

MARATHON COUNTY FORESTRY/RECREATION COMMITTEE AGENDA

AMENDED

<u>Date and Time of Meeting:</u> Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at <u>1:30pm</u> <u>Meeting Location:</u> Conference Room #2, 212 River Drive, Wausau WI 54403

MEMBERS: Arnold Schlei (Chairman), Rick Seefeldt (Vice-Chairman), Tom Rosenberg

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. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health directives, Marathon County encourages Committee members and the public to attend this meeting remotely. To this end, instead of attendance in person, Committee members and the public may attend this meeting by telephone conference. If Committee members or members of the public cannot attend remotely, Marathon County requests that appropriate safety measures, including adequate social distancing, be utilized by all in-person attendees.

Persons wishing to attend the meeting by phone may call into the telephone conference beginning five (5) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following number:

Phone Number: 1-408-418-9388 Access Code: 146 182 7403

When you enter the telephone conference, PLEASE PUT YOUR PHONE ON MUTE!

Agenda Items:

- 1. Call to Order
- Public Comment Period Not to Exceed 15 Minutes Any Person Who Wishes to Address the Committee Must Provide Name, Address and the Topic to the Chair of the Committee No Later Than Five Minutes Before the Start of the Meeting.
- 3. Approval of the Forestry Portion of the Minutes of the Tuesday, June 30, 2020 Joint Park Commission Forestry/Recreation Committee Meeting
- 4. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:
 - A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee
 - 1. Public Listening Session for Forestry/Recreation Committee to Accept Comments on the Draft Marathon County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan
 - 2. County Forest Citizen Advisory Subcommittee Appointments
 - 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. Begin Discussion on Timber Sale Extensions Due to Impacts of Covid-19 and Mill Closures – additional document added (Verso letter)

- B. Marathon County Forest Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Field Audit August 5, 2020
- C. History of Public Timber Sales Completed in Fiscal Year 2020

7. Next Meeting Date, Time, Location: September 1, 2020, 1:30pm, Rm. 2, 212 River Dr., Wausau, WI 54403

- A. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence
- B. Future Agenda Items: Preliminary Results of the Forest Certification Audit, Consider Approving Fall 2020 Timber Sale Package, WCFA Annual Fall Meeting, Review Revised 15-Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan Changes and Send to DNR for Thirty Day Review
- 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 INFOMARATHON@MAIL.CO.MARATHON.WI.US ONE BUSINESS DAY BEFORE THE MEETING.

NOTICE POSTED AT	COURTHOUSE:
-	

a.m/p.m.

FAXED TO:	Daily Herald and othe	<u>r News Media Groups</u>	By:	
FAXED BY:	Jodi Luebbe		Date:	
FAX DATE/TIME:	July 29, 2020	3:00 p.m.	Time:	

JOINT PARK COMMISSION AND FORESTRY/RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Park Commission Members present: Connie Conrad (President), Al Opall, Jean Maszk, Dawn Herbst, Pat Peckham, Rick Seefeldt (via phone)

Park Commission Members excused: James Wadinski

Forestry/Recreation Committee Members present: Tom Rosenberg, Arnie Schlei(c)(via phone), Rick Seefeldt (via phone)

Also present: Tom Lovlien-Forest Administrator, Marcus Aumann-Assistant Director Customer Service (via phone), Greg Freix-Assistant Director Operations, Jean Kopplin-I.T. (via phone), Dave Patridge-Administrative Manager

1. <u>Call Forestry/Recreation Committee meeting to order</u> – The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schlei at 1:33pm, Rm. 2, 212 River Dr., Wausau. Official notice and the agenda for the meeting was posted publicly in accordance with State statutes.

2. <u>Call Park Commission meeting to order</u> – The meeting was called to order by President Conrad at 1:34pm, Rm. 2, 212 River Dr., Wausau. Official notice and the agenda for the meeting was posted publicly in accordance with the State statutes.

