

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2010

LWCD Conference Room, James P. Coughlin Center

Convene: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Farrey at 9:02 a.m.

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

LWCD Staff: Tom Davies and Jon Bahrke

Others Present: Ann Marshall and Ellen Hofeldt, League of Women Voters, Brian Maedke, USDA-APHIS, Wildlife Services and Peter Peters, USDA-FSA

Absent: Ken Neubauer, excused

Approve November 4, 2010, LCC Meeting Minutes: A Barker/Stokes motion to approve the November 4, 2010 LCC meeting minutes, passed 4-0

Announcements:

- Tom welcomed Ann Marshall and Ellen Hofeldt.
- Tom announced the passing of LCC member John Reinert. Nancy provided information about the funeral ceremony. Tom informed the LCC that he had sent flowers on behalf of the LWCD and LCC. Nancy commented that the flower arrangement was very nice. The members all agreed that John would certainly be missed.
- Tom distributed the approved 2011 LCC meeting schedule.
- Tom informed the LCC that he might have a conflict with the March 3, 2011 meeting date and would place changing the date on the next agenda.
- Tom distributed the WLWCA "Thursday Note" to the LCC for their review. Paul Eisen commented on the poster contest and speaking contest and suggested Winnebago County get involved working through the UWEX / 4H program and other local school districts.
- Tom reminded the LCC of the forthcoming LWLWCA Planning meeting set for January 28th, 2011 here at the Coughlin Bldg.
- Tom shared with the LCC that Jim Schuster had started construction on a new manure storage facility. Tom reminded the LCC that in December of 2007, Jim had constructed a facility without a permit and was not allowed to use it. His current project is being cost shared.
- Tom told the LCC that he would be bringing information regarding possible changes to the Livestock Waste Permit fee on the agenda for the January LCC meeting.
- Tom informed the LCC that things were progressing with the Utica Energy / Sawyer Creek Watershed projects review.
- Tom asked the LCC to consider if they would like to have a projects tour this year during one on their meetings. Tom will place it on the next agenda for discussion.

Business Items:

Note: To accommodate Peter Peters' schedule conflict, Chairman Farrey, with approval from fellow LCC members, started the meeting on Agenda Item G.

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Current Programs Review

Peter reviewed the information provided to the LCC regarding various FSA programs and the positive economic impact they have on the Winnebago County farming community. Peter also discussed the important relationship between FSA and LWCD as the programs are delivered and implemented. Paul Eisen highlighted the importance of what LWCD does to help funnel dollars to the landowners and subsequently to Winnebago County's economy. Paul recommended sharing

this information with the County Board, especially during the budget process. Tom informed the LCC that LWCD was going to prepare an annual report to provide that information. Peter Peters also shared that he would be retiring at the end of the year and thanked the LCC for all their support over the years. The LCC thanked Peter for his service to the County and wished him well with his retirement.

Review and Approve the 2010 Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program Harvest Cut Off Date

Brian Maedke reviewed the need to set a harvest cut off date for the program. Following a brief discussion a Bohn/Barker motion to set the date at December 2, 2010 passed 5-0.

Review and Approve a State SWRM Grant Reimbursement Request for \$12,757.98

Tom explained that this was the second part of our annual SWRM grant reimbursement request for staff expenses. Following a brief discussion a Bohn/Barker motion to approve the request passed 5-0.

Discuss current status of the Farmland Preservation Plan (FPP) revisions

Chairman Farrey, Tom Davies and Jon Bahrke provided information regarding the current status of the FPP revision process. Items discussed were tax credit program requirements, zoning requirements, conversion fees, mapped farmland preservation areas and additional information needed to help landowners make educated decisions about their individual property. The LCC discussed these items at length and agreed it will have an impact on future landowner participation in the FPP tax credit program.

Discuss and Approve/Disapprove WLWCA bylaw amendments, resolutions and candidates for the WLCB to be voted on at the annual WLWCA conference and assign a voting delegate

The LCC reviewed the proposed bylaw amendments and following a brief discussion an Eisen/Bohn motion to vote in favor on the amendments passed 5-0.

The LCC reviewed resolution #1. Following a brief discussion an Eisen/Barker motion to vote in favor of the resolution #1 passed 5-0. The LCC reviewed resolution #2. Following a brief discussion a Bohn/Eisen motion to vote in favor of resolution passed 5-0. The LCC reviewed resolution #3. Following much discussion an Eisen/Barker motion to vote on resolution #3 yielded 1 in favor (Barker) and 4 opposed. The LCC will vote in opposition (no) of resolution #3. The LCC reviewed resolution #4. Following a brief discussion an Eisen/Stokes motion to vote in opposition (no) of resolution #4 passed 5-0. The LCC will vote in opposition (no) of resolution #4. Copies of the resolutions are on file at LWCD or WLWCA.

Tom shared with the LCC that Ken Neubauer would be unable to attend the conference and represent the LCC for voting. Greg Baneck the County Conservationist for Outagamie County had agreed to be the proxy for Chairperson Farrey in place of Ken Neubauer. Tom explained that Greg had provided his services in past years when no LCC member was able to attend the conference. Chairman Farrey asked for a motion to approve Greg Baneck as the proxy. A Bohn/Stokes motion to approve Greg Baneck as the voting Proxy for Chairman Farrey passed 5-0. Tom stated he would provide Greg with the voting instructions decided by the LCC.

The LCC reviewed the candidates and Nancy shared her knowledge of each person on the ballot. Following a discussion of the information supplied an Eisen/Barker motion to vote for Charles Wagner, Patrick Laughrin and Tom Rudolph for the WLCB passed 5-0.

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

The LCC reviewed the CSA summary. Following the review a Stokes/Bohn motion to approve \$345.00 for Brian Julius and \$275.00 for Kimberly Heideman for well abandonments, passed 5-0.

Approve authorization for Tom Davies to approve Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program (WCWQIP) Cost Share Agreements (CSAs) exceeding \$5,000 of county funding for the remainder of 2010

Chairman Farrey explained this was done every year because the LCC does not meet again until January 2011 and contracts may need to be approved in December 2010 for funding reasons. Tom explained the LCC would still approve the agreements before the projects would be installed. An Eisen/Bohn motion to approve the authorization passed 5-0.

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