



MARATHON COUNTY FORESTRY/RECREATION COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date and Time of Meeting: Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 1:00pm

Meeting Location: Conference Room #5, 212 River Drive, Wausau WI 54403

MEMBERS: Rick Seefeldt (Chairman), Tom Rosenberg (Vice-Chairman), Jean Maszk

Marathon County Mission Statement: *Marathon County Government serves people by leading, coordinating, and providing county, regional, and statewide initiatives. It directly or in cooperation with other public and private partners provides services and creates opportunities that make Marathon County and the surrounding area a preferred place to live, work, visit, and do business.*

Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department Mission Statement: *Adaptively manage our park and forest lands for natural resource sustainability while providing healthy recreational opportunities and unique experiences making Marathon County the preferred place to live, work, and play.*

The meeting site identified above will be open to the public. Persons wishing to attend the meeting by phone may call into the telephone conference beginning ten (10) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following number: Phone Number: 1-408-418-9388 Access Code: 2496 008 9342. Please Note: If you are prompted to provide an "Attendee Identification Number" enter the # sign. No other number is required to participate in the telephone conference. When you enter the telephone conference, PLEASE PUT YOUR PHONE ON MUTE!

Agenda Items:

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Public Comment (15 minute limit)** *(Any person who wishes to address the County Board, or one of its committees, during the "Public Comment" portion of meetings, must provide his or her name, address, and the topic he or she wishes to present to the Marathon County Clerk or chair of the committee, no later than five minutes before the start of the meeting.)*
3. **Approval of the Minutes of the Tuesday, April 4, 2023 Committee Meeting**
4. **Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:**
 - A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee
 1. Review Timber Bids and Award Contracts
 2. Timber Sale Extension Requests – Briarton Logging Contract #694-20, Futurewood Corporation Contract #670-18, Central Wisconsin Lumber-Contract #644-15
 3. Timber Sale Closeouts – Flannel Fleet Logging Contract #708-21
 - B. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward to the Environmental Resource Committee for its Consideration - None
5. **Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee – None**
6. **Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports**
 - A. Spring Recreational Trail Opening Dates
 - B. Press Release: Governor Evers Announces Budget Initiatives to Bolster Conservation, Strengthen Forest Industry
 - C. Wisconsin County Forests Association Summer Tour – Juneau and Vernon Counties

7. **Next Meeting Date, Time, Location: Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 1:00pm at 212 River Dr., Wausau, WI 54403, Room 5 or via Webex**
- A. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence
 - B. Future Agenda Items: Review Timber Bids and Award Contracts, Timber Sale Closeouts, Review and Consider Joining the Landowner Enrollment Program Covering Wisconsin Bats, Timber Sale Summary

8. **Adjournment**

**SIGNED /s/ Thomas Lovlien
PRESIDING OFFICER OR DESIGNEE**

ANY PERSON PLANNING TO ATTEND THIS MEETING WHO NEEDS SOME TYPE OF SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE SHOULD CALL THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE AT 261-1500 OR E-MAIL COUNTYCLERK@CO.MARATHON.WI.US ONE BUSINESS DAY BEFORE THE MEETING.

EMAILED/FAXED TO: Daily Herald and other News Media Groups
EMAILED/FAXED BY: Jodi Luebbe
EMAIL/FAX DATE/TIME: April 26, 2023 11:30 a.m.

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE:
By: _____
Date: _____
Time: _____ a.m/p.m.

Members present: Rick Seefeldt (chair), Tom Rosenberg (vice-chair), Jean Maszk-(via-webex)
Staff present: Tom Lovlien-Forest Administrator, Jamie Polley-Director, Joe Tucker-County Forester
Others present: Jeff Sorenson-DNR Liaison