3. <u>Public Comment</u> - temporarily suspended (details on agenda)

4. <u>Approve Minutes</u> – **Motion** by Peckham, second by Maszk to approve the minutes from the June 2, 2020 Park Commission meeting. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 6-0. **Motion** by Rosenberg, second by Schlei to approve the minutes from the May 5, 2020 Forestry/Recreation Committee meeting. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

5. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee and Commission to Forward to the Environmental Resource Committee for its Consideration

1. Review of Proposed Policy Revisions to Marathon County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan Chapters 1000 – 2000 – Lovlien said that both the Committee and Commission are reviewing these chapters because of recreation and the Park Commission has purview over some of those areas. The Forest Citizen's Advisory Subcommittee has reviewed them and unanimously recommended they move ahead for approval. Chapter 1000 is the appendix and includes an overview map of County forest locations and potential acquisition acreage by forest unit. The County's strategic plan supports blocking in County forests and purchasing lands for both parks and forests. Chapter 1000 also includes information on laws, ordinances, permits, use agreements, policies, contracts, facilities, reports, miscellaneous maps, and brochures. Chapter 2000 includes information on planning, reports, and budgets. There is historical information on timber sales, wildlife, timber stand improvements, recreational developments and wildlife projects. Monitoring is required due to forest certification and must be included in the plan so it can be compared to what it was before and what it's going to be now in terms of timber types and conversion to other types. Lovlien explained that the 15 year plan is not static and can be revised at any time. He noted that regarding recreation there is about the same amount of trail mileage as the last plan. Early in the process there was public comment asking for additional trails especially at Nine Mile. Nine Mile won't support any additional trails because of the amount of trails currently there, potential user conflicts, resource damage and safety. Attempts are made to spread out recreation throughout the County forest system so as not to have safety, resource or user conflicts. If there is a proposal for a new type of recreation or trails, there is language in the plan that covers it and the Committees, Commission and County Board would ultimately have to amend the plan which has been done in the past. The key to the whole 15year plan is to find a balance between all the uses. Lovlien said the thirty-day public comment period will start on July 13 and be followed by a public listening session at the August 4th Forestry/Recreation Committee meeting. The plan will go to the DNR for a review and then come back for final County Board approval in November. Lovlien encourages everyone to review the chapters online and submit comments. Questions were answered. Motion by Opall, second by Peckham to accept Chapters 1000 and 2000 as submitted (with a couple of minor grammatical changes) and forward them on to the Environmental Resource Committee. Motion carried by voice vote, vote reflected as 6-0. Motion by Schlei, second by Rosenberg to accept Chapters 1000 and 2000 as submitted (with a couple of minor grammatical changes) and forward them on to the Environmental Resource Committee. Motion carried by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports - Park Commission

A. Project Update – <u>Eau Claire Dells Campground Road</u>: Asphalt overlay is complete from Highway Y through the entire campground loop. Staff is completing shoulder work and site entrances with granite. <u>MPB #1</u>: Dasher board installation is complete. Staff is now working on treating dasher boards for puck marks and final glass cleaning. Refrigeration controller installation is in progress. <u>Marathon Park Farm Museum</u>: Contractor is preparing to move into farm museum for roof rebuild from winter snow load collapse. <u>Marathon Park Pickle Ball Courts</u>: Courts were color coated this week and nets were installed. Staff will work with contractor for last sections of fence installation. <u>McMillan Marsh</u>: Staff will work with the DNR to complete reconstruction (granite grading) on approximately 1 ¹/₄ mile of trail/dike. <u>Routine Operations/Programs</u>: Mowing Operations; all three mowing crews are in routing mode with full staffing. Urban forestry program; tree trimming, removals, stump grinding, EAB treatments in progress. Horticulture; Greenhouse plants are planted in outside beds. Building and structure maintenance. Shelter reservations and Special Events; Equipment maintenance and repair, Shooting Range, Marathon Junction, Campgrounds, Restroom Maintenance; increased maintenance (daily) and staffing due to COVID 19 recommendations. Questions were answered.

