

Forestry and Recreation Committee

May 12, 2016

8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman Ronald Nye, Sam Hardin, Don Scupien, Joe Novak, and Duff Leaver

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Erik Rantala, Nathan Gilbert, Rick Dedeayne, Luke Williams, Cody Brauner, Josh Waukau, Mike Lietz, Andy Neveln, Joe Solin, Dale Carlson, Neil Schallock, David Raith, Tim Jacobs, Mike Pulkinen, Quentin Strong, Mark Strong, Jill Lawrence, Terry Poltrock, and Dave Peterson

Location: Conference Room, Forestry Office, Fairgrounds, Antigo

1. Call to Order – Chairman Nye called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. Introductions – Nye welcomed all the interested loggers to the bid opening. Rantala explained the process of the timber sale bid opening.
3. Opening of Timber Sale Bids – The bids for the 2016 Spring Timber Sale were all received by the Forestry and Recreation Department at the Forestry Office. All bids were received by 8:30 a.m. as advertised. The bids were all opened by the committee and the Forestry and Recreation Department staff, and the total was read aloud by Erik Rantala.

It was moved by Novak, seconded by Leaver, to convene into closed session under Section 19.85(1)(e), Wisconsin Statutes, at 9:57 a.m. to review the following bids. Roll call vote: Nye – aye, Hardin – aye, Leaver – aye, Scupien – aye, and Novak – aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Scupien, seconded by Novak, to convene into open session at 10:02 a.m. Roll call vote: Scupien – aye, Leaver – aye, Novak – aye, Hardin – aye, and Nye – aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Novak, seconded by Hardin to award the bids to the apparent high bidders on all of the spring timber sale jobs contingent on all bid values being correct, the advertised minimum bid for each specie being met, and all specifications and reference checks are met. All ayes. Motion carried.

There were 22 of 22 sales sold. A total of 127 bids were received from 26 bidders. The grand total of the winning bids was \$1,051,775.35.

4. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
5. Committee Re-organization - Vice-chairman – Novak nominated Scupien. Motion by Hardin, seconded by Leaver to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Scupien as vice-chairman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Secretary – Leaver nominated Novak. Motion by Hardin, seconded by Scupien to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Novak as secretary. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Novak, seconded by Nye to have Terry Poltrock take the minutes at the Forestry & Recreation Committee meetings. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. Public Comment on Agenda Items and Consideration of Requests for Items to be Added to Future Meeting Agendas – Joe Novak mentioned that the Town of Norwood is discussing opening all their roads for ATVs.
7. Minutes – A motion was made by Hardin, seconded by Leaver, to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2016 meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.
8. Review 2016-2021 Capital Improvement Projects and rank 2016 Projects - Rantala reviewed with the committee the four projects planned for 2017, which are pick-up truck replacement, purchase 4x4 utility vehicle with tracks, contract out spraying for Garlic Mustard, and restroom generators at Veteran’s Memorial Park. The committee ranked the four projects. Motion by Scupien, seconded by Hardin to forward the results to the finance director and the finance committee. All ayes. Motion carried.
9. Update on Lands for Sale – Rantala updated the committee that the DNR would have four properties for sale to Langlade County. Rantala will meet with Pete Walter in June regarding minimum transaction values as Stewardship monies will not be available for these purchases.

Camp Lyle Property - The property is in Section 24; T34N-R11E in the Township of East Elcho. This property has been surveyed and is actually 642 acres and the DNR is interested in buying 120 acres of this property along the Wolf River. The asking price of

the property will adjust accordingly, if purchased by DNR. There are structures on the property including a main lodge, pavilions, shower building, toilet buildings, storage building and 14 small cabins. This property was harvested within the last 15 years, and there is a 60 acre swamp on the property. There are two beautiful lakes on the property. If this property were to be purchased by Langlade County, it would be mostly for recreational purposes, as the timber on the property at present time is not ready to be harvested (20-30 years). Options for this property would include a campground and additional trail opportunities. This would be a grant eligible, which would be 50/50 cost share.

Boy Scout Camp – Enterprise Lake –No additional information at this time.

10. Update on Invasive Species on County Forest – Rantala stated that both forestry and DNR staff having been spraying for garlic mustard and wild parsnip. Chris Arrowood of TIP and Lands Records has also been assisting. There is an 80% reduction of garlic mustard where it was sprayed, but more areas are being found. Prentiss & Carlisle were hired to spray for garlic mustard and have completed one area and are moving into the next area. Rantala informed the committee that roads are being closed to motorized traffic to contain the spread of garlic mustard.
11. Discuss Resolution of Support to Relocate DNR Division of Forestry Headquarters to Antigo/Langlade County – Rantala stated that Economic Development is hiring a consultant to prepare the proposal/application for relocating the DNR Division of Forestry Headquarters to Antigo/Langlade County. The State of Wisconsin is currently soliciting a Request for Information to learn about potential locations that may meet the needs for a headquarters site for the DNR's Division of Forestry, which are located north of Hwy. 10. Approximately 10-60 positions would move to this new location. The forestry committee was requested to sponsor a resolution to support a joint City-County proposal to locate the DNR Forestry Headquarters in Langlade County. Motion by Novak, seconded by Hardin to approve a resolution to support to relocate the DNR Division of Forestry Headquarters to Antigo/Langlade County. All ayes. Motion carried.
12. DNR Report – Mike Lietz, NR Region Team Supervisor, gave a short report to the committee.
13. Administrator Report – Timber sales are just getting started as the woods is finally drying out. Advertised and then re-advertised for summer help. Applications are due today. One contract has been completed for the treatment of garlic mustard, and the contractor will be starting on the other right away. ATV trails were opened over the past weekend. Prior to opening, one accident occurred on the trails. I advised the DNR warden to cite the individual for operating on closed trails. Forestry staff found an abandoned car on the County Forest. Car was completely destroyed. I have been working with Sheriff's Department to get the issue resolved. During the last Wood Tech Ad Hoc committee meeting, County Forest/FSC certification was brought up. I will look into this further. A number of roads/gates have been damaged. A number of WRST gates have been

damaged this spring. There has been some shooting at signs or unauthorized targets at the range.

14. Review Budget Summary - Rantala reviewed with the committee the budget summary report of the forestry department revenues and expenditures through April 30, 2016.
15. Review Paid Bills - The committee reviewed the paid Forestry and Recreation Department bills for April.
16. Set Next Meeting Date - The next meeting will be scheduled for Friday, May 20, 2016, at 9:00 a.m., in the forestry office conference room, Fairgrounds, Antigo and then a tour of the Camp Lyle property.
17. Adjournment – Motion by Scupien, seconded by Novak to adjourn at 11:10 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Poltrock
Recording Secretary