1. Call Meeting to Order – The meeting was called to order by Chair Seefeldt at 1:00pm, Rm. 5, 212 River Dr., Wausau. Official notice and the agenda for the meeting was posted publicly in accordance with State statutes.
2. Public Comment – none brought forward
3. Approve Minutes – **Motion** / second by Maszk / Rosenberg to approve the minutes from the January 31, 2023 regular Forestry/Recreation Committee meeting. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
4. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution
 - A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee
 1. Timber Sale Closeouts
Rodney Hix Forest Products Contract #686-19 – A closeout summary was previously provided. Lovlien reported that the estimated number of tons was 3360 and 4471.50 tons were cut. Total revenue for this sale was \$46,990.33. Lovlien’s recommendation is to close out Contract #686-19 and return their original Letter of Credit. **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Seefeldt to close out Contract #686-19 and return their original Letter of Credit. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

Futurewood Corporation #667-18 – A closeout summary was previously provided. Lovlien reported that the estimated number of tons was 1830 and 2848.24 tons were cut. Total revenue for this sale was \$56,645.79. Lovlien’s recommendation is to close out Contract #667-18 and return their original Surety Bond. **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Maszk to close out Contract #667-18 and return their original Surety Bond. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
 2. Review and Consider Approving Spring 2023 Timbersale Package – The spring timber sale package had been distributed to Committee for review. The county forest sales offer 330 acres of timber on four tracts with an estimated volume of 17,720 tons and 528.0 thousand board feet. Tucker discussed the sales and explained how they determine which areas are going to be harvested. The sales will be advertised and the bid opening will be on May 1, 2023. Questions were answered. **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Maszk to approve and advertise the four spring 2023 timber sales. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
 3. Review Lake States Forest Management Bat Habitat Conservation Plan Information and Summary – Lovlien explained that bats have been listed as federally endangered on March 31 and the WCFA has been working with the DNR on how to continue to manage the forests. The County can sign on to the Lake States Bat Conservation Plan which is a way to receive incidental take coverage and be sure that Marathon County Forest is in compliance with the Federal Endangered Species Act with respect to the federally listed bat species. County park lands can also be added and enrolled on the same application. The application and/or resolution will be brought back to the Forestry/Recreation Committee and Parks Commission for approval. Questions were answered. **Consensus** by Committee to send in application.
 4. 2022 County Forest Division Annual Report – Lovlien discussed some of the program highlights including revenue and expenses, certification, timber management, road and trail management, wildlife management, recreation, public outreach, and professional development. **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Maszk to accept and approve the 2022 County Forest Division Annual Report and forward to the County Board. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
 5. Discuss and Consider Approval on Department of Natural Resources Request to Construct up to 30 Exclosures to Compare Oak Regeneration Success – The DNR made a request to construct exclosures in oak dominated County forests to compare the growth due to deer browsing. There is no County financial commitment and the DNR will do all the maintenance on the exclosures which will be in place for a minimum of three years. Staff supports this research and wanted to inform Committee because it involves building something and leaving it in the forests. **Motion** / second by Maszk / Rosenberg to support the DNR research. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

6. Discussion and Recommendation from Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee on Hunting and Trapping at Bitzke Birdwalk Nature Trail Between Sept. 1 and Nov. 15 – Lovlien gave history on the Bitzke Birdwalk area. Up until 2019 the area had a wildlife refuge status but DNR removed it unbeknownst to Lovlien which meant that people could hunt and trap there. A decision has to be made whether to allow hunting or trapping in the future. Staff feels there could be some conflicts if it is opened to hunting between Sept. 1 and Nov. 15. They don't want to promote it as a nature trail if hunting is allowed. The Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee made a motion to recommend a county forest ordinance be created to continue to prohibit hunting at the Bitzke Birdwalk Nature Trail between Sept. 1 and Nov. 15, keep it closed to waterfowl hunting year round, and allow trapping during all statewide seasons determined by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Questions were answered and discussion followed. **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Maszk to create an ordinance that prohibits hunting between September 1 and November 15 and post signs again. Trapping would be allowed and waterfowl hunting would continue to be closed year-round. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

B. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward to the Environmental Resource Committee for its Consideration - None

5. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee – None

6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

A. Forestry Division Expense/Revenue Reports – Lovlien explained the ten-year synopsis showed over that period revenue from timber stumpage was \$820,394.00 over expenses and the nineteen-year synopsis showed timber stumpage revenues of \$1,043,778.00 over expenses. The reports don't include any recreation programs which are tracked in separate budgets. The forestry program is paying for itself with timber stumpage revenues and helps with tax levy relief.