7. Park Commission Next Meeting Date & Time, Location - August 4, 2020 at 12:30pm, 212 River Dr., Rm. 5

A. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence - none brought forward

B. Future Agenda Items - Duane L. Corbin Shooting Range Rules, Park Commission and Department Overview

8. <u>Adjourn</u> – Park Commission. Park Commission Members are Welcome to Attend the Balance of the Forestry/Recreation Committee Meeting However No Further Action or Vote will be Taken by the Park Commission. **Motion** by Opall, second by Maszk to adjourn at 2:10 pm. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 6-0.

9. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee

1. Timbersale Closeout – Javorek Logging Contract #661-17 - A closeout summary was previously provided. Lovlien reported that the estimated number of tons was 2646 and 4060.03 tons were cut. Total revenue for this sale was \$75,305.56. Lovlien's recommendation is to close out Contract #661-17 and return their Letter of Credit. **Motion** by Rosenberg, second by Seefeldt to close out Javorek Logging Contract #661-17 and return their Letter of Credit. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

2. Timber sale Closeout – Javorek Logging Contract #691-20 - A closeout summary was previously provided. Lovlien reported that the estimated number of tons was 825 and 832.02 tons were cut. Total revenue for this sale was \$15,400.71. Lovlien's recommendation is to close out Contract #691-20 and return both their balance and their cash bond. **Motion** by Schlei, second by Seefeldt to close out Javorek Logging Contract #691-20 and return their balance and cash bond. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

3. Review and Consider Approving Revised Timeline for Completion of the Marathon County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan – Lovlien explained that because some of the Committee's changed their meeting dates he has updated the plan timeline. After today's meeting there will be a thirty-day public comment period followed by a listening session on August 4th at the Forestry/Recreation Committee meeting. This will be followed by a DNR review of the plan then to Park Commission and Forestry/Recreation Committee November 3rd and finally County Board on November 12th.

10. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee – none

11. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

A. Spring Timber Sale Bid Summary – Lovlien explained the summary that Keranen, the DNR Forest Liaison, puts together is to keep track historically on what the County is receiving for timber prices. About \$214,000 worth of timber was sold at the spring bid opening which is about \$768 an acre.

B. Update on the Romatowski Land Acquisition – Lovlien explained that the acquisition for this forty acres in the Village of Kronenwetter began more than a year ago. The owner had sent a letter stating he was willing to negotiate so an appraisal was done and DNR grant paperwork completed. Unfortunately, the landowner changed his mind and is going to keep the property. Some money was expended in the process but Lovlien said acquisitions are never guaranteed and unfortunately this happens occasionally. Questions were answered.

C. Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Certification Field Audit august 3-7, 2020 – Lovlien reported that this year Marathon County will have a field audit under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative. It is a third party audit where the auditors look at operations, policies and procedures to determine if the County meets standards under the program. The County is certified because the industry needs certified wood to be able to compete globally. Until last week it was going to be a virtual field audit but it will be done in-person instead sometime between August 3^{rd} - 7^{th} .

D. Verso Corporation Idles Mills in Wisconsin Rapids and Duluth – Lovlien said Verso has two sales with Marathon County and plans to fulfill those obligations and get them cut. Currently, the mill is studying a cooperative ownership business model whereby some different investors would potentially reopen the mill and they are also looking at selling the mill to other buyers that may be interested. The mill will be going through a third party evaluation to value it and then the owners will have to decide what they are going to do. This is stemming from the decrease in demand for high glossy paper used in advertisements. The demand has been going down the last several years and over the last three months during the pandemic orders went down 38%. Lovlien looked back five years at the amount of Marathon County wood hauled into the mill which has been about thirty percent of its volume. Being in central Wisconsin, Lovlien hopes the mill will reopen and the County can continue to harvest and sell their wood. If the forests aren't managed it may lead to forest health, disease, and fire risks in the future. Lovlien will continue to keep the Committee updated.

