

## **FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** March 11, 2015      **TIME:** 4:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** Committee Room 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Court House, Rhinelander, WI

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

**OTHERS:** Jean Hanson, Land & Water; Karl Jennrich, Planning & Zoning

**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 Zunker, to approve the current agenda with the order of agenda items at Chair's discretion. All aye. Motion carried.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, 2015 FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETING.**  
Van Raalte moved to approve minutes with two corrections. Zunker seconded. All aye, motion carried.

### **EMPLOYEE LENGTH OF SERVICE RECOGNITION**

Paul Fiene was recognized for 20 years service; Eric Rady was recognized for 10 years service.

### **FOREST MANAGEMENT:**

1. Year-to-Date Timber Stumpage Revenue. Year to date = \$231,054.90
2. Timber Sale(s) for Disposition. Contracts #1597, 1588, 1600 and 1601 were closed satisfactorily. Van Raalte moved to approve returning deposits, Zunker seconded. All aye, motion carried.
3. Spring Timber Sale Date. It was agreed that the May meeting be delayed a week due to the timber sale. Sale date and meeting date will be Wednesday, May 13, 2015.

### **POSSIBLE MERGER OF THE LAND & WATER CONSERVATION DEPT. WITH FORESTRY, LAND & RECREATION DEPT.**

There was discussion of the possibility of merging the two departments. There was also discussion about merging Land & Water with Planning & Zoning. All parties agreed that the need for personnel would create additional burdens. The committee's consensus is that Land & Water should remain a stand-alone department, and that the staffing issues be addressed.

**A RESOLUTION** to accept the donation of tax parcels LR 49 and LR 54, located in GL 2 & SE-NW Section 4, Township 36 North, Range 5 East, Town of Little Rice, by Winston & Sandra Long to Oneida County Forestry Dept was presented. Van Raalte moved to approve, Zunker seconded. All aye, motion carried. Resolution will be forwarded to County Board.

**A RESOLUTION** to apply for a Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Land Acquisition Grant was presented. Van Raalte provided a spreadsheet showing that towns would receive more funds by proceeding, than they currently receive. Bilogan added that there would be an immediate return on timber. Van Raalte moved to approve, Mott seconded. All aye, motion carried. Resolution will be forwarded to County Board.

**FORESTRY SHOP DISCUSSION.** No action taken.

**WILLOW ROAD, WINTER TRUCK TRAFFIC REPORT.** Bilogan provided reports showing that 53% of winter traffic was logging trucks, of which 75% of those are County Forest. The County traffic was only 40% of all winter truck traffic.

**SEVERANCE PAYMENT FORMULA** Van Raalte handed out a draft resolution to discuss support increased severance payments to towns.

**USDA 2015 ANIMAL & PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE (APHIS) CONTRACT.** Sorensen moved to accept the contract as presented. Mott seconded. All aye, motion carried.

**DISCOVER WISCONSIN, COUNTY FORESTS EPISODE DVD.** The committee agreed to give a copy of the program to each County Board member.

**SPRING WCFA MEETING (AGENDA & REGISTRATION)**

Van Raalte moved to allow Forestry Department employees to attend the 2015 Spring WCFA meeting in Minocqua. Zunker seconded. All aye, motion carried.

**VOUCHERS**

Vouchers totaling \$8,928.08 were presented. Van Raalte moved to approve, Zunker seconded. All aye, motion carried.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Severance Payment Formula (May)  
Annual Report  
BCPL Land Proposal  
ATV Criteria to open County Forest Roads  
Fire Protection

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Guy Hansen reports that RASTA received a \$500 grant for hiking and snowshoe signage.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Van Raalte moved to adjourn, Zunker seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

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Jack Sorensen, Chair

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Jill Bradley, Recording Secretary