B. 2022 Timber Stumpage Payments to Towns – Lovlien explained that each year the County is required by State Statute to return ten percent of all timber proceeds to towns that have County forests. Lovlien discussed the acreage the towns have and their associated payments. He said it's a payment in lieu of taxes for towns to recoup some of their monies if it was taxable property. The State also increased the acreage share payments from thirty cents to sixty-three cents an acre as well.

C. Wisconsin North Central Forest Health Workshop September 13, 2023 – Tucker was approached to present on oak wilt and oak regeneration on work that has done at Nine Mile as part of the State and Federal forest health workshop tour on September 13th. Lovlien said that any one was welcome to come and listen to the presentation.

D. Information Sign to be Installed at Nine Mile Forest Laurel Road Parking Lot – As part of educating the public, the sign being installed will say entering county forest please remember hunting occurs year-round per state regulations, wear bright colors, respect private property, respect and be courteous to others, dogs must be under control, leashes are encouraged and enjoy the forest. The sign will be installed by April 14 because that date is the first youth turkey season. If dogs get on to private property landowners have the option to contact the Sheriff's Department.

7. Next Meeting Date, Time, Location: Tues., May 2, 2023, 1:00pm, Rm. 5 & Webex, 212 River Dr., Wausau WI 54403

A. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence – none brought forward

B. Future Agenda Items: Timbersale Closeouts, Review Timber Bids and Award Contracts, Timber Bid Summary, WCFA Summer Tour Location and Dates, Timber Sale Extension Requests

8. Adjourn – **Motion** / second by Maszk / Rosenberg to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 p.m. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

TIMBER SALE EXTENSION REQUESTS

MAY 2023

1. Sales that are 3 years old on June 30, 2023
(1st Extension Request)

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Purchaser</u>	<u>% Completed by Volume</u>	<u>Season</u>
#694-20	Briarton Logging	40%	Winter Only

2. Sales that are 5 years old on June 30, 2023
(3rd Extension Request – Received Two-Free Prior Extensions)

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Purchaser</u>	<u>% Completed by Volume</u>	<u>Season</u>
#670-18	Futurewood Corporation	Over 100%	Winter Only

3. Sales that are 7.5 years old on June 30, 2023
(6th Extension Request – Received Four Free Prior Extensions And One With a 20% Increase)

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Purchaser</u>	<u>% Completed by Volume</u>	<u>Season</u>
#644-15	Central Wisconsin Lumber	109%	Winter Only

Tom Lovlien

From: Nathan Zelten <natezelten@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 7:13 AM
To: Tom Lovlien
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Timber Sale Extension Requests Due April 17

Brianston #694-20

Hi Tom, I would like ask for an contract extension on sale 5-20. Due to poor winter conditions we had to pull off sale before we were able to finish.

On Fri, Mar 17, 2023 at 12:08 PM Tom Lovlien <Tom.Lovlien@co.marathon.wi.us> wrote:

Hi Nate,

The Forestry Committee will be meeting on May 2 to consider extensions on expiring contracts. If you'd like to request another extension, please email me by April 17th with your intent to finish the job. If extended, it is very likely that the Committee will do so with an increase in stumpage in the 10 -15% range as they indicated last December that they will be returning to the normal policy on contract extensions in 2023. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best Regards, Tom.

Thomas Lovlien

Marathon County Forest Administrator



Wausau & Marathon County
**Parks, Recreation
& Forestry**



212 River Drive, Suite 2

Wausau, WI 54403

(715)261-1584 Office

(715)261-1565 Fax

Tom.lovlien@co.marathon.wi.us

Tom Lovlien

From: Tom Gjerde <tgjerde@futurewoodcorp.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2023 2:10 PM
To: Tom Lovlien
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Timber Sale Contract 670-18 in Marathon County Expiring

Marathon County Forestry, Thank you for your correspondence, Futurewood had intentions on completing both timber sales this winter. This was made evident by the completion of sale 667 and the additional investments into roads on sale 670. I also thank you for putting me in contact with Mr. Rodney Hix, he agreed to harvest 670-18 and had mobilized his equipment to the sale. However, ground conditions were poor (no frost) so we both agreed it would have been a poor choice to try to operate this timber sale at that time. Futurewood does want to fulfill its obligation to Marathon County, Futurewood Corp. would like to ask for one more winter to get this job completed. Thank you for your consideration.



