

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: November 6, 2013

TIME: 9:00 a.m. Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, Court House, Rhinelander, WI

PRESENT: Chair Baier; Committee Members: Martinson, Rudolph, Shidell, Sorensen Forestry Staff: Bilogan, Fiene Bradley.

OTHERS: Lester Felbab and Bill Welsh, OCATVA. Guy Hansen, RASTA. Manny Oradei, DNR.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER— At 9:00 a.m. Chair Baier called the meeting to order, noting that it had 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— It was moved by Sorensen, seconded by Rudolph, to approve the current agenda with the order of agenda items at Chair's discretion. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2, 2013 FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETINGS— Rudolph noted that he was listed as an attendee at the last meeting and was not present. It was moved by Sorensen, seconded by Martinson, to approve the corrected minutes of the October 2, 2013 FLR Committee meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

FOREST MANAGEMENT:

Forest Industry Transportation Issues. The Town of Lynne will be discussing restrictive road limits on Willow Road, which will have a significant impact on logging operations in that area. Baier stated that towns should put away money for road repairs. Martinson said the road was not built well and that Town Chair Schatzley's request for money from the county was denied by the Forestry Committee. Bilogan said that logging operations are not the only problem with the road, since the northbound lane is just as bad as the southbound lane. Baier commented that the road construction work was not consistent.

Henry Schienebeck from Timber Producers provided information about vehicle axel weight distribution and its affect on roadways. The timber industry has lower axel weight requirements than the state standard in order to protect the roadways, because axel weight, not gross weight, is what causes damage. They also increased fines for overloads. He suggested that Town of Lynne work with the highway department to apply for special road improvement grant money that will be available next year.

Rudolph suggested that Schatzley have Henry attend the town meeting to explain this information. Baier suggested that the Oneida County Highway Commissioner may be able to assist. Shidell wondered whether the contractor followed the federal standards and whether the inspection missed the signs of poor construction. No action taken on this agenda item.

Year-to-Date Timber Stumpage Revenue Report. Fiene reported \$952,364.13 which is significantly above last year. Weather has slowed down all work until a good freeze.

Timber Sale(s) for Disposition & Extension. Shidell moved that all four contracts submitted for closure and refund of deposit be approved. Martinson seconded. All aye, motion carried. Closed contracts were as follows:

Contract # :	1549	Smola Bros
Contract # :	1553	Futurewood
Contract # :	1575	New Page Corp
Contract # :	1586	Bob Smith

Timber Sale Contracts Awarded. Total of \$1,314,541.90 in contracts awarded as follows:

Winning Bidder	Tract #	Total Bid
DeBoth	3-13	\$166,316.00
New Page	5-13	\$64,702.75
Janko	8-13	\$160,551.90
Thums	10-13	\$15,120.70
Tigerton	13-13	\$42,402.00
Twin Forest	14-13	\$204,158.00
Tigerton	15-13	\$86,311.00
DeBoth	16-13	\$18,094.00
Biewer	17-13	\$205,959.00
Twin Forest	18-13	\$57,250.00
Biewer	19-13	\$48,885.00
Tigerton	20-13	\$201,203.80
McRae	21-13	\$43,587.75

Sorensen moved to award the contracts, Martinson seconded. All aye, motion carried.

ATV TRAIL ISSUES

Enterprise ATV club requested winter ATV/UTV use of Snowmobile Corridor 15, between Cinder Road and Shingle Mill Road in order to access the shelter. Bilogan recommended the request be denied for several reasons. There are alternative winter ATV trails that will allow access to the shelter. The winter snowmobile trail rules for ATVs are difficult to enforce, based on temperature over 28 degrees, when the ATVs would be banned. Additionally, UTV's will not be allowed in any case due to their size. Bilogan added that the trail had been opened previously years ago, and the ATV club requested it be closed because there was not enough use. Sorensen moved to accept Bilogan's recommendation against opening the trail in winter to ATVs. Martinson seconded. There was discussion about the number of town roads open to ATVs and that other counties open their trails. Bilogan added that the ATV club would then have to enter into winter maintenance contracts. All voted aye. Baier moved to reconsidered the votes. Martinson seconded. The new motion was to allow the trail to be open to winter ATV. Sorensen, Rudolph, Shidell voted no. Baier and Martinson voted aye. Motion to deny passed with a majority. The trail will remain closed to ATVs in winter.

