest in partnering with Pel-Cho on the storage building.

**DISCUSS/APPROVE GRAVEL PIT DEVELOPMENT ON CRUISER'S ROAD IN CONJUNCTION WITH HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND TOWNS**

The Oneida County Highway Department is looking to develop a gravel pit and the Forestry department, along with the Towns of Woodboro and Nokomis may be interested in utilizing the pit for gravel crushing.

WDNR has been consulted and the land would not need to be withdrawn as long as the pit is utilized by public entities (county, town, etc.)

Informational only, no action taken.

**DISCUSS/APPROVE POTENTIAL PURCHASE OF ENTERPRISE PARCEL – SEC. 15, T35N, R9E**

A private landowner contacted Fiene regarding the possible purchase of a 40-acre parcel surrounded by county land. Appraisal would be approximately \$600 and would apply for Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant funding if approved.

Motion by Pence to proceed with an appraisal of the property. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

**POTENTIAL PARCELS TO CONSIDER WITHDRAWAL/SELLING UPDATE**

*Approve Resolution to Withdraw and Offer for Sale Sec. 36, T35N, R9E, SE1/4, NE1/4, Town of Enterprise* – Fiene was able to get one of the properties written up for withdrawal. Estimated minimum selling price of \$31,500 based on lack of access (50% of estimated fair market value). Resolution states proceeds from the sale would be placed in a Land Purchase Account.

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

*Sec. 4, T37N, R4E, SE1/4, SE1/4, Town of Lynne*  
*Sec. 11, T37N, R4E, NW1/4, SE1/4, Town of Lynne*  
*Part GL 2, Sec. 2, T36N, R8E, Town of Crescent* –

Fiene plans to have the next resolution and withdrawal documents to cover the three remaining parcels ready for the next committee meeting.

**DISCUSS/APPROVE FRIENDS OF TOWNLINE LAKE PARK AGREEMENT**

Forestry group met with FTLLP group to go over a draft version of the agreement for maintenance of the park. A few questions were answered and the meeting ended with consensus from both groups on the agreement. The agreement has been approved by Corporation Counsel.

Mott questioned the worker's compensation policy coverage – do people need to be listed to receive coverage?

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the 2021 Townline Lake Park maintenance contract between Oneida County and Friends of Townline Lake Park. Second by Pence. All aye, motion carried.

**VOUCHERS/LINE ITEM TRANSFERS**

Vouchers presented total \$50,040.16 including approximately \$20,000 to the Highway Department for Gillette/Wickham parking lot and road, approximately \$16,000 for a timber sale performance bond refund and \$9,950 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of RASTA trail maintenance agreement.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Tracy Beckman thanked the committee for their support of the Friends of Townline Lake Park and the community for helping keep the park.

Sorensen thanked the organization for all their work to make this possible.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MEETINGS**

- Next meeting – September 1, 2021
- Reconsider Zoom Option for Forestry Committee Meetings
- Potential Land Purchase – Town of Enterprise Appraisal Update
- Resolution for Withdrawal of Other Properties
- Pel-Cho Mudd Nutz Storage Building Request Update
- 2022 Forestry Department Budget

**ADJOURNMENT**

With business completed, Chair Sorensen adjourned the meeting at 4:23 p.m.

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JACK SORENSEN  
CHAIR

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TANYA TISCHENDORF  
RECORDING SECRETARY