

## FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

**DATE:** November 3, 2021

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

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

### **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 amended 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 October 6, 2021 meeting. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None at this time.

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

*YTD Stumpage Report* – Fiene reported county forest stumpage for October was \$173,738.98 and year-to-date stumpage total of \$1,424,251.75. Significantly above the 5-year average and currently about \$270,000 over 2021 budget estimate.

*Award November Timber Sale Contracts* – Fiene stated eight tracts were sold with a total of 25 bids. Seventeen tracts were available including nine new sales, two forfeiture re-sales and six prior re-sales.

|                     |             |                         |              |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| High bids received: | Tract 2-21  | Futurewood Corp.        | \$ 54,398.00 |
|                     | Tract 3-21  | Chad McKee Logging      | \$ 19,603.90 |
|                     | Tract 10-21 | Wiitala & Vozka Logging | \$ 35,200.00 |
|                     | Tract 13-21 | Stella-Jones            | \$ 40,668.00 |
|                     | Tract 14-21 | Fink Forest Products    | \$100,976.00 |
|                     | Tract 15-21 | Chad McKee Logging      | \$ 70,185.30 |
|                     | Tract 17-21 | Wiitala & Vozka Logging | \$ 95,475.00 |
|                     | Tract 20-21 | Wiitala & Vozka Logging | \$ 25,241.00 |

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the timber sale contracts as presented. Second by Pence. All aye, motion carried.

*Discuss/Act on Connor Forest Management, Sale #1676 Payment Status* – Since last meeting, significantly behind on payments. Job has been completed included roadwork. Just need to finish collecting payment. Committee approves Fiene working with Corporation Counsel if needed for payment collection.

*Reconsider Timber Sale Extensions Issued to Connor Forest Management, Sale #1671 & 1675* – Based on current payment status and recent email from Bob Connor stating they will not be able to finish these contracts and will forfeit the bonds.

The plan is to re-offer sales that did not sell for a December bid opening.

Motion by VanRaalte to hold the bonds, re-offer the sales, and withhold the difference in bid prices. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

*Discuss/Approve Providing Written Support of Mill Bill Two – LRB 5138* – Hearing was held yesterday and haven't yet heard how things went. Looking to provide support of the mill portion of the bill if it continues through the system.

Motion by VanRaalte to support the mill portion of the bill. Second by Mott. All aye, motion carried.

**DISCUSS/APPROVE TERZINKSI ACCESS – GOODYEAR LAKE ROAD, PARCEL #CA 900-3, TOWN OF CASSIAN**

Prior landowner was given access years ago for the open logging road. Terzinski's want to go through the proper channels to receive appropriate access to their property.

Motion by VanRaalte to approve the access permit for the Terzinski property. Second by Almekinder. All aye, motion carried.

**PEL-CHO BUILDING PROPOSAL UPDATE – INSURANCE PREMIUM**

Fiene updated the committee that the insurance premium would be approximately \$81 per year and would be paid by the Pel-Cho ATV club.

**SNOWMOBILE TRAIL UPDATES – INDUSTRIAL AND PRIVATE LAND USE AGREEMENTS**

Handout showing the status of the industrial land use agreements held by the county.

*Diel Re-route – Hodag Sno-Trails, Town of Pelican* – Private land use agreement with a large land owner with 1.25 miles of funded trail. We do have a signed land use agreement for this snowmobile season.

**FORESTRY STAFFING UPDATE**

Caity Lucas resigned her position as the forester/snowmobile coordinator position. Currently looking to re-write the job descriptions to be more forestry related and work into snowmobile responsibilities.

**VOUCHERS/LINE ITEM TRANSFERS**

Vouchers presented totaling \$23,429.77 including a timber sale performance bond refund to Futurewood in the amount of \$9,775.45, engineering services to MSA Professionals for the Monico ATV Grant, \$2,620.54 for trailer repairs and \$1,000 to have the toilets pumped at the parks and campground.

Line item transfers to cover negative balances include \$3,800.00 for the forestry account to cover motor vehicle repairs, \$700 for the parks account and \$30 for the campground account.

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

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MEETINGS**

- Next meeting – December 1, 2021
- Award December Timber Sale Contracts
- Connor Forest Management Payment Status Update
- Forestry Department Long Range Plan
- Forestry Department Annual Work Plan

**CLOSED SESSION**

*It is anticipated that the committee may meet in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Stats. § 19.85 (1) (c), for purposes of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee. A roll call vote will be taken to go into closed session. (Topic – Forestry Director performance evaluation and goals and Approve closed session minutes from November 4, 2020) AND it is anticipated that the Committee will return to open session by roll call vote to consider the remainder of the meeting agenda.*

*The committee will return to open session and may ratify any matter(s) discussed in closed session.*

Motion by Mott to go into closed session at 4:05 pm. Second by VanRaalte. Roll call vote: All aye.

Motion to return to open session at 4:41 p.m. Roll call vote: All aye.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The committee went over the performance evaluation and goals for the Forestry Director and approved the closed session minutes from November 4, 2020.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With business completed, Chair Sorensen adjourned the meeting at 4:42 p.m.

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JACK SORENSEN  
CHAIR

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TANYA TISCHENDORF  
RECORDING SECRETARY

DRAFT