

Forestry and Recreation Committee

November 23, 2012

8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman Ronald Nye, David Solin, Michael Klimoski, Rick Bina, and Sam Hardin

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Erik Rantala, Robin Stowe, and Terry Poltrock

Location: Conference Room, Forestry Office, Fairgrounds, Antigo

1. Call to Order – Chairman Nye called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. There was a moment of silence for Steve Jackson.
2. At approximately 8:05 a.m., consider moving into closed session pursuant to §19.85 (1)(c), Wisconsin Statutes, considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, to discuss the appointment and compensation of an Interim Forest Administrator, the process to refill the Administrator position, and to discuss the staffing needs of the Forestry Department – Motion by Bina, seconded by Klimoski to go into closed session at 8:05 a.m. Roll call vote: Bina – aye, Klimoski – aye, Solin – aye, Hardin – aye, and Nye – aye. Motion carried.
3. At approximately 9:00 a.m., return to open session with possible action on any matters discussed in closed session – Motion by Solin, seconded by Klimoski to return to open session at 8:40 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Robin Stowe, corporation counsel, explained what had been discussed in closed session. The committee agreed to appoint Erik Rantala as interim forest administrator with a salary increase of \$1,000/month for the period that he is the interim. Also, the committee agreed to forward to the Executive and Personnel Committees and county board to approve promoting Erik Rantala to the position of forest administrator with the

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salary to be determined with the understanding that there is a one-year probationary period, which would be reviewed at six months and one year. The committee also approved the action to forward to the Executive and Personnel Committees and the county board to fill the open entry level forester position. Stowe stated that three-fourths approval is needed at county board for both positions due to the hiring freeze.

Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Bina to promote Erik Rantala to the position of forest administrator with a one-year probationary period to be reviewed at six months and one year with the salary level to be discussed after approval and forward to the Executive and Personnel Committees and county board for their approval. Roll call vote: Bina – aye, Klimoski – aye, Solin – abstain, Hardin – aye, and Nye – aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Hardin to start the process to fill the open entry level forester position and to forward to the Executive and Personnel Committees and county board for their approval. 4ayes, 1 abstain. Motion carried.

Stowe also stated that after Rantala is approved as forest administrator that he can bring forward to the forestry committee his recommendation for filling the assistant forest administrator.

Rantala thanked the committee for their support and stated that he and the forestry staff would be working hard with the assistance of the DNR to begin setting up for the spring timber sale and continued administration of the timber sales.

4. Adjournment – Motion by Solin, seconded by Bina to adjourn at 8:50 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Poltrock
Recording Secretary