

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2012
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, Ken Neubauer and Dan Stokes.

LWCD Staff: Tom Davies

Others Present: Barry Benson, USDA Wildlife Specialist and Steve Easterly, Wildlife Technician, WDNR

Absent: none

Approve December 1, 2011 LCC Meeting Minutes: A Neubauer/Englebert motion to approve the December 1, 2011 LCC meeting minutes, passed 7-0

Announcements:

- Tom reported that the Glacierland RC & D Annual Dues of \$75.00 had been paid for 2012. Tom also distributed a copy of the 2011 Glacierland RC & D Annual Report for LCC review.
- Tom mentioned that WLWCA was accepting applications for Executive Director until February 15, 2012. Tom distributed copies of the WLWCA “*Thursday Note*” newsletter for LCC review.
- Tom passed out the LWLWCA 2012 Activity Schedule for LCC review and recording.
- Tom announced that he recently learned that John Uvass had passed away unexpectedly on December 29, 2011 and that John was very supportive of the ARD Watershed and many other conservation practices/programs in Winnebago County.
- Tom mentioned that Bruce Bohn would not be attending the March LCC meeting.
- Paul Eisen shared an excerpt, via a declarative reading by Chairman Farrey that ““Punxsutawney Phil” had emerged from his burrow, saw his shadow and declared there was going to be six more weeks of winter”. The LCC thanked Paul for his light hearted contribution.

Business Items:

Review and Approve or Deny, the 2011 Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP) Participant Claims

Barry Benson reported that all participants had met the requirements of the program and there were no noncompliance issues to discuss. The LCC reviewed the list of eligible claims and discussed several aspects of the program, particularly, cropland that is located within municipal boundaries which by law prohibits the use of firearms for wildlife abatement. Following the discussion, a Barker/Bohn motion to approve all claims as presented passed 6-0-1 (Eisen abstained).

Review and Approve the 2012 LCC Meeting Schedule

Following a brief discussion, an Englebert/Neubauer motion to approve the schedule passed 7-0.

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

Following discussion on Nutrient Management Planning (NMP) and the benefits it provides livestock operators, a Neubauer/Barker motion to approve a total of \$7,854.00 for Abe Eckstein and \$1,852.00 for Glen Armstrong for four years of NMP cost sharing passed 7-0.

Review and Approve a Resolution to Support Alternative Funding options for County Land and Water Conservation Departments Staff Support Grants from DATCP

Tom reviewed the resolution that supports alternative funding options for County Land and Water Conservation Staff Support Grants from DATCP. Tom reminded the LCC that they had discussed this issue at length at the December LCC meeting and this resolution would be sent to convey their position. Following a brief discussion, a Barker/Englebert motion to approve the resolution passed 7-0.

Wisconsin Counties Association Steering Committee Report

Chairman Farrey reported on the following topics discussed in the Steering Committee meetings:

- Proposed State Wetland Legislation
- Proposed State Metallic Mining Legislation
- Proposed Local Drainage District Legislation
- Use of NMP SEG funds to cover the proposed County LWCD Staffing Grant lapse in DATCP's 2012 budget
- Opposition to the FPP tax credit and the current Use Value Assessment tax code by certain individuals at the meeting

Committee members thanked Chairman Farrey for his fine report.

A Barker/Englebert motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m. passed 7-0.

Tom Davies, Recorder