

**THE RANDOLPH FOREST COMMISSION
(SPECIAL MEETING)**

July 25, 2015

Members Present: John Scarinza, Walter Graff and Jeff Parker

Alternates Present: David Willcox

The chairman opened the meeting at 9:00 am. He asked David to sit for Doug Mayer.

He then turned to the primary item on the agenda of this special meeting: consideration of the budget and other materials relating to the Dirt to Trees to Wildlife (DTW) project. These had been developed by GRANIT staff of the University of New Hampshire and represented the estimated cost and scope of work needed to develop the software for the program. They were forwarded to the Commission by the County Forester, Brendan Prusik. Because the Commission had put up the money needed to complete this critical first step, it was necessary for the Commission to approve the budget and scope of work.

There was a discussion of the project and its potential for helping landowners manage forests to create habitats for specific types of wildlife. At the end of that discussion David moved that the budget and scope of work be approved. Walter seconded the motion and it was adopted.

After the software is available, there will be a need for testing it, and then a need for demonstrating its viability for statewide application. It is the understanding of the Commission that the Randolph Community Forest (RCF) will be the “beta site” for both of these steps and that the program developers will acknowledge the role played by the Town of Randolph in helping to bring the project to fruition.

It is hoped that some of those who come to see the DTW project in action will decide to use the RCF for other research projects of their own.

The Commission then turned to consideration of two invoices recently received. The first was an invoice from Acadia Inc. in the amount of \$2000. This represented the cost of testing the buildings on the Farrar Farm (part of the RCF) for asbestos, in preparation for their demolition. The good news is that the oldest house (which has to be demolished within the next week in order to have its granite blocks available for the work at the Pond of Safety on schedule) does not have to have any asbestos removed. This clears the way for its timely demolition.

Walter moved that payment of this invoice be approved. It was seconded by Jeff and the motion passed.

The second invoice was from White Mountain Lumber Company in the amount of \$4.98 for materials in connection with the interpretative trail under construction near the new parking lot/trailhead off of Randolph Hill Road.

David moved that payment of the invoice be approved. Walter seconded the motion and it was passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by general consent at 10:05 am.

Respectfully submitted

David L. Willcox
Acting Secretary

Posted at Town Hall on July 27, 2015

