

## WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2011

LWCD Conference Room, James P. Coughlin Center

Convene: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Farrey at 9:00 a.m.

Present: **LCC Members:** Nancy Barker, Bruce Bohn, Paul Eisen, James Englebert, Chuck Farrey and Dan Stokes.

**LWCD Staff:** Tom Davies, Melanie Leet, Chad Casper and Keith Marquardt.

Others Present: Brian Maedke and Berry Benson, USDA-APHIS, Wildlife Services and Pat Lake, NRCS

Absent: Ken Neubauer

Approve December 2, 2010, LCC Meeting Minutes: A Barker/Eisen motion to approve the December 2, 2010 LCC meeting minutes, passed 6-0

### Announcements:

- Tom welcomed James Englebert and asked him to introduce himself. The attendees of the meeting returned introductions.
- Pat Lake recapped the current EQIP and CSP signup situation.
- Tom announced that approximately \$80,000 of state cost sharing was being carried over into 2011 to fund projects contracted in 2010 and installed in 2011. A standard operating procedure.
- Tom informed the LCC that LWCD had received the official order from the Secretary of Agriculture approving the WC Land and Water Resource Management Plan.
- Tom routed a card received from the family of John Reinert.
- Tom distributed information regarding non-federal wetlands and Governor Walker's plans to remove protection for wetlands under two acres in size.
- Tom passed out the LWLWCA January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011, "Planning Meeting" information. The meeting is being held at the Coughlin Center. Tom instructed the LCC to notify LWCD if they planned to attend by January 14, 2011.
- Tom announced that the Town of Neenah had applied for a Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant for the Herziger Conservancy Park land purchase. Tom suggested sending a letter of support from the LCC and LWCD. Chairman Farrey agreed and requested it be done.
- Tom distributed the revised LCC Member and LWCD Staff Directory.
- Nancy Barker announced that GL-RC&D was going to host an urban chicken raising session at the WC Expo in late March. Tom said he would contact our Ag Agent, Nick Schneider regarding the event.

### Business Items:

#### Update on 2010 Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program

Brian Maedke reviewed the program for the LCC and announced that he would no longer have Winnebago County in his assigned territory. Brian introduced Berry Benson as the individual that will oversee Winnebago County going forward. Berry explained he was a veteran with WDACP and that things would not change regarding program implementation. The LCC expressed its appreciation to Brian for all his fine work over the years and wished him well. The LCC welcomed Berry to Winnebago County.

### Reschedule the March 2011 LCC meeting

Due to a conflict with Tom's schedule, Chairman Farrey, based on LCC input, rescheduled the March 2011 LCC meeting for 9:00am, Friday, March 4, 2011.

### Discuss and schedule a tour of LWCD installed conservation practices

The LCC agreed that a tour would be very beneficial in helping them understand the different practices being installed by the LWCD. The tour was scheduled as a part of the August 4, 2011 LCC meeting. Suggestions for the tour included; Cross Farms' manure treatment facility, James Schuster's manure storage structure, King's wetland restoration and shoreland buffers. A lunch stop in the Village of Winneconne was suggested as part of the tour. Tom stated that LWCD staff would organize the tour to provide a multiple of practices to be viewed and described by staff. Tom stated the LCC could fine tune things in summer before the tour. The LCC concurred.

### Review and Approve Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program Cost Share Agreements (CSA) to provide funding for eligible projects

Chad Casper presented and answered LCC questions on the Norwegian Bay (Barbara Lenz) off shore shoreland protection project and the Borchert wetland restoration project. Chad explained that the two projects had multiple partners for funding, reducing the amount needed from the county. Tom explained the other two projects were well abandonments. Following a brief discussion a Barker/Bohn motion to approve \$20,000.00 for Barbara Lenz, \$6,000.00 for Jack Borchert, and \$605.00 for Chris Hardy and \$310.00 for Paul Beuther both well abandonments, passed 6-0. Melanie Leet and Chad Casper then presented on the Marvin Potratz manure storage abandonment project. The Potratz's had a barn fire and the manure storage structures (located underground inside the burnt barn) will need to be dealt with in accordance with Chapter 13, Livestock Waste Management Ordinance. The LCC discussed the circumstances to try and decide if the abandonment project could be cost shared with State funds because they determined it to be a resource concern. Upon review of the State code, it was determined the LCC needed additional information to make that decision. The LWCD staff will work with Marvin Potratz to gain additional information as to the condition of the site and the areas surrounding the two manure storage structures.

### Review and discuss revisions to the Winnebago County Livestock Waste Ordinance (LWMO) and the creation of a Fee Schedule

Tom reviewed the information sheets he provided in the LCC meeting packet. Tom explained the need to create a permit fee schedule so the ordinance did not need to be revised just to change the permit fees. Tom explained that the current fee for a Livestock Waste Management Permit was \$100.00. This fee was set in 1985 when the ordinance was first created. Tom explained that the fees needed to be different based on the amount of involvement by LWCD staff. The information highlighted the step by step procedures for Animal Lot permits and Livestock Waste Storage Facility permits and showed the estimated time and value of the service. The LCC discussed the items and the impact state shared revenue cuts might have on all departments. Comparisons of what neighboring counties were charging for LWMO permits were reviewed. Some are lower and some are higher compared to the proposed fee schedule. Paul Eisen explained that with tighter budgets on the way we might need to look at capturing the full cost of the service. Bruce Bohn thought the increases were warranted to capture at least a small percentage of the cost, but did not feel it was fair to charge for the entire service. Chairman Farrey suggested that the proposed fee schedule should not go to extremes with fees but rather work within the averages of what is being done within the region.

After a long and excellent discussion and to keep the meeting on schedule, Chairman Farrey asked to have this item placed on the agenda for the February LCC meeting for further discussion and resolution. Tom will provide additional information to help work through the process.

Review the WLWCA conference voting results on the amendments, resolutions and candidates for the WLCB

The LCC reviewed all the voting results from the WLWCA conference provided by proxy Greg Baneck, Outagamie County LCD. Elected to the State Land and Water Conservation Board were Charles Wagner, Pat Laughrin, and Tom Rudolph.

Review and Approve NR151/ATCP50 implementation /compliance notification letters

There were no letters to approve this month and no action was taken by the LCC.

A Bohn /Eisen motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 am passed 5-0.

Tom Davies, Recorder