

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: June 8, 2016

TIME: 4:30 p.m. Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, Court House, Rhinelander, WI

PRESENT: Chair Sorensen; Committee Members: Van Raalte, Zunker
Forestry Staff: Bilogan, Fiene.

OTHERS: Brian Spence, DNR

CALL MEETING TO ORDER— At 4:30 p.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 Van Raalte, seconded by Zunker, to approve the current agenda with the order of agenda items at Chair's discretion. All aye. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETING— It was moved by Van Raalte seconded by Zunker to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2016 FLR Committee meetings. All aye. Motion carried.

FOREST MANAGEMENT:

- a) YEAR-TO-DATE TIMBER STUMPAGE REVENUE REPORT—
Fiene reported that stumpage revenue slow, but this is the traditional slow time of year, waiting for the ground to dry out.
- b) TIMBER SALES FOR DISPOSITION—None

ATV/UTV Trail Program

Use of gravel for trail sustainability – Bilogan reminded the committee that loggers are concerned about limitations being put on timber contracts to protect trails for ATV/UTV use. Sorensen suggested that Forestry provide the gravel if a logger needs to repair damage to the trails. Les Felbab noted that the loggers were also concerned about bridges on the trails. It is also clear that gravel would have to be at least 8 or more inches to support the logging truck traffic.

Trail development requests and schedule:

1. Resurface segments of current Enterprise trail system (existing grant summer 2016).
2. Pel-cho Mudd Nutz (east/west) trail development request (pending grant).
3. Nokomis, Woodboro Lakes (Co./State) trail development request (scheduled grant application - April 2017).
4. Pelcho Mudd Nutz (north/south) trail development request (scheduled grant application – April 2018).
5. Three Lakes Hwy 45/8 Right of Way – They would like County to submit to the WDOT for use of the ROW along Hwy 45 to connect with Forest County. There are 29 culverts under the highway that we would have to match. We would theoretically apply for a grant, however it would take enormous amount of time. Right now the schedule looks like it wouldn't go forward until 2020.

The committee suggested the first four projects be completed before any more new projects are approved. Once the four are completed, Three Lakes will be contacted.

Gravel Crushing Bids. Bid was requested to crush \$40,000 worth of gravel. Two bids received. Meverden = 9,375 Tons; \$2.67/additional ton. Pitlik & Wick = 5,400 Tons, \$3.00/additional ton. Zunker moved to approve to accept Meverden bid if everything checks out, Sorensen seconded. All aye, motion carried.

Burrows Pit update DNR and Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) met 6/7/16 onsite to gather more data regarding the Town of Little Rice's request to bury stumps in the existing pit. ACOE approved it, but DNR said no. The issue is whether or not there are hydric soils, indicating wetlands. Army Corps says no, but DNR disagrees. Awaiting results from DNR.

Land Acquisition Projects:

- a. Enterprise 80-acre purchased with Knowles Nelson Stewardship. Purchase should be completed by next committee meeting and Bilogan will start process to add to County Forest Law.
- b. Woodboro 111-acre parcel, Williams letter update. Bilogan talked with Mr. Williams on the phone and the proposal to sell was withdrawn for strictly personal reasons.
- c. Little Rice Knowles Nelson Stewardship grant objection update. Bilogan sent a letter to the Little Rice Town Board to confirm all their questions had been answered, but has not had any response.
- d. Langlois parcel closing scheduled. Knowles Nelson Stewardship grant application will pursued be for full reimbursement with matches. Bilogan will coordinate the official state appraisal, as that was not done previously.
- e. Gillette Lake update. The parcel is 108 acres, has timber ready to harvest. The landowner's appraisal is a standard and 2 years old; they would consider paying for the state appraisal. The seller's attorney, John Priebe, says there is legal access from John's Memorial Drive, however an adjacent landowner is contesting that access. If we move forward, that access issue must be clarified first.

RASTA

- a. Request to transfer \$4268 in unused maintenance funds to a non-lapsing development account, which now contains \$2450. Van Raalte moved to allow transfer, Zunker seconded. All aye, motion carried.
- b. Explained they wanted build a wetland boardwalk crossing on the Cassian Trail and make improvements to the Northern trailhead facilities. \$4700 was budgeted.

Vilas County Trails Ad Hoc Committee No action taken. Next meeting is 6/9 @ 1:00 p.m. in Room CR2-3 in the Vilas County Courthouse.

New Forestry position will be requested in the 2017 budget as instructed by LRES.

Forestry Department uniform shirts. It was moved by Zunker, seconded by Van Raalte to allow the department to purchase uniform shirts up to \$200. All aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS—

Nokomis ATV Club members – Asked about status of sponsorship. The grant application will be submitted in April 2017.

Out of County Meeting Attendance. Fiene would like to attend a meeting about a sedge study and chemical control in Ashland County. Zunker moved to approve, Van Raalte seconded. All aye, motion carried.

VOUCHERS AND LINE ITEM TRANSFERS.

Vouchers which totaled \$101,386.90, and a LIT for \$360 were submitted to the committee. Zunker moved to approve, Van Raalte seconded. All aye, motion carried.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Vilas County Trails Ad Hoc Committee

County Efficiency Report

ADJOURNMENT—With business completed, it was moved by Zunker seconded by Van Raalte, to adjourn the meeting at 5:27 p.m. All aye. Motion carried.

JACK SORENSEN
CHAIR

JILL BRADLEY
RECORDING SECRETARY