12. Next Meeting Date, Time, Location: August 4, 2020, 1:30pm, Rm. 2, 212 River Dr., Wausau WI 54403 A. Announcements/Requests/Correspondence – none brought forward

B. Future Agenda Items: Public Listening Session on the Draft Marathon County 15-Year County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Forest Citizens Advisory Subcommittee Appointments, Discussion on Timber Sale Extensions Due to Impacts of Covid-19 and Mill Closures

13. <u>Adjourn</u> – Forestry/Recreation Committee. **Motion** by Schlei, second by Seefeldt to adjourn the meeting at 2:30pm. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS ON FOREST CITIZENS ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – AUGUST 4, 2020

- 1. Mark Chickering Mountain Biking Expiring Sept. 1, 2022
- 2. John Burke Cross Country Skiing/Snowshoeing Expiring Sept. 1, 2022
- 3. Greg Klos Conservation Expiring Sept. 1, 2022
- 4. Susan Haug Birding Expiring Sept. 1, 2022
- 5. Mike Lane Hunting Expiring Sept. 1, 2022
- 6. Susan Stomieroski Equestrian Expiring Sept. 1, 2022

From: Rebekah Luedtke [mailto:wcfa@frontier.com]

Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 10:12 AM

To: Al Murray <almurr@vilascountywi.gov>; 'Brian Loyd' <pfadm@co.juneau.wi.us>; Carly DeVet <carly@co.forest.wi.us>; 'Chad Ziegler' <cziegler@co.monroe.wi.us>; Chris Hoffman <choffman05@live.com>; Dean Bowe <dean.bowe@co.lincoln.wi.us>; Eric Holm <eric.holm@co.price.wi.us>; 'Eric Peterson' <icfadmin@ironcountyforest.org>; Erik Rantala <erantala@co.langlade.wi.us>; 'Frederick "Fritz" Schubert' <fschubert@co.wood.wi.us>; Gary Zimmer <wcfa2@frontier.com>; 'Greg Peterson' <greg.peterson@sawyercountygov.org>; Jake Nichols <jnichols@burnettcounty.org>; Jake Walcisak <Jake.Walcisak@co.taylor.wi.us>; 'Jason Bodine' <jbodine@bayfieldcounty.org>; Jeremy Koslowski <jkoslowski@ruskcountywi.us>; 'Jim Zahasky' <jim.zahasky@centurytel.net>; 'John Cisek' <john.cisek@co.barron.wi.us>; 'Jon Harris' <jharris@douglascountywi.org>; Josh Pedersen <josh.pedersen@co.eau-claire.wi.us>; Kason Morley <kason.morley@co.adams.wi.us>; Mark Gossman <mark.gossman@co.polk.wi.us>; Matt Hansen <mhansen@co.chippewa.wi.us>; Matt Schultz (Ashland) <ashlandcountyforest@outlook.com>; 'Mike Peterson' <mlpeters@co.washburn.wi.us>; 'Monty Brink' <monty.brink@co.oconto.wi.us>; Nick Gilman <nick.gilman@vernoncounty.org>; 'Patrick Smith' <psmith@co.florence.wi.us>; 'Paul Fiene' <pfiene@co.oneida.wi.us>; 'Pete Villas' <PVillas@MARINETTECOUNTY.com>; 'Rick Dailey' <rick.dailey@co.clark.wi.us>; Tom Lovlien <Tom.Lovlien@co.marathon.wi.us>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Awareness: Contract extensions state sales

FYI

From: Berklund, Heather A - DNR <<u>Heather.Berklund@wisconsin.gov</u>>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 9:43 AM
To: Rebekah Luedtke <<u>wcfa@frontier.com</u>>
Subject: Awareness: Contract extensions state sales

Morning Rebekah!