Tom Gjerde
Forester

M: 715-797-1092
tgjerde@futurewoodcorp.com - www.futurewoodcorp.com
9676 N Kruger Road, Hayward, WI, 54843

From: Tom Lovlien <Tom.Lovlien@co.marathon.wi.us>
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2023 11:36 AM
To: Tom Gjerde <tgjerde@futurewoodcorp.com>
Cc: Jamie Holly <jholly@futurewoodcorp.com>; Joseph Tucker <Joseph.Tucker@co.marathon.wi.us>
Subject: Timber Sale Contract 670-18 in Marathon County Expiring

Hi Tom,

Thank you for completing one of the two sales Futurewood had with Marathon County this winter. Unfortunately, Contract #670-18 didn't get finished and is expiring June 30, 2023. Your company has already received two-free one year extensions on this sale and now is 5-years old. The Forestry Committee will be meeting on May 2 to consider extensions on expiring contracts. If you'd like to request another extension, please email me by April 17th with your intent to finish the job. If extended, it is very likely that the Committee will do so with an increase in stumpage in the 10-15% range as they indicated last December that they will be returning to the normal policy on contract extensions in 2023. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best Regards, Tom.

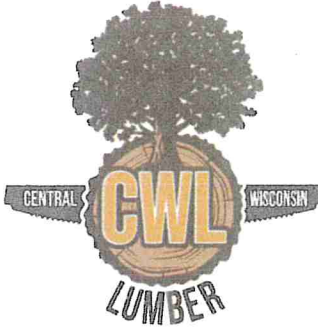
Thomas Lovlien
Marathon County Forest Administrator



Wausau & Marathon County
Parks, Recreation
& Forestry



212 River Drive, Suite 2
Wausau, WI 54403
(715)261-1584 Office



CENTRAL WISCONSIN LUMBER

136602 Co. Road U • Marathon, WI 54448

Office 715.443.3631 • Fax 715.443.2175 • Email cw1621@aol.com

February 23, 2023

Thomas Lovlien
Forest Administrator
WAUSAU & MARATHON COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION & FORSTRY DEPARTMENT
212 River Dr., Suite 2
WAUSAU, WI 54403

Dear Mr. LOVLIEEN,

Expiring timber sale: 9-15, Mr. Fudd, Contract 644-15 expiring date extension: 06/30/2023.

Central Wisconsin Lumber would like to continue under contract for the harvesting of **timber sale 9-15, Mr. Fudd, contract 644-15.** It is our understanding that penalties could be enacted due to the delay we are requesting no penalties be enacted.

Great effort was put into finishing this timber sale this past winter 2022-2023. Opening and freezing the road down repeatedly and twice daily driving the road after initially opening the roads, preparing the extension of the wood's road for logging access. Early December rains followed up by snow, did not allow ground freezing. In January and February repeated rains did not make it possible to continue harvesting the timber sale. The ground was not frozen and trying to track through the forest without timber slashing started proving futile to continue without causing ruts to the landscape. It was decided with the warming and melting of February to leave this timber sale once again to return the following winter to complete the uncut portion.

We are formally requesting that Marathon County send Central Wisconsin Lumber an extension contract **for timber sale 9-15, Mr. Fudd, Contract 644-15.**

Sincerely,

Suzanne Beilfuss
Central Wisconsin Lumber
Forester
Encl: map

Cc: Scott Foth, Log Buyer

Members present: Tom Rosenberg, Rick Seefeldt

Also present: Tom Lovlien-Forest Administrator, Jamie Polley-Director, Brandon Stefanski – DNR Wildlife Biologist, Joseph Schwantes – DNR NR Area Supervisor-(via web-ex)

