

Forestry and Recreation Committee

September 12, 2013

8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman Ronald Nye, Michael Klimoski, David Solin, Rick Bina, and Richard Olsen

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Erik Rantala, Tom Lazars, Gary Olsen, Nate Heuss, Karen Trembath, Terry Poltrock, Dave & Judy Peterson, and Drew Kelly of WATK-WACD

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.
2. Minutes - A motion was made by Klimoski, seconded by Olsen, to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2013 meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Rantala updated the committee on the timber sale bids that were opened on August 30. Two bids were received for the sale in the Township of Elcho. They were:

Jim Rustick Logging - \$17,862.50
NewPage Corporation - \$15,607.00

3. Review Moose Lake Restroom Proposals - Rantala stated that this restroom will be located at the Moose Lake boat landing. This restroom will be a year-round facility. Rantala also had informed the committee that the Mattoon Sportsmen's Club will donate \$1,000 towards the project and the Friends of Moose Lake will donate \$500 towards the project. There was \$9,700 budgeted for this project. The proposals received were as follows:

Tom Parise - \$8,850.00
Tradewell Construction - \$14,000.00

Rantala stated that Tradewell Construction did not follow the specs and planned to use the design that they had used for the restroom at Augustyn Springs ATV trailhead. Rantala

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stated that in his discussions with Duane Haakenson, he stated that these types of privies are not regulated by the State. All of the permits will go through the Land Records and Regulations office, and the specifications for this building did meet code. This building will be handicapped accessible.

Motion by Klimoski, seconded by Solin to accept the low proposal of \$8,850.00 from Tom Parise to construct a restroom at Moose Lake boat landing. All ayes. Motion carried.

4. Discuss Jack Lake Restroom Project - Rantala informed the committee that Tradewell Construction will break ground next week. Rantala was also informed that we should receive the grant paperwork next week. Currently, there is a 4" well that was installed in 1963 that services that portion of the campground. With the construction of the new restroom building, this well would need new pressure tanks to provide water to the building for the flush toilets or a new well could be drilled. New pressure tanks would cost \$3,900 or a new well would cost \$7,500. After discussion, motion by Solin, seconded by Klimoski to install the larger pressure tanks for \$3,900. All ayes. Motion carried.

Rantala also inquired of the committee if they would be interested in having a canopy installed over the restroom doors for \$6,600 as it would be easier to add to the plan before the building has been started instead of after the fact. After discussion, it was the committee's decision to leave the restroom design as originally planned.

5. Update on Land Purchase – Rantala informed the committee that the appraisals for the property should be completed by the end of the month. The appraisals will then be reviewed by the DNR. At that time, Plum Creek and Langlade County will need to decide if they are in agreement with the cost of the property. Langlade County's portion of the purchase price will be approximately \$1.8 million. Langlade County is planning to pay for their half of the purchase price using general fund monies, which will be paid back in yearly installments through excess timber sale revenue. If the forestry department were to have a poor year with timber sale revenue, it might become necessary to sell some properties. Currently, there are 400 acres that are not enrolled in the county forest law program. Rantala has also compiled a list of properties totaling 440 acres that could be withdrawn from the county forest law program. These properties are currently being managed but do have access issues. Upon researching this issue, Rantala discovered that three or four years from now the DNR would not be inclined to allow the withdrawal of properties because Langlade County Forestry was having a poor revenue year and needed funds to pay for a land purchase from years ago. This would not be considered a higher and better use to the citizens of Langlade County and the State of Wisconsin; but the DNR would be supportive of withdrawing the property at this time as the 440 acres have access issues and in some cases not accessible for recreation and hunting, but the Plum Creek property would be accessible to the public. Gary Olsen stated that funding the purchase from general fund would provide the forestry department with more flexibility in repaying as when the forestry department had a good year, they could make a larger repayment and then if they had a poor year, they could pay less and it would not affect the taxpayers. Also, selling these properties would be a last resort; and if they did not need to be sold, could be re-enrolled in the county forest law program. Motion by Bina, seconded by Solin to withdraw the 440

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acres from the county forest law program for possible future selling of these properties.
All ayes. Motion carried.

6. DNR Liaison Report – Ave'lallemant reported that the youth duck hunt is this weekend. Wild rice is still plentiful. The fall tick season should be as bad as the spring was. Goose season is open. Ave'Lallemant will report on the emerald ash borer especially as it pertains to Douglas and surrounding counties and the bear hunt for the next meeting.
7. Review Payment of Paid Bills – The committee reviewed the paid Forestry and Recreation Department bills for August.
8. Review Budget Summary Report - Rantala reviewed with the committee the budget summary report of the forestry department revenues and expenditures through August 31, 2013.
9. Set Next Meeting Date - The next meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2013, at 8:00 a.m., in the forestry office conference room, Fairgrounds, Antigo.
10. Adjournment – Motion by Solin, seconded by Olsen to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Poltrock
Recording Secretary