Providing you an awareness that we instilled the attached guidance to our staff as it pertains to state and GNA timber sale contracts extensions. It is not a "blanket" extension for all sales (i.e. those with several extensions already, etc), but focusing on current expiring sales and those with only 1 extension thus far. Our staff will be reaching out direct to impacted logging contractors. We will continue to monitor and evaluate the impacts from COVID and with recent VERSO mill idling and make any adjustments accordingly. As always, feel free to reach out if you have specific questions.

Thanks again for the continued partnership -hope you can enjoy the weekend!

We are committed to service excellence. Visit our survey at <u>http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey</u> to evaluate how I did.

Heather Berklund WI DNR Division of Forestry Deputy Division Administrator of Forest Operations Cell Phone: 608-598-9068 <u>Heather.Berklund@wisconsin.gov</u>



CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE:	June 11, 2020
TO:	Division of Forestry District Forestry Leaders, Area Leaders, Team Leaders
FROM:	James K. Warren, Forestry Field Operations Bureau Director
SUBJECT:	Modification to DNR Timber Sale Extension Policy for June 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021 contacts

The Department of Natural Resources is committed to working with the forest products industry in these uncertain times. The impacts of COVID-19 have caused considerable volatility in the forest products marketplace, ranging from temporary layoffs and mill closures to unforeseen changes in roundwood consumption and product demand for many mills. These impacts have caused hardship and uncertainties for timber contractors working in partnership with the Division to carry out timber sales on state lands. In order to help accommodate these challenging conditions, the Division of Forestry will be modifying our timber sale contract extension policy.

For DNR (including GNA) timber sale contracts. At the request of the contractor (email, phone call, in-person contact, letter, etc.), DNR timber sale contracts within the original contract period or 1st extension may be extended to provide one additional year in which to complete harvest operations without a stumpage price increase, even if one was scheduled as an original condition of the contract. This policy only applies to DNR timber sale contracts that will be expiring between June 1, 2020 and July 1, 2021 and that have not been completed, in whole or in part.

The property manager must be notified of any timber sale contract amendment and is authorized to sign contract amendments. This temporary policy should be communicated (email, phone call, inperson contact, or letter) to affected timber sale contractors locally in order to help with the planning and scheduling of their work.

Timber sale contracts amended pursuant to this temporary policy shall be completed following the standard contract amendment procedures outlined in Timber Sale Handbook. <u>Ensure that the Letter of Credit gets</u> <u>extended accordingly and the timber sale information is updated in WisFIRS.</u> In the case of a contract extension exceeding four years in total contract length, the District Forestry Leader shall also sign the Timber Sale Contract Amendment Approval Form.

Questions on the implementation of this policy can be directed to Doug Brown at (715) 966-0157 or Douglas.brown@wisconsin.gov.

Cc: SLT

Keith Warnke- FWP Aaron Buchholz- FWP Forestry Property Managers Doug Brown Teague Prichard





Executive Committee:

Bruce "Sparky" Enstrom	Matt Jensen	Dave Slater	Troy Brown	Guy Longhini	Mark Huempfner	Max Ericson	Henry Schienebeck
President	WI Vice President	MI Vice President	Secretary/Treasurer	Member at Large	Member at Large	Past President	Executive Director
Menominee, MI	Crandon, WI	Gwinn, MI	Antigo, WI	Toivola, MI	Wausaukee, WI	Minong, WI	Rhinelander, WI

April 14, 2020

Board of Directors:

Jeff Bean Arpin, WI

Scott Bowe Madison, WI

Aaron Burmeister Seymour, WI

Mike Elenz Kingsford, MI

Kevin Haustein Bessemer, MI

Dave Johnson Quinnesec, MI

Scott Koerner Oshkosh, WI

Tim Lee Mellen, WI

Larry Lloyd Homewood, IL

Rebekah Luedtke Rhinelander, WI

Todd Penrose Ishpeming, MI

Todd Pond Tomahawk, WI

Todd Shamion Crystal Falls, MI

Jordan St. John Spalding, MI

Tony Siverling Eau Claire, WI

Mike Sturgill Onaway, MI

Allan Suzan Ojibwa, WI

DJ Zellar Germfask, MI Dear Ms. Luedke,

Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association (GLTPA) greatly appreciates the efforts of Wisconsin's County Forest professionals to keep timber sales operating in this time of uncertainty.

