

Forestry and Recreation Committee

May 19, 2011

8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman Ronald Nye, Thomas Schultz, Richard Olsen, and George Bornemann,

Members Absent: David Solin and Brennan Henricks

Others Present: Steve Jackson, Erik Rantala, Robin Stowe, Terry Poltrock, Ted Ave'lallemant, Mike Lietz, Terry Trapp, Pat Girtz, Dave Peterson, Gust Ullman, and Interested Loggers

Location: Clover Room, Multi-Purpose Building, Fairgrounds, Antigo

1. Call to Order – Chairman Nye called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Motion by Schultz, seconded by Bornemann to excuse Solin. All ayes. Motion carried.
2. Introductions – Nye welcomed all the interested loggers to the bid opening. Jackson explained the process of the timber sale bid opening and the change to bidding by ton instead of cord for pulpwood.
3. Opening of Timber Sale Bids – The bids for the 2011 Spring Timber Sale were all received by the Forestry and Recreation Department at the Forestry Office and in the Clover Room of the Multi-Purpose Building. 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 Steve Jackson.

It was moved by Schultz, seconded by Olsen, to convene into closed session under Section 19.85(1)(e), Wisconsin Statutes, at 9:58 a.m. to review the following bids. Roll call vote: Olsen – aye, Schultz – aye, Bornemann – aye, and Nye – aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Schultz, seconded by Bornemann, to convene into open session at 10:01 a.m.. Roll call vote: Schultz – aye, Olsen – aye, Bornemann, and Nye – aye. Motion carried.

Jackson announced that all the high bids were reviewed in closed session. A motion was made by Bornemann, seconded by Schultz to award the bids to the apparent high bidders on all of the spring timber sale jobs contingent on all bid values being correct. All ayes. Motion carried.

There were 28 of 28 sales sold. A total of 212 bids were received from 36 bidders. The grand total of the winning bids was \$898,713.02.

4. Minutes – A motion was made by Olsen, seconded by Bornemann, to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2011 meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.
5. Discuss/Update on ATV Route Request on Hwy. H by Vilas-Deerbrook Riders – Last month, Jackson explained that the Vilas-Deerbrook Riders ATV Club would like to request an ATV route on Highway H to Held's Bar. The Town of Vilas has approved all town roads to be used as ATV routes. The current ATV route travels from Jane Spur Road to McCloud Road to Lloyd Creek Road, and the club would like the route extended south two miles down Hwy. H to Held's Bar. Currently when ATV'ers travel the current route, they have to turn around as the Town of Peck does not allow ATVs on their town roads. The club was requested to provide written approval from the Town of Vilas. In the minutes of the Vilas Town Board of May 10, 2011, it stated "*Chris Held, representing the VD Riders ATV Club, appeared before the board to request that the Town approve creating a new section of ATV trail in the Town of Vilas. The new trail would run from the intersection of Highway H and Highway C, continuing north to Lloyd Creek Road. It was noted that all of the other roads in the Vilas Township are already designated ATV trails. A motion was made by Louie Krivoshein and seconded by James Cole to approve the new section of ATV trail. All in favor. Aye. Motion carried.*" After discussion, motion by Schultz, seconded by Olsen to approve the ATV request to extend the route south two miles down on Highway H to Held's Bar and to forward to the Highway Committee. 3 ayes, 1 nay. Motion carried.
6. Review Memo and Draft Policy for Power-driven Mobility Devices (PDMDs) - Stowe explained to the committee that Department of Justice had changed the rules regarding the use of power-driven mobility devices on trails. When the Americans with Disability Act was enacted in 1990, mobility devices were not allowed on pedestrian trails. As of March 15, 2011, the new rules regarding the use of power-driven mobility devices take effect. Under the new rules, power-driven mobility devices (PDMDs) must be allowed on trails unless they cannot be reasonably accommodated. Also, you are not allowed to inquire about the disability; but you can inquire about the need for a PDMD, if there is prior evidence that one should not be needed. The PDMDs cannot be used for hunting. The State of Wisconsin does require a permit for the use of PDMDs on State pedestrian trails. The County would not be required to make any physical modifications to trails, such as widened access, grading, or clearing. Also, if the trail is gated to prevent vehicular travel, you are not required to provide a key, just access to the trail. Reasonable accommodations must be made for PDMDs. The County may determine that PDMDs cannot be

reasonably accommodated, but all of the following factors must be considered: The physical characteristics of the PDMD, the volume of pedestrian traffic on the trail, trail design and characteristics, possible safety requirements you could adopt, and substantial risk of serious harm to the environment, natural resources, or cultural resources. Stowe informed the committee that Illinois has written a policy that states the PDMDs can have no passengers and may be no wider than 45% of the trail width. The permit that Stowe drafted stated the following restrictions: 1) A PDMD shall not be operated in excess of 15 mph on any County trail; 2) the authorization to operate a PDMD is limited to the applicant only; 3) A PDMD shall not be operated on any trail if the width of the PDMD (including operator) exceeds 45% of the width of the trail; d) the applicant is responsible for any damage that occurs as a result of the use of a PDMD under the terms of this Permit.

The committee also requested that the following restrictions be added to the permit: 1) the PDMD may not tow a trailer; 2) tree stands, bait, firewood, nor passengers may be hauled on the PDMD; 3) the duration of the PDMD permit will be 90 days from date of issue. Motion by Bornemann, seconded by Schultz to adopt the permit for the use of power-driven mobility devices (PDMD) on Langlade County recreational trails with the modifications listed above. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. Review 2012-2016 Capital Improvement Projects and Rank 2012 Projects - Jackson reviewed with the committee the seven projects planned for 2012-16, which are pick-up truck replacement; construct sleeping cabins at Veteran's Memorial Park, remove underground storage tanks at Veteran's Memorial Park, 9 Mile Creek culverts, purchase lawn mowers, update aerial photos, and construction of enclosed shelter/lodge. The committee ranked the four projects. Motion by Schultz, seconded by Bornemann to forward the results to the finance director and the finance committee. All ayes. Motion carried.
8. Review Budget Summary Report - Jackson reviewed with the committee the budget summary report of the forestry department revenues and expenditures through April 30, 2011. Motion by Olsen, seconded by Schultz, to accept the budget summary. All ayes. Motion carried.
9. Comp Time Balances - Jackson reviewed the comp time balances of all the Forestry and Recreation Department employees with the committee. Motion by Schultz, seconded by Olsen to accept the comp time balances. All ayes. Motion carried.
10. Review Payment of Paid Bills - A motion was made by Schultz, seconded by Olsen, to approve the paid Forestry and Recreation Department bills. All ayes. Motion carried.
11. Other Matters – The road damage in the Elton area was discussed. The committee also requested that campground fees be surveyed/reviewed.

12. Set Next Meeting Date - The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 20, 2011, at 8:30 a.m., in the Forestry Office Conference Room, Fairgrounds, Antigo.
13. Adjournment - A motion was made by Schultz, seconded by Olsen, to adjourn at 11:05 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Poltrock
Recording Secretary