

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: January 6, 2015

TIME: 4:00 p.m. Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, Court House, Rhinelander, WI

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

CALL MEETING TO ORDER— At 4:00 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 Rudolph, to approve the current agenda with the order of agenda items at Chair's discretion. All aye. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES OF December 3, 2014 FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETING— It was moved by Mott, seconded by Van Raalte, to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2014 FLR Committee meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

FOREST MANAGEMENT:

- a) YEAR-TO-DATE TIMBER STUMPAGE REVENUE REPORT—
Fiene reported that the YTD stumpage revenue was \$1,704,151.46 and we will be able to add revenue through January 15 for any wood hauled in 2014.
- b) Three contracts were presented as completed and ready to close.

#1581 Wiitala & Vozka \$68,749.65; #1608 Cloverland \$154,280.82 ; and #1614 Cloverland \$22,238.52. Van Raalte moved to close the contracts and return all letters of credit. Mott seconded. All aye, motion carried.

RASTA SPECIAL EVENTS REQUEST

Bilogan presented a land use agreement for the three events RASTA plans for this weekend. This year they will not request overnight camping, and the landowners had no issues or complaints. Zunker moved to approve the request, Mott seconded. All aye, motion carried.

SNOWMOBILE TRAIL ADMINISTRATION. The contract for the engineering of the Pickerel Canal Snowmobile Bridge was awarded to MSA. Corporation Counsel has approved the contract.

ORDINANCE AMENDMENT FOR FAT TIRE BICYCLES. The Oneida County snowmobile Council requested we specify that bicycles are not allowed on the snowmobile trails. We also adjusted the ordinance about ski trails, allowing fat tire bikes in Enterprise. Mott moved to approve and include on consent agenda. Van Raalte seconded. All aye, motion carried.

WINSTON & SANDRA LONG LAND DONATION. Previously the committee approved accepting the donation, contingent on no cost to the county. Land Information noted there will be taxes due in 2015, before it becomes tax exempt as part of the county forest. They also recommend purchasing title insurance. Bilogan provided documentation showing that the Town of Little Rice would actually receive more money per year in severance and PILT payments than if the acreage remained on the tax rolls. Mike Romportl will take it to the Land Information Committee, and consult with Corporation Counsel regarding a whether a joint resolution should go to the County Board.

STEWARDSHIP LAND ACQUISITION PROGRAM.

Bilogan discussed the two deadlines and the process for application and provided a handout with hypothetical scenarios to show the various ways the program may be utilized. He also provided maps to show what areas of the County Forest may potentially fit the program. He noted that state appraisals are per parcel so that cost must be considered as well. Nothing is budgeted for that. Mott stated that the funds would have to come from contingency or general funds, since the County Board did not put the land purchase line items in the budget.

The Committee agreed that Towns will be notified of any parcels considered.

PUBLIC COMMENTS— Sorenson complimented Bilogan and his staff on the results of the department audit by the DNR.

VOUCHERS

Vouchers totaled \$63,150.12 were presented to the committee. Van Raalte moved to approve the expenditures, Mott seconded. All aye, motion carried.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

- Severance Payments
- Sale of specific, limited County Forest areas
- Gravel Contract with Lynne – Special Forestry Committee meeting scheduled for 1/21/15
- Possible parcels for Stewardship Program
- Results of DNR audit

ADJOURNMENT—With business completed, it was moved by Van Raalte, seconded by Mott, to adjourn the meeting at 4:50 p.m. All aye. Motion carried.

JACK SORENSEN
CHAIR

JILL BRADLEY
RECORDING SECRETARY