As you are aware, the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak is causing widespread disruption in the economy, wood products are no exception to this. While we do not yet know how long this outbreak will last and should there be considerable disruption in wood flow, GLTPA respectfully requests that WCFA member counties consider taking steps wherever possible to ensure that purchasers of county timber remain viable during this pandemic. There are several areas over which none of us have control however, there are some opportunities which can be of value in helping recovery begin much faster once this pandemic is under control.

With that in mind GLTPA is asking WCFA member counties to consider taking the following actions to assist GLTPA member companies and the forest products industry as they manage this disruption.

First, provide timber sale contract holders with a no cost one-year extension on all county timber sales due to expire between now and the end of 2020.

To the extent practicable, release deposits and bonds within 20 working days of timber sale completion allowing purchasers to retain and conserve cash for future operations.

It is also critical that county forest personnel continue preparing and advertising new timber sales. Current conditions will undoubtedly have a long-term impact on wood consuming markets. In order to shorten the length of this negative impact, GLTPA is asking that counties consider eliminating minimum bid requirements or having an overall sale minimum as opposed to tree species or product specific minimums. This will allow market conditions to utilize raw fiber value as a means of helping loggers and industry recover more rapidly once this pandemic is stabilized.

Finally, GLTPA is asking that consideration be given to reducing bid bonds and performance bonds to 5%. Doing so will allow contractors to have additional credit lines and cash available for business operations in these uncertain times.

GLTPA believes taking these suggested steps will help ensure that timber purchasers remain viable by not having to comply with contract provisions which no longer align with current market realities. Hopefully WCFA members agree retaining viable forest management capacity is critical to reducing the risk of large-scale fires, insect outbreaks on Wisconsin's forests, and maintaining the health of our rural economies.

We thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Henry Silienebeck

Bruce "sporky" Enste

Henry Schienebeck, GLTPA Executive Director

Bruce "Sparky" Enstrom, GLTPA President

The Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association (GLTPA) is a non-profit organization representing loggers, truckers, sawmills, paper manufacturers, private and commercial forest landowners, forestry professionals, school districts and outdoor recreation enthusiasts in Michigan and Wisconsin. GLTPA's mission is to "Protect a Multiple-Use Forest for Future Generations".

3243 Golf Course Road P.O. Box 1278, Rhinelander WI 54501 Phone (715)-282-5828 Fax (715)-282-4941 www.gltpa.org



Congress of the United States

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515–4907 July 24, 2020

Mr. Adam St. John President and Chief Executive Officer Verso Corporation 8540 Gander Creek Drive Miamisburg, Ohio 45342

Dear Mr. St. John,

I was disappointed by the announcement that Verso plans to shut down the mill in Wisconsin Rapids, eliminating up to 900 direct jobs and adversely impacting many other businesses in the region whose fortunes are tied directly to the continued operation of the facility. The Verso board should reconsider this decision.

I am also concerned that the closure of the mill may harm the viability of Wisconsin's critically important forest products industry and the adverse consequences that shuttering this facility may inflict on broader forest management efforts and overall forest health. Moreover, local taxpayers could be stuck with costs associated with environmental mitigation in the event of a sudden closure – adding insult to injury.

Verso's "social responsibility" mission statement outlines a corporate commitment to be "an active participant in the communities where our employees live, work and play," and a dedication to "the health and vitality of these communities." In keeping with those guiding principles, Verso should seek to emulate the example of the Mead Family, which made a long-term commitment to the economic well-being of the region and its educational, environmental and social fabric for the nearly 100 years they previously operated the mill.

I hope you will continue working with state and local leaders to seek an alternative to this abrupt and permanent closure and explore options like repurposing production, seeking a buyer willing to continue operating the facility at full capacity, or considering a gradual wind-down of operations while other options can be considered.

