

Forestry and Recreation Committee

January 15, 2015

8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman Ronald Nye, Michael Klimoski, Sam Hardin, Don Scupien, and Joe Novak

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Erik Rantala, Nathan Gilbert, Nathan Heuss, Terry Poltrock, and Drew Kelley, WATK/WACD

Location: Conference Room, Forestry Office, Fairgrounds, Antigo

1. Call to Order – Chairman Nye called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Minutes - A motion was made by Scupien, seconded by Novak, to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2014 meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. Update on Veteran’s Memorial Park Restroom Project - Nate Heuss, facilities director, provided a more finalized plan for the restroom to be built in the picnic area at Veteran’s Memorial Park. The floor plan calls for 1,500 sq. ft. (the restroom was made larger to include a changing room). The women’s restroom would have three toilets and the men’s would have two urinals and one toilet. There would also be a storage room and mechanical room. There would also be an open air shelter with coiling shutters. The building would be a splitface block base to 24”, block interior restroom walls, and prefinished wood siding above block. It would also have an architectural asphalt shingle roof. There are funds of approximately \$183,500 available from previous carryforwards. The capital improvement plan budget cost was set at \$250,000. The tentative timeline is as follows: February meeting – review bidding documents, March meeting – accept bids, April 3 – sign contract. Construction would begin early May (weather dependent) and would be approximately four months. Also discussed were on-demand water heaters vs. an electric water heater.

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4. Review Reservation Policies and Fees at Veteran’s Memorial Park – Lazars explained the reservation policy/procedure for Veteran’s Memorial Park. There are three shelters that are reservable, three group sites that are reservable (South Shore, Snow Shelter, and Deer Camp), two cabins, and two primitive sites. Also, 8 of the 48 sites in the main campground are reservable. Reservations can be made by calling the park starting the 1st workday after New Year’s at 8:30 a.m. Reservations require a minimum of three camping units for South Shore and two for Snow Shelter and Deer Camp. Reservations require full deposit within 20 days and non-refundable. The South Shore campsite is already booked for 89 nights, and the two cabins have one booked for 29 nights and the other for 17 nights. Lazars explained that he would like all websites/information provided regarding Veteran’s Memorial Park reservations and associated policies to state the same information to eliminate confusion. Lazars requested of the committee to raise the camping fee for the group sites from \$15.00/night to \$20.00/night per camping unit so the camping price is consistent throughout the park. Motion by Novak, seconded by Scupien to raise the camping fee from \$15.00/night to \$20.00/night for the group sites. All ayes. Motion carried.

Also discussed was the policy for firewood. Firewood must be purchased at the park office for \$4.00/bundle. Bringing your own firewood is prohibited. Campers can gather dead sticks or branches (kindling) from the forest floor.

5. Discuss Expired Timber Sale Contracts - Rantala reviewed with the committee a list of expired contracts, along with the staff recommendations for each.

Rantala explained the extensions stating that the first increase for an expired contract is 5 percent and then each increase after that is 10 percent. The Forestry Department staff has reviewed all contracts.

The committee reviewed each expired contract and took the following actions:

Expired Timber Sales – 2014

<u>Job No.</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Expired</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Committee Action</u>
1262-12	Central WI Lumber	12/14	Prairie River - Winter sale – not started.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 5% increase in stumpage for 2015.
1271-13	Central WI Lumber	12/14	Augustyn Spring ATV trail – not started.	Assess 5% stumpage increase for 2015.
1263-12	Paul Cleereman	12/14	North Fisher Lake – not started.	Assess 5% stumpage increase for 2015.

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1209-11	Tim Jacobs	12/13	Elton Firelane - Finished except for a few logs on hillsides.	No increase for 2015.
1255-12	Tim Jacobs	12/14	Hunting River Road- Winter sale.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 5% increase in stumpage for 2015.
1203-11	Marshall Forest Prod.	12/14	West Upham - 2/3 done, working on now, will finish.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 5% increase in stumpage for 2015.
1266-12	Marshall Logging	12/14	Parrish – Freezing road - will cut this winter.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 5% increase in stumpage for 2015.
1171-11	Meier Forest Products	12/14	Hwy. J swamp - ½ done.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 5% increase in stumpage for 2015.
1172-11	Meier Forest Products	12/14	Hwy. J. swamp - Not started.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 5% increase in stumpage for 2015.
1224-12	Brad Mihalko	12/13	Hwy. H curve – Not started. Winter job.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 10% increase in stumpage for 2015.
1211-11	Mlhalko Land & Logging	12/13	Perch Lake Road – ¾ done, will finish in February.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 10% increase in stumpage for 2015.
1227-12	Dave Raith	12/14	Hwy. U – Got road in, summer job.	Assess 5% stumpage increase for 2015.
1254-12	Tigerton Lumber	12/14	5 ¢ Rd. – 1/2 done. Will finish this winter.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 5% increase for stumpage for 2015.

