



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Water Resources Board
Justice William E. Powers Building, Third Floor
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908
(401) 574-8400 ♦ FAX: (401) 574-8401

PROPERTY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
April 8, 2008

Members Present:

Frank Perry
Jay Aron

Members Absent:

William Penn
Jesse Rodrigues
Richard Mignanelli
William Parsons

Staff Present:

Juan Mariscal
Romeo Mendes

Guests

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Perry called the meeting to order at 10:50 AM noting that a quorum was not present therefore there would be no action taken on agenda items and all discussion would be for the purpose of making recommendations to the full board.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Due to the lack of a quorum no action could be taken on minutes. Mr. Perry mentioned that a copy of the March 11, 2008 minutes was not included in the packet that was sent out to committee members and that same should be reviewed for approval at a future meeting.

III. ITEMS FOR ACTION:

Contract with Ocean State Environmental for the sum of \$5,000 for required demolition work at 104 Arrowhead Road, Coventry within the BRMA – Request for Approval

Discussion: Mr. Perry introduced the item noting that the work consisted of demolishing a garage on the property per the recommendation of the State Building Code Commission. Mr. Mendes explained that a request for demolition at this location had come before the board at its last meeting and was approved but due to contractor error another structure on Arrowhead Road, which incidentally also required demolition, was taken down instead. The contractor was taken to the correct site and provided the current quotation. Upon concluding discussion of the item, the consensus of the committee was to issue an advisory to the full board to approve the request

Maple Root Corporation Replacement of Deck, 29 Park Lane #176 - Request for Approval

Discussion: Mr. Perry explained that Maple Root was requesting permission to allow a deck and ramp to be removed from an existing site within the mobile home park that is not part of BRMA and re-constructed on the proper footings at 29 Park Lane #176 which is located on State Property. Upon concluding discussion of the item, the consensus of the committee was to issue an advisory to the full board to approve the request subject to required permits and approval from the State Building Code Commission being obtained and final review by the board's supervising engineer.

Thibault request for approval to access landlocked parcels –Request for Approval

Discussion: Mr. Perry relayed that the Thibault family was requesting permission to travel across BRMA property to access two lots that became landlocked when the majority of their property was taken as part of the original Big River Reservoir condemnation. The parcels in question are located near the Cardi Quarry operation. In addition to being given permission to travel through the BRMA they are requesting that they be given keys to the gates on New London Turnpike so that they may utilize both the paved and unpaved sections of New London turnpike as well as other unpaved roads/trails to transport firewood from their property. After discussion it was the consensus of the committee that the request as presented be denied since compensation for the loss of access to the two parcels was included in the amount paid for the Thibault's land during the condemnation. It should be communicated to the Thibaults that the BRMA is open space and no special permission is required for them to travel across said space to the two lots in question. Providing keys to the gates and allowing vehicular access however present significant problems so these are not recommended.

Stage 11 Productions request to use Big River Desert for filming

Discussion: Mr. Perry explained that the request was to do a maximum of two days of filming on the sand dunes in the area of Division Road and Route 95. Discussion of the matter did not reveal any major issues as the entity was working with the State Film Office and the National Guard on the project. Mr. Aron relayed that the DEM Law Enforcement and Natural Resources Divisions should be notified. The discussion concluded and it was the consensus of the committee to issue an advisory to the full board to approve the request as long as Stage 11 works with DEM Environmental Police with regard to any additional measures needing to be put in place.

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Phase VII Timber Harvest — Mr. Aron indicated that due to the various skid operators utilized by the contractor to remove felled trees, more damage to remaining trees and disturbance of the ground cover along the main exit trail than he had anticipated had occurred. Although the damage to the trees that will remain is disconcerting, it can be lived with; however, the condition of the main skid trail cannot. The trail will need a significant amount of restorative work due to use after the winter thaw. Once drier conditions prevail the contractor will begin the required trail maintenance and reseeded work and the area will be left in at least the condition it was in before the work started. Mr. Aron indicated further that overall he was unsatisfied with the contractor's work as far as timing went but he felt it would be unproductive to push for the job to be completed as soon as possible because the quality of work remaining to be done would degrade. It is

better to work with the individual and document the difficulties and when everything is said and done there will be an official recommendation put in the file indicating that even if the individual wins a future bid, another contract should not be awarded based on what occurred on phase VII.

Fishing Access - The opening of fishing season is April 12, 2008 and there has been a request from local residents and DEM to keep the Camp Bosco gate open beginning that day through the 21st. The preliminary determination is to leave the gate open unless there is a problem with dumping of trash. WRB, DEM Fish & Wildlife along with Environmental Police will monitor the area and if there is any evidence of dumping the gate will be locked immediately.

V. OPEN CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH RIGL SECTION 42-46-5(2) & (5): BRMA Property Leases

Mr. Perry requested a motion pursuant to RI General Laws 42-46-5 (2) & (5) that this committee move into Executive Session to discuss a situation that had arisen pertaining to a BRMA rental property. **Motion** by Mr. Aron second by Mr. Perry to go into executive session. Roll call vote:

Mr. Perry - Yes
Mr. Aron - Yes

The committee proceeded into Executive Session.

At 11:46 the committee returned to regular session

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:48 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Romeo N. Mendes, P.E, Supervising Civil Engineer

**Note: The full proceeding of this meeting is available on audiotape by request.*

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