

NOTICE OF AITKIN COUNTY TIMBER SALE

REGULAR ORAL BID AUCTION

Monday, May 22nd, 2017

Pursuant to Chapter 355, Laws of 1941, as amended, the following timber on tax-forfeited land within Aitkin County will be offered for sale WITHOUT the sale of land at 10:00 **AM** on Monday, May 22nd, 2017 at the Long Lake Conservation Center in the Northstar Lodge in Palisade, Minnesota 56469.

Timber will be sold to the highest bidder at not less than the appraised value and in conformity with the cutting regulations given on the permit. Bidding shall be by ORAL BID only. The right to accept/reject any or all bids is reserved by the county. The minimum bid accepted will be 1% over the previous bid. The bidder with the highest bid raise will be awarded the sale of the timber. No bidder shall act in any capacity on behalf of a non-qualifying person, partnership, or company for the purpose of procuring rights to purchase timber from Aitkin County. The price of each species will be computed on a weighted average, based on the volume and price of each specie and the total bid price.

No bid shall be accepted from any bidder having a delinquent or uncollectible timber sale account with any county, state, or federal agency or from any bidder involved in a pending timber trespass case with any county, state or federal agency.

On the day of the sale, immediately after the auction is completed, the successful bidder for each tract must submit a bid guarantee of 15% of the appraised price to be deposited with the Land Commissioner. Thirty days from the date of the sale, is allowed for the delivery of the balance of the down payment (15% of the bid price). If the down payment of 15% of the bid price is not paid within the 30 days, interest will be charged on the amount owed past 30 days. If the balance of the down payment and / or the permit is not paid within 30 days after the auction date, cancellation of the permit may result.

Payment of the full price of the sale plus a performance bond or payment equaling 10% of the total bid price, must be made prior to cutting. A presale meeting with the forester is required before any cutting may commence.

A one year extension will be granted at the discretion of the County Forester. The fee for the extension is 10% of the uncut balance, as determined from the County Land Office sale record or \$20.00 whichever is greater.

The performance bond will be kept by the county and will be returned upon satisfactory completion of the sale, as judged by the County Forester when notified of the sale completion. The Land Department should be notified of the completion of the sale within 30 days after cutting.

ALL PRODUCTS TO BE SCALED UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

Access to the permit areas shall be the responsibility of the successful bidder. Bidder also agrees to the attached cutting regulations. Contact the Land Department about the possibility of assistance on access road development (culverts, fill, fiber matting, etc.) on individual tracts.

PLEASE NOTE:

County Timber Permit # must be written on all loads of wood products hauled from County Lands as required on county timber permits. Failure to mark the loads could result in loads being treated as trespass.

Aitkin County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment and the provision of services. Prospective bidders who require special accommodations to participate in this sale should inform the Land Department as soon as possible and more than three working days before the sale. You may write to Aitkin County Land Department at 209 2nd St. NW Aitkin, MN. 56431 or call 218-927-7364.

Lists of timber offered may be obtained from the Aitkin County Land Department, 209 2nd St. NW Room 206 (Courthouse) Aitkin, MN. 56431 after April 24th, 2017.

Witnessed my hand this 24th day of April, 2017.

Mark Jacobs,
Aitkin County Land Commissioner

TIMBER OFFERED AT THIS SALE IS FROM FOREST LAND INDEPENDENTLY CERTIFIED BY SmartWood IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF THE FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL™ (SW-FM-COC-000028). Any wood, that is being sold as FSC© certified wood (including sold on area estimate), must follow the chain of custody process – consumer scale agreements must be signed for the mill and tickets used for the wood.

Special Notes Regarding Letters of Credit (LOC):

Aitkin County accepts irrevocable letters of credit for tracts on this sale.

The 15% down of the appraised (due the day of the sale) and bid up price will need to be paid for in cash within the first 30 days as per usual. Performance bonds and extensions must be paid for in cash.

The balance of the purchase price may be paid for with a letter of credit. The letter of credit must be for 100% of the purchase price. The 10% bond must be paid for in cash.

The terms of the letter of credit must be as such:

100% of purchase price.

The letter of credit must be for an undefined period of time.

If a scale is entered against the sale and not paid for in 30 days, on the 31st day a draw **may be made** against the letter of credit.

The letter of credit will not be released by Aitkin County until the forester has declared the sale finished, all tickets are accounted for, and the sale is closed.

The letter of credit will not be accepted by any person or organization having a trespass, outstanding timber sale balance, or an unresolved issue with any land department, State DNR, or Federal organization.

The letter of credit can only be obtained from a financial institution that is Federally sanctioned.

If a permit holder abuses the letter of credit and a sale is not paid for in full or a draw is required against the LOC, no other letters of credit will be accepted as payment for a timber sale from this permit holder for a period of 5 years.

Special Note regarding chipping on timber sales

All timber tracts on this sale will be eligible for chipping unless the tract indicates otherwise. If a chipping operation purchases a tract and any products are chipped, all products on that sale are sold on scale and will be sold on a weighted average. Tops will be deducted off each scale at 10% of appraised volume at \$3.50 a cord. The balance will be sold on the weighted average. As of January 1st, 2010 all sales chipping will be computed at this rate.

No full tree skidding means that the tops must be cut off the tree where it falls and then the trunk may be skidded out of the woods to the landing.

Special Note regarding Basswood on Sale

As of November 2012, the Aitkin County Land Department is enforcing a utilization standard of 6" for basswood. All other species will continue to have a 4" standard unless stated in writing.