

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: April 9, 2014

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

PRESENT: Chair Sorensen; Committee Members: Martinson, Thompson. Rudolph and Shidell were absent. Forestry Staff: Bilogan, Fiene, Bradley.

OTHERS: Manny Oradei, DNR . Guy Hansen, Alan VanRaalte, Alex Young,

CALL MEETING TO ORDER— At 9:00 a.m. Chair Sorensen 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 Thompson, seconded by Martinson, to approve the current agenda with the order of agenda items at Chair's discretion.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 12, 2014 FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETINGS—
Martinson moved to approve minutes of the March 12, 2014 FLR Committee meetings. Thompson seconded. All aye. Motion carried.

Sorensen thanked retiring committee members Jack Martinson and Denny Thompson for their years of service to the County.

FOREST MANAGEMENT:

Year-to-Date Timber Stumpage Revenue \$710,307.14. March was the best month ever recorded for stumpage revenue. Spring breakup will slow down the harvest for the next month or so.

Timber Sale(s) for Disposition. Contracts closed: Fink #1579, Futurewood (2 contracts) #1565 and #1566; Kleinschmidt #1555; and New Page #1536. Thompson voted to close all contracts as recommended and return deposits. Martinson seconded. All aye, motion carried.

Timber Contract #1545 update. Bilogan explained that Rick Graap Logging is filing bankruptcy and has an open contract with Oneida County. The department is negotiating with Wayne Wagler to complete the contract. He is willing if we give him two years to complete the job. The biggest issue is access via a private landowner's road. The discussion with the landowner has included offering him a couple of loads of firewood and Oneida County graveling the road, if necessary, after the job is completed in exchange for access. If the negotiations fail, the alternative is to draw on Graap's original Letter of Credit. Wagler will sign a contract with the landowner if they can agree. Thompson moved to allow the Department to transfer the contract, bartering with the landowner if necessary. Martinson seconded. All aye, motion passed.

2014 Spring Timber Sale. Bilogan recommended a late sale this year, due to weather conditions and the late thaw. If the sale is approved for a later date, an additional 150 acres can be added to the sale. Martinson moved to allow the sale to be advertised in May and be awarded in June. Thompson seconded. All aye, motion carried.

APPLICATION FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF A PARCEL OF LAND FROM THE COUNTY FOREST LAW PROGRAM. This parcel is located East of Clear Lake Rd. in the SENW, Section 24, T37N-R7E. There are two existing encroachments and another request for access on this narrow strip of land between the road and the western property boundaries. Since Corp Counsel does not feel an easement is feasible, Bilogan recommends withdrawing this 1-1/2 acre parcel from the CFL and resurveyed and divided into

three out lots and appraised, then offered to sell to the landowners. One landowner has said he would buy all the lots if he could and give permanent easements to the others. Thompson moved to follow Bilogan's recommendation and then put forth a resolution to the County Board. Martinson seconded. All aye, motion carried. Bilogan reminded the committee that funds realized from the sale would need to be put into a segregated account to purchase replacement acreage for the County Forest.

ONEIDA COUNTY 5-YR. OUTDOOR REC. PLAN, DISCUSSION & ASSOCIATED RESOLUTION.

Sorensen's only reservation was the wording describing seasonally maintained homes. The phrase "seasonal dwellings" will be replaced with "utilized on a seasonal basis" to better indicate that these are not just summer cabins. Martinson moved to move forward with a resolution to approve the plan and present it to the May County Board. Thompson seconded. All aye, motion carried.

SPRUCE LAKE DAM INSPECTION CONTRACT. Bilogan presented the contract prepared for Morgan & Parmley Ltd to perform the inspection. Thompson moved to approve the contract, Martinson seconded. All aye, motion carried.

USDA ANIMAL & PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE (APHIS) CONTRACT

We use this contract for beaver control. The funds come from the Wildlife Habitat account. Thompson moved to approve the contract. Martinson seconded. All aye, motion carried.

REPORT ON ASPHALT BIKE TRAILS LOCATED IN VILAS COUNTY. Bilogan distributed maps of the trails; all the trails equal about 40 miles in length. The only involvement by Vilas County Forestry was to coordinate locating the trails in their County Forest. They did not apply for grants, build or maintain the trails. The bicycle clubs solicited donations and local towns applied for grants to fund the trails.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Annual Report
- ATV Guideline update
- Information for new committee members

PUBLIC COMMENTS-

Joel Knudson suggested offering a couple safety courses for pole saws and chain saws. Cost for a course is approximately \$1200.

Alex Young, a newly elected County Supervisor introduced himself. He is interested in becoming a member of the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee.

Les Felbab asked why the County did not consider selling the piece of land with the logging easement issue. Bilogan explained that the size of the parcel is a great deal larger than just the logging area.

VOUCHERS AND LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Expenses totaling \$20,634.41 were presented to the Committee. A line item transfer was made to increase the County Roads budget. Thompson moved to approve the expenditures and transfers, Martinson seconded. All aye, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT. With business completed, it was moved by Thompson, seconded by Martinson, to adjourn at 10:50 a.m. All aye, motion carried.

JACK SORENSEN
VICE-CHAIR

JILL BRADLEY
RECORDING SECRETARY