Thank you in advance for your consideration, and I look forward to working with you to identify a fairer outcome for the mill and for Wisconsin.

Singerely. P

Tom Tiffany Member of Congress

	COUNTY FORESTS											
	Co	Completed Sales										
Fiscal Year	# of Sales	Acres	\$ Stumpage	MBF	Cords	Cd. Equiv.	Avg.	\$/ Cd Eq.	Αv	g. \$/Acre		
2009	831	50,043	\$31,347,277	16,187	823,523	860,187	\$	36.44	\$	626.41		
2010	790	49,827	\$30,104,238	17,474	832,619	871,789	\$	34.53	\$	604.18		
2011	744	46,378	\$27,991,361	16,244	749,512	785,872	\$	35.62	\$	603.55		
2012	809	58,068	\$36,104,844	21,135	929,846	976,808	\$	36.96	\$	621.77		
2013	756	56,670	\$34,579,808	21,896	883,581	932,277	\$	37.09	\$	610.20		
2014	671	45,450	\$30,691,157	17,009	738,214	775,990	\$	39.55	\$	675.27		
2015	706	49,277	\$38,863,371	20,635	857,038	902,996	\$	43.04	\$	788.67		
2016	644	45,108	\$41,672,407	20,316	769,437	814,560	\$	51.16	\$	923.84		
2017	581	39,285	\$37,483,619	20,871	653,379	699,643	\$	53.58	\$	954.15		
2018	667	48,340	\$45,247,329	24,105	837,030	890,364	\$	50.82	\$	936.02		
2019		42,242	\$43,709,114	26,774	797,744	857,224	\$	50.99	\$	1,034.73		
2020	533	36,835	\$34,907,659	21,895	705,390	753,888	\$	46.30	\$	947.68		
Ave.	8,404 700	567,523 47,294	\$432,702,182 \$36,058,515			10,121,597 843,466	\$	42.75	\$	762.44		

COMPLETED PUBLIC FOREST TIMBER SALES FY2009-2020

	STATE FORESTS										
	Co	Completed Sales									
Fiscal Year	# of Sales	Acres	\$ Stumpage	MBF	Cords	Cd. Equiv.	Avg.	. \$/ Cd Eq.	Avg	. \$/Acre	
2009	105	9,359	\$5,937,784	4,303	147,662	157,529	\$	37.69	\$	634.45	
2010	89	9,649	\$5,916,323	3,911	155,264	164,185	\$	36.03	\$	613.15	
2011		10,621	\$7,087,706	4,037	188,705	197,872	\$	35.82	\$	667.33	
2012	108	12,034	\$7,754,740	3,883	198,685	207,554	\$	37.36	\$	644.40	
2013	97	10,777	\$6,580,127	3,094	160,946	167,912	\$	39.19	\$	610.57	
2014	110	9,722	\$6,972,476	3,344	164,662	172,291	\$	40.47	\$	717.19	
2015	106	9,804	\$6,960,005	2,507	148,640	154,234	\$	45.13	\$	709.91	
2016	91	8,510	\$6,002,581	2,091	137,290	141,980	\$	42.28	\$	705.36	
2017	111	10,828	\$8,242,016	3,775	183,037	191,563	\$	43.03	\$	761.18	
2018	79	6,433	\$4,868,210	2,495	105,260	111,007	\$	43.85	\$	756.76	
2019		11,842	\$8,099,810	2,609	186,830	192,585	\$	42.06	\$	683.99	
2020	86	8,289	\$6,063,400	2,523	140,275	145,906	\$	41.56	\$	731.50	
Ave.	1,169 97	117,868 9,822	\$80,485,178 \$6,707,098	38,572 3,214	,- ,	2,004,617 167,051	\$	40.15	\$	682.84	