1. Call Meeting to Order – The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Seefeldt at 1:30pm, Rm. 5, 212 River Dr., Wausau. Official notice and the agenda for the meeting was posted publicly in accordance with State statutes.
2. Public Comment – none brought forward
3. Approve Minutes – **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Seefeldt to approve the minutes from the October 5, 2021 regular Forestry/Recreation Committee meeting. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 2-0.
4. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution
 - A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee
 1. 2022 Forestry / Recreation Committee Tentative Meeting Schedule – Committee agreed to keep the meetings on the same schedule that the Environmental Committee follows which is the Tuesday before the first Thursday of every month. This meeting will continue to be held at 1:30pm.
 2. Consider Timber Sale Contract Extension Requests – Lovlien explained that because of Covid, markets, and poor winters there are a lot of timber sale contract extension requests. He discussed each contract, how much work they have completed, and their reasons they submitted for requesting an extension. Lovlien said he usually recommends a one-year extension but is recommending a six-month extension because most of the contracts are winter only sales. **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Rosenberg to approve six-month extensions at a zero percent increase in stumpage for contracts #678-19, #673-18, #671-18, #668-18, #665-18, #666-18, and #660-17 and if these sales are not completed that any additional extension requests will be subject to stumpage increases following the contract. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 2-0. Lovlien discussed the history, completion amount, and reasons submitted for an extension request on contract #644-15. The sale is six years old. **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Seefeldt to approve a six-month extension for contract #644-15 at a zero percent increase and if it is not completed this winter 21-22 the sale will be closed out and the purchasers performance bond may be forfeited due to breach of contract. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 2-0.
 3. Timber Close Out – Wilson Forestry LLC Contract #702-21 – A closeout summary was previously provided. Lovlien reported that the estimated number of tons was 2780 and 2708.78 tons were cut. Total revenue for this sale was \$42,240.04. Lovlien’s recommendation is to close out Contract #702-21 and return their remaining balance of \$13,859.96 and their original Letter of Credit. **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Rosenberg to close out Contract #702-21 and return their remaining balance of \$13,859.96 and their original Letter of Credit. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 2-0.
 - B. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward to the Environmental Resource Committee for its Consideration
 1. Review and Consider Approving the 2022 Wildlife Work Plan – Brandon Stefanski, DNR Wildlife Biologist – The work plan had been previously distributed. Stefanski reported on accomplishments from 2021 and explained the 2022 workplan. Work includes flowage maintenance, dike maintenance, cattail management at the Bern flowage, wild rice seeding, alder and invasive species management, and forest opening maintenance. Stefanski discussed the Nickel-An-Acre budget.
 2. Review and Consider Approving the 2022 County Forest Work Plan – Lovlien reviewed the work plan. He gave highlights on upcoming work including timber management, road and trail maintenance, conservation aids projects, administration, GIS work and professional development. **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Seefeldt to approve the 2022 County Forest Work Plan and forward the Resolution and work plan to the Environmental Resource Committee for their consideration. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 2-0.

Members present: Rick Seefeldt(c), Tom Rosenberg, Jean Maszk
Staff present: Tom Lovlien-Forest Administrator, Jamie Polley-Director
Others present: Jill Nemec-DNR Forestry Team Leader

1. Call Meeting to Order – The meeting was called to order by Chairman Seefeldt at 1:30pm, Rm. 3, 212 River Dr., Wausau. Official notice and the agenda for the meeting was posted publicly in accordance with State statutes.

2. Public Comment – none brought forward

3. Approve Minutes – **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Maszk to approve the minutes from the April 5, 2022 regular Forestry/Recreation Committee meeting. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

4. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee

1. Establish or Confirm Remaining Committee Meeting Dates and Times – **Motion** / second by Maszk / Rosenberg to keep the schedule as the Tuesday before the first Thursday of the month at 1:30pm. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

2. Timber Sale Extension Requests

Country Forest Products Contract #682-19 – Lovlien explained the contractor received one free prior extension and has almost one hundred percent of the estimated volume cut. Lovlien recommends giving a second extension at a zero percent increase in stumpage. **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Maszk to extend Contract #682-19 for six months with a zero percent increase in stumpage. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

