

Randolph Forest Commission Minutes

Date: January 8, 2014
Location: Randolph Town Hall
Members Present: John Scarinza – Chair, Doug Mayer, Jeff Parker, Walter Graff, Mark Kelley
Others Present: David Willcox, Dana Horne

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

- I. Minutes of the December 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved
- II. Dana Horne, the Randolph Fire Chief attended the meeting to request that the Randolph Forest Commission support a grant for Forest Fire items. The list includes; Wildlife fire shirts, one Portable Fire Pump, four Backpack Pumps and Hose and Accessories for the Forest Fire Vehicle with a total of \$3,210.60. The State of NH pays for 1/2 and Matching Funds by the RCF would be \$1,605.30. In addition, the forest fire vehicle requires a new fuel tank in the amount of \$1000. A motion to support these two requests for a total of \$2,605.30 was made and seconded. All members present voted in favor.
- III. Forrest Hicks had begun cutting on the Ledge Timber Sale. Because of the recent rainfall, a dangerous icepack has developed on the road. Due to safety concerns, the loggers will skid the material on a different trail and exit through an alternate route. This will involve re-decking a bridge earlier than expected, however this project was in the budget for the current fiscal year.
- IV. At the Randolph Planning Board meeting, a few budget items were added to the RCF budget and approved. They included: \$10,000 for mowing on Pond of Safety Side of RCF; \$2000 Mowing at the Farrar Property; \$4,000 to pay the Randolph Mountain Club to re-route the trails when the Trailhead Parking is created and \$10,000 to remove old buildings on the Farrar property
- V. Mary Malcom, who owns approximately 100 acres abutting the RCF, called to explore any possibilities of selling her land to the RCF. In order

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to move the question, the RFC authorized an appraisal of the property by Goddard & Associates.

- VI. Recently another property that abuts the RCF came up for sale. It's a 72 acre parcel on the South side of Route 2, in the area of Bowman. It's the head waters of the Moose River for \$95,000 and deeded for limited building opportunities.
- VII. Coos County Soil Conservation Agency in conjunction with the Essex (VT) County Soil Conservation Agency developed a Willow Plantation. At a recent meeting of the CCSCA, suggested approaching the RFC to see if there was interest in developing a Willow Plantation on the RCF. Willows are extensively used in river bank washout repair. It doesn't require a large tract of land and the CCSCA would be very involved in the project. John Scarinza will ask Michael Harrington from the CCSCA to attend a future meeting of the RFC.
- VIII. Doug Mayer brought the board up to date on some improvements to the website, which has received some wonderful responses.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday February 5, at 7:00 PM in the Randolph Town Hall.