

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes of July 2, 2009
LWCD Conference Room, James P. Coughlin Center

Convene: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Barker at 9:05 a.m.

Present: LCC Members: Nancy Barker, Bruce Bohn, Chuck Farrey, Sue Locke, John Reinert and Dan Stokes.

LWCD Staff: Tom Davies and Keith Marquardt

Others Present: none

Absent: Bob Warnke, excused

Approve June 4, 2009, LCC Meeting Minutes: A Farrey / Reinert motion to approve the June 4, 2009 LCC meeting minutes, passed 6-0.

Announcements:

- Tom informed the committee of the untimely passing of Nancy Barker's daughter-in-law and extended his deepest sympathy on behalf of the LWCD and LCC.
- Tom reminded the committee that he had a conflict with the November 5, 2009 meeting and requested it be moved to the next week. The LCC agreed on November 12, 2009 for the November meeting.
- Tom reviewed with the LCC where the LWCD was at regarding the 2010 budget process. Tom explained that at present it looked as if the LWCD would be able to meet their levy target. Tom emphasized the importance of the WLWCA and WALCE in Madison during the budget process. Tom informed the LCC that based on the latest information we will be allocated substantially more staffing grant funds because of the lobbying and legislative contacts made by those organizations. Tom strongly suggested that the LCC share this information with Chairman Albrecht and request that the dues for the WLWCA continue to be included in the County Board budget. Tom explained that the dues are a small price to pay for such great support and training opportunities, especially when compared to the increased grant funds.
- Tom informed the LCC that the United Coop in Pickett, WI was awarded the prestigious State Environmental Respect Award. The Environmental Respect Awards are the agricultural industry's highest recognition for environmental stewardship among U.S. agricultural retailers. Tom said he is sending them a letter of congratulations from LWCD and the LCC. The LCC agreed to the letter.
- Tom distributed a flyer for the GL RC&D Gasification facility tour in FDL County.
- Keith Marquardt announced a new program to bring Land and Water Conservation to Public Radio and have individuals call in and ask questions about soil conservation. He will get copies about the event to the county board.
- Keith announced the "County Today" did a great article on the "Conservation Expo" held on May 30, 2009. We will get copies to the LCC.

Business Items:

Progress/ Status report on the Winnebago County MS4 Permit addressing County Roads

Keith reported that we had met the requirements of our MS4 permit, getting an average of 29% pollutant load reduction by 2010. Keith explained the next challenge would be to get to 40% removal by 2013. Keith passed out photos that demonstrated roadways with grassed swales and with curb and gutter. He explained that we achieved an average of 45% reduction in swales and only 3% reduction with curb and gutter. This demonstrates the importance of having the water carried through a grassed conveyance versus concrete. Chuck stated that this was exactly the reason he opposed designing/ building roads in a rural setting with curb and gutter because we will be forced to create other retention structures to achieve our reduction requirements and that will come at a large cost to the County. Keith explained that he was going to meet with John Haese, Director, Highway Dept., to discuss options that might help achieve the reduction as part of the project. Chuck stated that this should be a policy for the County, that all new road construction be designed to meet the pollution load reductions, so after its built, we're done with it as far as the MS4 requirements are concerned. The LCC thanked Keith for his fine report and for the fine explanation of the permit requirements and how we achieve them.

Progress report on the Cory & Dennis Craig Manure Pit Abandonment or Reconstruction Project in the Town of Rushford

Tom reported that Dennis Craig had sent a note stating his intention to keep the pit and bring it back into compliance. Tom said the next step was to conduct the analysis of the pit contents in accordance with WDNR requirements. Once the tests are completed and the analysis is reviewed, the project tasks can be identified and a timeline established. Tom said that AgSource Labs, Bonduel, WI will perform the required sampling and analysis. The costs associated with all aspects of the project will be billed to Dennis Craig. Tom stated he would keep the LCC informed as things progressed.

Approve / Disapprove, \$2566 Budget Transfer allowing LWCD to receive and allocate additional funds acquired from our 2009 DATCP / DNR Annual Soil and Water Resource Management Grant

Tom explained that the LWCD staffing grant award was \$2566 more than previously communicated by DATCP and this transfer would allow the LWCD to receive the funds and allocate them to the benefits accounts. Chuck stated he considered that very prudent and supported the transfer. Following a very brief discussion a Farrey / Bohn motion to approve the transfer passed 6-0.

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

Tom reviewed the well abandonment CSA for Shirley Neumann. Tom explained that the well had been tested and did not meet safe levels and Shirley decided to abandon it. Following a brief discussion, a Bohn / Stokes motion to approve CSA 09-06 for an estimated cost share of \$236.00 for Shirley Neumann passed 6-0.

Discuss the required WDNR compliance associated with a residential development on Bohn Farms property involving an adjacent conservation practice installed and cost shared through the Pine/Willow-Poygan South Priority Watershed Project

Tom distributed page 3 of the CSA for the shoreline protection project completed on the Bohn Farms property. Tom explained that the CSA requires the landowner to address any land use change that might add to the pollutant loading to the sight. Tom reported that Bohns are developing a plan to achieve the pre and post construction runoff requirements of NR216 and that will satisfy the requirements of the CSA. Tom also shared that he had contacted WDNR staff and they agreed that meeting the storm water requirements of NR216 kept Bohn Farms in compliance with the CSA.

Bruce Bohn then explained what the plan was and where it was located. Tom stated that the County's contracted engineers that review all the drainage plans submitted for new developments would be sending a letter stating that Bohn Farms had indeed met the requirements. Tom said he would put that on file, and provide a copy for Bohn Farms and WDNR. Tom explained that he and Bruce thought it would be good to make the LCC aware of the situation so there was no misunderstanding as to what was taking place on the land and that it was absolutely in compliance with the CSA as long as the storm water requirements are met. The LCC thanked Tom and Bruce for bringing it forward so they could address it at large should someone have concerns.

A Reinert / Bohn motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30am passed 6-0.

Tom Davies, Recorder