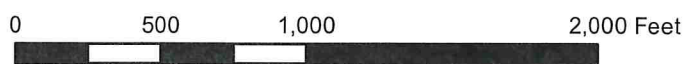
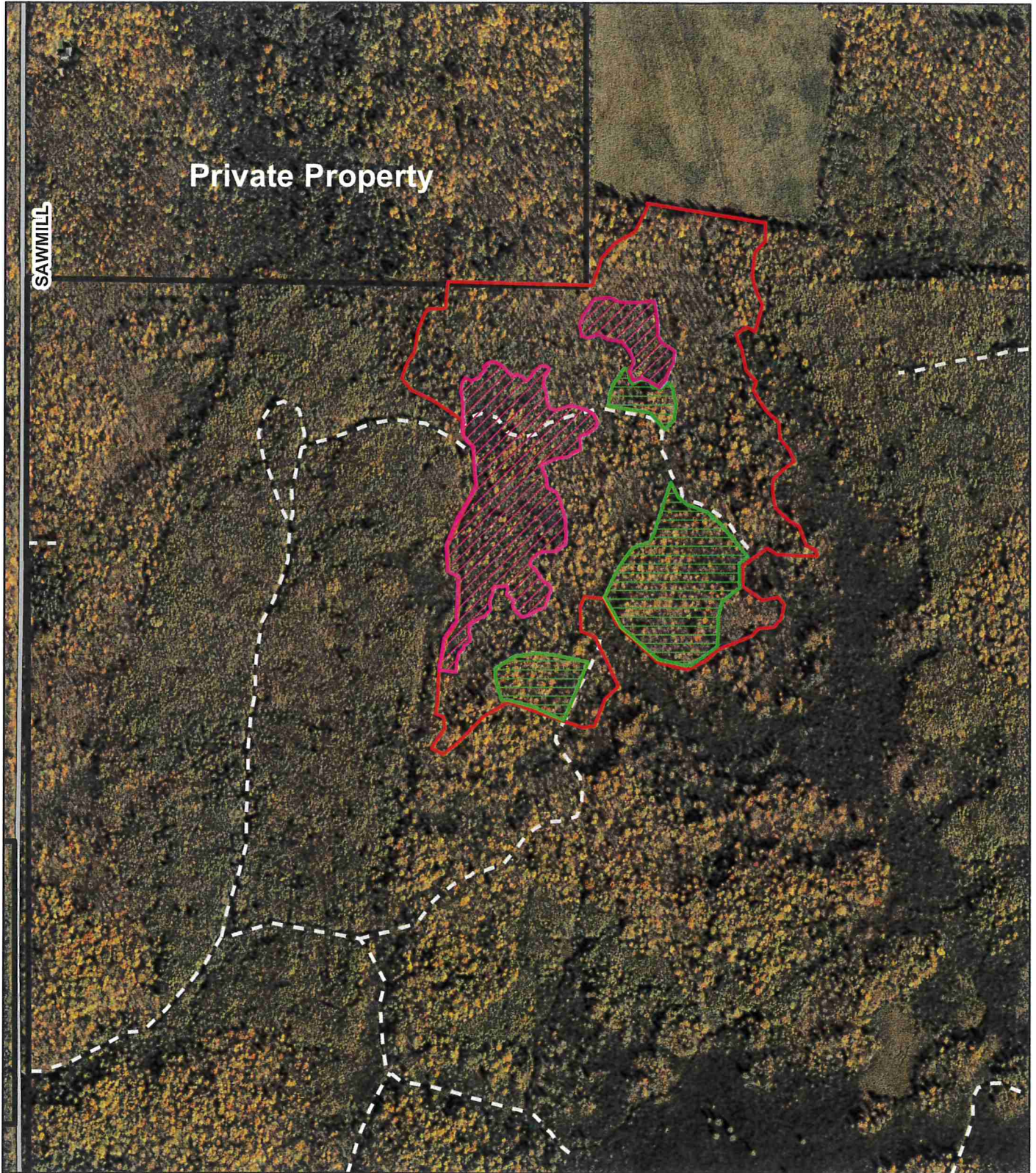
Denfeld Logging Contract #665-18 - Lovlien explained this sale will be four years old, received two free prior extensions and the contractor has said he is not going to cut the sale with or without a stumpage increase. Lovlien recommends Committee find him in breach of the contract for failure to perform, confiscate his performance bond of \$4,610.00 and not allow him to bid on Marathon County timber for two years per the contract. **Motion** / second by Maszk / Rosenberg to find the contractor in breach of contract #665-18 for non-performance, confiscate his bond of \$4,610.00 and not allow him to bid on Marathon County timber sales for two years. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.