The Enterprise ATV club requested gravel. Bilogan stated that spot gravelling was not at issue, but that amount of gravel would do the whole trail. Eight miles of gravel would approximate 1857 yards at a cost of \$6,929.22. Bilogan offered to match what the County does with the towns, to give the gravel to the club if they paid for the crushing. Sorensen asked for a schedule and costs

to gravel the trail as a future project. Les asked if they could apply for a grant from the state to pay the cost. Shidell asked for clarification on what amount of gravel would be gratis and when it would reach a point of needing reimbursement. Les hoped that the graveling costs would be put into the 5-year Recreation Plan. No action taken.

Winter Gate Opening Policy. The current policy states that after gun deer season ends, gates will be opened. Bilogan asked for a delay for the new Hildebrand trail. The current weather patterns do not allow gates to open on that schedule. Committee agreed Bilogan can continue to open gates at his discretion.

Oneida County 5-Year Outdoor Recreational Plan Update. No action taken.

Sustainable Forestry Grant for Discover Wisconsin Program. Discover Wisconsin is asking Counties if they are interested in being a participant in a television program to promote the state's county forests. Any county that participates must pay a share of the entire cost. If Oneida County decides to participate, one of our two allowable Sustainable Forestry Grant could be used. Rudolph felt it would be a good investment. The committee wants more questions answered and based upon those answers, may be interested Sorensen moved to allow Bilogan to pursue more information as to cost and methods of payment. Martinson seconded. Baier and Rudolph voted aye, Shidell voted no. Motion carried.

RASTA Proposal to Construct Trail Maintenance Shed at Nose Lake Trailhead. The idea is to house a snowmobile and groomer to eliminate travel time to get to the Nose Lake trail. Issues that arose were what happens when they no longer want it and liability. Corp counsel indicated there will need to be a liability insurance policy with Oneida County as additional insured, and approval from the Admin Committee. Sorensen moved to proceed, pending the insurance and Admin. Rudolph seconded. RASTA wants to use the excess funds from last year to purchase the shed. It will increase efficiency, but needs committee approval to use the excess funds. A zoning permit will be free if it is completed in the county's name. All aye, motion carried.

County Forest Land Use Issues – T37N-R6E, Section 24. Clear Lake Road area. Access permit requested by landowner who wants to build on his land, but would need access permit to put in a driveway. Several possible encroachments appear likely when Bilogan went out to look over the area. He suggested a survey to determine boundaries. Land survey estimate was sent to two companies who have the required liability limits. We have money in the budget for the survey. Sorensen voted to approve a survey, Rudolph seconded. All aye, motion carried.

Vouchers and Line Item transfers. Shidell moved to approve vouchers totaling \$162,602.96, Sorensen seconded. All aye, motion carried.

Almon Park Pavilion. It is anticipated that the committee may consider a motion to adjourn into closed session pursuant to section 19.85 (1) (e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, and 19.85(1)(g) conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. The issue to be discussed is the Almon Park Pavilion Project. The Committee will return to open session and may ratify any matter(s) discussed in closed session. Rudolph moved to go to closed session. Sorensen seconded. All aye.

Return from closed session. Sorensen moved to pay the contractor 75% at this time. 25% will be held until staining is completed, which may be done at contractor's discretion. Committee would

prefer waiting until spring. Rudolph seconded. Shidell noted that the committee is exercising the contract's progress payment clause. All aye, motion carried.

Agenda items for future Committee meetings. Update on two tentative timber sales. 5-Year Outdoor Recreation Plan

Public comments.

Adjournment. With business completed, it was moved by Sorensen, seconded by Rudolph, to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m. All aye. Motion carried.

JACK SORENSEN
VICE-CHAIR

JILL BRADLEY
RECORDING SECRETARY