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<u>Job No.</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Expired</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Committee Action</u>
1288-13	Tigerton Lumber	12/14	Fisher Lake - Started last week.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 5% increase for stumpage for 2015.
1226-12	Twin Forest Products	12/14	Nelson Firelane - winter job. Plans to cut this winter.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 5% increase for stumpage for 2015.
1239-12	Twin Forest Products	3/14	Brady Lane - Plans on moving in February.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 5% increase for stumpage for 2015.
1248-12	Twin Forest Products	12/14	Kleever Road - Started sale – too wet – moved out twice.	Give until April 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 5% increase for stumpage for 2015.
1116-10	Whitetail Logging	12/12	Moccasin Lake Ski - Trail - Too wet last summer.	Give until November 1, 2015 to finish. If not done, assess 10% increase for stumpage for 2015.

Motion by Hardin, seconded by Scupien to accept the staff recommendations regarding the 2014 expired timber sales. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. Review 2014 timber Sale Harvest Volumes and Revenue - Rantala reviewed the 2014 wood volume harvests with the committee.

Rantala stated that it was a very good year again in 2014. He handed out a summary of the wood harvests for the past 14 years. In 2014, there were 40,742 total cords cut. There were 16,398 cords of hardwood pulp cut. The hardwood logs were down 326,780 board feet from 2013 to 2014 at 1,357,510 board feet. Rantala reported that the timber sale scale charges, which are the total value of material cut, scaled, and actually removed off the County Forest, is at \$2,480,627 for 2014. In 2013, the timber sale scale charges were at \$2,205,854.

The actual timber sale revenue for 2014 is \$2,579,977 compared to \$2,421,128 for 2013. The timber sale revenue figure is the actual revenue from payments made on the scale charges during the year, and it does not include the prepayments on timber sales or credit balances. Rantala also mentioned that \$257,997.70 will be returned to the townships as severance payments for those townships that have county forest in them.

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7. Discuss Placing Identification Signs on Forestry Department Trucks - A referral was received from the Executive Committee regarding placing identification signs on all forestry department trucks. After discussion, motion by Klimoski, seconded by Novak to have Rantala prepare a list of all department vehicles and what the signage should entail. All ayes. Motion carried.
8. Discuss Air Photo Project - Rantala stated that updated aerial photos are included in the 2015 CIP Plan. The aerial photos were last updated in 2010. Rantala explained that approximately 3,000-4,000 acres of timber are harvested annually on the county forest; and as a result, stand types or boundaries have changed dramatically since 2010. Also, more roads have been constructed or been opened up since 2010 and the new aerial photos will assist foresters with forest management decisions. Rantala also wanted the committee to understand why even though Land Records is also getting new aerial photos this year they cannot contract this out as one project. Rantala informed the committee that Forestry and Land Records looked into the possibility of doing one flight for both needs. Forestry needs only the county forest with leaf-on, and Land Records needs the entire county with leaf-off. After consulting with Ayres & Associates, it was determined that by trying to combine both projects into one that the risk was too great that neither department would be satisfied with the end product. The forestry department has \$40,000 budgeted for this project from forest preservation, but the project should come in under budget. Information only.
9. DNR Liaison Report – Rantala informed the committee that even though Ave'lallemant could not attend the meeting he had provided him with information regarding the 2014 deer numbers. There were 1,282 bucks shot and 433 antlerless. This is an overall decrease of 13% from 2013. Rantala also noted that the Langlade County Deer Advisory Council voted to increase the deer population within the county.
10. Review Payment of Paid Bills - The committee reviewed the paid Forestry and Recreation Department bills for December.
11. Review Budget Summary Report - Rantala reviewed with the committee the budget summary report of the forestry department revenues and expenditures through December 31, 2014.
12. Set Next Meeting Date - The next meeting will be scheduled for Friday, February 13, 2015, at 8:30 a.m., in the forestry office conference room, Fairgrounds, Antigo.
13. Adjournment – Motion by Scupien, seconded by Novak to adjourn at 9:28 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Poltrock
Recording Secretary