Futurewood Contracts #667-18 and #670-18 – Lovlien explained these sales were bought at the same time and will be four years old, they both received one free prior extension request. The contractor has cut over one hundred percent of the estimated volume on contract #670-18 but there is an overrun on this job. The contractor has cut thirty-seven percent of the estimated volume on contract #667-18. Options were discussed and questions were answered. Lovlien gave reasons for his recommendation to give a zero percent increase in stumpage on contract #670-18 and to give a ten percent increase in stumpage on contract #667-18. **Motion** / second by Seefeldt / Maszk to extend contract #667-18 for one year with a ten percent increase in stumpage fees. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0. **Motion** / second by Rosenberg / Seefeldt to extend contract #670-18 for one year with a zero percent increase in stumpage fees. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

Central Wisconsin Lumber Contract #644-15 – Lovlien explained this sale is six and a half years old and has received three free prior extensions and one extension with a twenty percent increase. Lovlien discussed the history of the work that had been done and that ninety-seven percent of the estimated volume has been cut. The contractor would like to finish the job. Committee discussed different options regarding the sale. **Motion / second by Seefeldt / Rosenberg to extend Contract #644-15 for one year with a zero percent increase and if for some reason the sale does not get completed this winter that it will be closed out and the amount of the performance bond retained will be determined next spring.** Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

3. Review Timber Bids and Award Contracts – Lovlien reported that bids were opened yesterday and all the sales had bids. There were thirty-two bids on five tracts from fifteen different contractors. The County has worked with all the high bidders previously. He recommends awarding the tracts to the high bidders. Questions were

Marathon County Sale 644-15



-  Remaining Sale Acreage To Complete - 42 Acres
-  Removed From Original Harvest To Protect Aspen Saplings - 14 Acres
-  2023 Harvest - 13 Acres Completed

CLOSE OUT TIMBER SALES

Sale 708-21

FLANNEL FLEET LOGGING

	Estimated	Cut	
Aspen Pulp	3200 Tons	3386.96 Tons	Aspen Pulp
Mixed Hardwood Pulp	1000 Tons	1105.69 Tons	Mixed Hardwood Pulp
White Spruce Pulp	500 Tons	378.38 Tons	White Spruce Pulp
	4700 Tons	4871.03 Total Tons Cut	
Ash Sawlogs	3 MBF	2.60 MBF	Ash Sawlogs
Red Maple Sawlogs	26 MBF	39.08 MBF	Red Maple Sawlogs
	29 MBF	41.68 Total MBF Cut	

Total Revenue for Sale: **\$41,525.06**

Balance: (\$2,175.69)

Bond Amount: \$9,625.00

Bond Type: Letter of Credit

Recommendation: **Close sale and return Letter of Credit and remaining balance in the account**

Tom Lovlien

To: Tom Lovlien
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Press Release: ICYMI: Gov. Evers Announces Budget Initiatives to Bolster Conservation, Strengthen Forestry Industry



Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 18, 2023

Contact: GovPress@wisconsin.gov

ICYMI: Gov. Evers Announces Budget Initiatives to Bolster Conservation, Strengthen Forestry Industry

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers today will visit Milwaukee’s Arborist Apprenticeship Program to highlight his 2023-25 biennial budget initiatives to strengthen Wisconsin’s forest regeneration and management, take preventative action against invasive species, and expand the forestry industry workforce across the state.

“Conservation is part of our DNA as Wisconsinites, and preserving our forestland and other outdoor spaces is not only important for Wisconsinites’ health and well-being but also critical to our state’s economic success.” said Gov. Evers. “From investing in forestry regeneration and mitigating invasive species to bolstering our vast forestry workforce, these investments are about protecting our environment and growing our economy for generations to come.”