	OTHER ST	ATE LAND	IS							
	Co	Completed Sales								
Fiscal Year	# of Sales	Acres	\$ Stumpage	MBF	Cords	Cd. Equiv.	Avg	. \$/ Cd Eq.	Avg	. \$/Acre
2009	162	7,213	\$3,990,546	2,441	123,508	129,010	\$	30.93	\$	553.24
2010	116	4,196	\$2,127,668	1,989	72,131	76,601	\$	27.78	\$	507.07
2011		4,570	\$2,968,123	2,228	84,659	89,616	\$	33.12	\$	649.48
2012	100	3,886	\$2,220,994	1,668	63,844	67,543	\$	32.88	\$	571.54
2013	122	5,370	\$3,162,456	1,739	106,078	109,925	\$	28.77	\$	588.91
2014	155	7,931	\$5,255,785	2,874	151,946	158,319	\$	33.20	\$	662.69
2015	118	6,082	\$4,121,138	3,983	111,663	120,634	\$	34.16	\$	677.60
2016	132	7,166	\$4,456,623	3,518	104,353	112,118	\$	39.75	\$	621.91
2017	144	6,433	\$4,645,845	3,652	110,990	119,194	\$	38.98	\$	722.19
2018	118	7,102	\$4,693,785	3,403	116,199	123,727	\$	37.94	\$	660.91
2019		7,895	\$5,360,999	2,988	128,366	134,954	\$	39.72	\$	679.04
2020	129	6,335	\$3,687,300	2,759	106,165	112,288	\$	32.84	\$	582.05
Ave.	1,527 127	74,179 6,182	\$46,691,261 \$3,890,938	33,242 2,770	1,279,902 106,658	1,353,927 112,827	\$	34.49	\$	629.44

	STATE LA	NDS TOTA	L							
	Co	Completed Sales								
Fiscal Year	# of Sales	Acres	\$ Stumpage	MBF	Cords	Cd. Equiv.	Avg. \$/ Cd Eq.	Avg	I. \$/Acre	
2009	267	16,572	\$ 9,928,330	6,744	271,170	286,538	\$ 34.65	\$	599.10	
2010	205	13,845	\$ 8,043,991	5,900	227,394	240,786	\$ 33.41	\$	581.00	
2011	190	15,191	\$ 10,055,828	6,265	273,365	287,487	\$ 34.98	\$	661.96	
2012	208	15,920	\$ 9,975,734	5,552	262,529	275,097	\$ 36.26	\$	626.62	
2013	219	16,147	\$ 9,742,584	4,833	267,024	277,836	\$ 35.07	\$	603.37	
2014	265	17,653	\$ 12,228,261	6,217	316,609	330,610	\$ 36.99	\$	692.70	
2015	224	15,886	\$ 11,081,142	6,490	260,302	274,868	\$ 40.31	\$	697.54	
2016	223	15,676	\$ 10,459,184	5,609	241,643	254,098	\$ 41.16	\$	667.21	
2017	255	17,261	\$ 13,701,456	7,427	294,026	310,757	\$ 44.09	\$	793.78	
2018	197	13,535	\$ 9,561,995	5,898	221,459	234,734	\$ 40.74	\$	706.46	
2019	228	19,737	\$ 13,460,809	5,597	315,195	327,539	\$ 41.10	\$	682.01	
2020	215	14,624	\$ 9,750,699	5,282	246,440	258,194	\$ 37.77	\$	666.76	
Ave.	1,578 225	144,151 16,017	95,216,510 10,579,612	/	2,414,062 268,229	2,538,077 282,009	\$ 37.52	\$	660.53	

* State & County - Rpt. 28B

*State Forests include NF & SF prop types

***Other State Lands include all other prop types (except NF & SF)
***Data available from Rpt. 28B (County Forest Lands-All, DNR State Forests-All, & DNR State Lands (Excl. State Forests)-All)
C:\Users\brownde\Documents\Timber Sales\Annual Reports_CY & FY\Fiscal Year Reports\Public T.Sales Completed FY2009-2020

Updated by: K. Buchholtz 7/2/20