Exeter Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes Wheelwright Room, Exeter Town Offices December 15, 201

Call Meeting to Order

Members Present: Acting Chairman Carlos Guindon called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm in the Wheelwright Room of the Exeter Town Offices. Additional members present included Peter Richardson, Virginia Raub, Don Briselden, Cynthia Field, Bill Campbell, and Selectmen's Representative Nancy Belanger.

Staff Present: Kristen Murphy, Natural Resource Planner

Action Items

1. Review of Logging Bids for Henderson Swasey Town Forest Timber Harvest.

Carlos Guindon introduced contracted forester Charlie Moreno who presented the Commission with three bids for logging of the Town Forest in accordance with the forest management plan. Bids were summarized in a table for comparison purposes. It was noted how close the bids were and Don Briselden remarked that this is indicative of bidders being very clear on the scope of work. In response to questions by board members, Mr. Moreno discussed that the proceeds included in the table were based on estimates from field cruising of the forest conducted by he and his assistant Greg, noted that the actual bids submitted were based on board feet and that the ultimate value will be determined by the mill. Actual amounts may vary based on log condition. Bids also included improvements to roads and landing areas and the Commission discussed differences in those bids. Other topics discussed included the need for traffic control when the trucks are leaving the site, the forester and logging companies role in the wetland application, and that the town has the ability to waive the timber tax fees. He clarified an important step prior to signing the contract is for the Commission to determine if the Board of Selectmen is supportive of waiving the timber tax. The Commission also asked how this project ranks in terms of complexity or size with respect to typical harvest. Mr. Moreno stated the recreation use, density of trails, the rockiness of the site and the incorporation of a gasline crossing all contribute to make this is a complex logging operation.

Mr. Campbell made a motion to select Sweets Logging and Land Clearing as the logging contractor, second by *Mr.* Briselden.

VOTE: Unanimous

2. Minimum Impact Dredge and Fill application for 209 Water Street for the replacement of the 2,440 square foot PEA seasonal boat dock with a 2,920 square foot dock.

Roger Wakeman from PEA and Luke Hurley from Gove Environmental presented the project to the Commission. It was clarified the replacement dock would extend 30' beyond the

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existing dock and will add boat slips to the design. In response to questions, it was clarified that the material will be high density polyethylene and a brochure showing the surface design was passed around. Concerns were expressed about the ability of light to penetrate through the dock in order to support submerged aquatic vegetation. Mr. Hurley said they could look into it.

Mr. Richardson made a motion to recommend approval to the State as presented, seconded by *Mrs.* Field.

Vote: Unanimous.

With no further business, Mr. Briselden made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Campbell. Vote: Unanimous. Mr. Guindon adjourned the meeting at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Kristen Murphy Natural Resource Planner