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the forest products industry in Wisconsin accounts for more than 60,000 jobs and has a total industry output of \$24.4 billion, and for every 10 jobs in the forest products industry, 12 additional jobs are supported in other state sectors.

Over the last four years, Gov. Evers and the Evers Administration have prioritized strengthening Wisconsin’s forestry industry and promoting forestry across Wisconsin. The governor’s 2021-23 biennial budget increased the County Forest Acreage Share Payments from 30 cents to 63 cents—the first increased investment in more than 30 years. In April 2021, Gov. Evers also signed Executive Order #112, pledging to plant 75 million new trees in rural and urban areas and conserve 125,000 acres of forest in Wisconsin by 2030 in collaboration with public, private, and non-governmental partners. When fully realized Wisconsin’s tree pledge will result in nearly 29 million metric tons of carbon dioxide stored over the next 50 years.

Additionally, the governor has previously invested \$4 million each to the Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Technology (WIST) at the University of Wisconsin (UW)-Stevens Point and the Advanced

Manufacturing, Engineering Technology, and Apprenticeship (AMETA) Center at Mid-State Technical College (MSTC) to support their work to ensure the long-term viability of the state's paper and forest products industry. In addition, the governor previously provided up to \$8 million through the Workforce Innovation Grant Program for the Wisconsin Forestry Center at UW-Stevens Point to invest in their Forest Industry Workforce Recruitment and Development Initiative, as well as up to \$9 million through the same grant program to support construction of the AMETA Center at MSTC.

More information regarding the governor's proposal to support the state's forestry industry, from forest regrowth and resiliency to local county forest administrative support to expanding forestry workforce development programs, is available below.

Conserving and Protecting Wisconsin's Forestry Resources

The governor's budget will continue working toward the goals of Executive Order #112 by providing more than \$4.4 million to encourage the planting and growth of trees and forests, including:

- \$395,000 annually for forest regeneration on state-owned lands, including state forests;
- \$667,500 annually to provide technical and financial assistance to public landowners for reforestation, forest regeneration and management, with a focus on county forests; and
- \$627,800 to support the state nursery program to increase the production and distribution of seeds and seedlings for reforestation.

The governor is also proposing additional funding to support 30 county forests across Wisconsin, totaling over 2.4 million acres available to the public with:

- \$250,000 annually for county forest administration grants and sustainable forestry grants to support county forests; and
- \$128,300 annually to support wildlife habitat management on county forest lands.

The governor's budget proposal also provides \$957,600 to replace fire protection equipment used in combatting forest fires, ensuring firefighters and first responders have the tools they need to safely and effectively battle these fires.

Prevent Invasive Species

The governor is proposing more than \$2.7 million for invasive species prevention. Invasive species degrade natural habitats and make it more difficult and expensive to manage forests, parks, grasslands, and other natural spaces. This investment includes:

- \$589,500 annually for Terrestrial Invasive Species Protection;
- \$310,000 annually for the Resilient Forests Initiative, which provides grant funding to the Wisconsin Forest Landowner and Weed Management Area programs to assist with forest management and invasive plant control on private forest land; and
- \$475,000 annually for urban forestry grants to help communities with forest management, education and outreach, emerging invasive species threats and emergency storm response.

Growing Wisconsin's Forestry Industry and Workforce

Wisconsin's forestry industry is a critical part of the state's economy, but like many sectors, has struggled to attract and retain skilled forestry professionals.

The governor is proposing providing an additional \$500,000 over the biennium in his Executive Budget for both the WIST at UW-Stevens Point and the AMETA Center at MSTC to further support their critical work in building out Wisconsin's forestry and paper industry workforce.

Gov. Evers is also proposing providing \$195,000 to hire an outreach officer to work with groups that are historically underserved by traditional forestry and environmental higher education programs to help expand the pool of interested individuals in this vital industry and ensure the long-term viability of the industry.

Finally, Gov. Evers is proposing providing \$775,000 in fiscal year 2024 for the development of a forestry industry strategic plan and roadmap, which will help to retain existing businesses, identify new market opportunities, and drive innovation. This initiative was first recommended by the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Rural Prosperity.

An online version of this release is available [here](#).

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