

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes of March 5, 2015
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, Chuck Farrey, John Egan, Larry Kriescher, Ken Neubauer and Tom Snider.

LWCD Staff: Tom Davies and Andy Maracini

Others Present: Wally Sedlar, Adams County LWCD and Barry Benson, USDA, WS

Absent: None

Confirm Meeting/Agenda has been Properly Public Noticed in Accordance with County Policy:

Chairman Farrey confirmed with Tom Davies that the meeting had been properly public noticed.

Approve February 5, 2015 LCC Meeting Minutes: A Bohn/Neubauer motion to approve the February 5, 2015, LCC meeting minutes passed 7-0.

Note: At this time Chairman Farrey requested permission from the LCC members to alter the order of the agenda items to accommodate some of the meeting participants. The LCC was agreeable to the change.

Announcements:

- Tom D. informed the LCC that the \$50.00 dues for the GLNAC had been paid for 2015.
- Tom D. informed the LCC that the \$75.00 dues for the Glacierland RC& D had been paid for 2015.
- Tom D. distributed the 2014 LWCD Annual Report for the LCC to review. Tom informed the LCC that the report would be given to the full County Board at their next meeting.
- Tom D. passed out the DATCP March 2015 Report for the LCC to review.
- Tom D. announced that the 2016 SWRM Grant application was being completed and would be brought to the LCC for approval at their April 2, 2015 meeting.
- Tom D. announced that the 2015 Conservation Field Days was scheduled for May 5, 2015, with May 6, 2015 set as the rain day.
- Tom D. handed out a revised LWCD/LCC directory and noted the changes.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Farrey reported to the LCC on a meeting he attended entitled, "Agricultural Community Engagement" (ACE). Chairman Farrey discussed several topics including, Manure Irrigation, the Yahara Pride Farmer Group and information from the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board.

Business Items:

Cost / Benefit Analysis Report on the Use of an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) by LWCD

Andy Maracini reviewed a cost benefit analysis on the use of a UAV by LWCD. Maracini discussed the limiting factors created by the current laws governing the legal use of UAVs. Maracini summarized by stating it would be best to revisit this topic in a year or so after the FAA loosens the restrictions and

makes it legal for one person to operate a UAV. This would make it more cost effective along with capitalizing on new and improved technology. Following a detailed discussion on the topic, it was recommended by the LCC to budget for the UAV and associated supplies in the 2016 LWCD budget. This would allow adequate time to learn about the device and master flight techniques so the department is ready to go when the new rules are finalized. Tom D. stated he would have to see how it fit into the LWCD budget once the departmental levy targets are assigned by Executive Harris. Tom D. stated it would most likely have to be an “add on” to the LWCD budget as a capital purchase. Initial costs for the UAV and supplies are estimated at approximately \$5,000.00.

Review and Approve or Deny, the Remaining 2014 Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP) Participant Claims

Barry Benson, USDA, WS reviewed the remaining claim of Jonathan Otto. Benson reported that Mr. Otto was not able to verify he had harvested the required number of deer. In addition Mr. Otto did not have the proper hunting log and other required paperwork for the program. It was the recommendation of Mr. Benson that Mr. Otto’s claim be denied. Following a brief discussion, a Snider/Kriescher motion to deny the claim for Jonathan Otto passed 7-0.

Discuss the Request by Adams County LCC & LWCD to Rejoin the Lake Winnebago Land and Water Conservation Association (LWLWCA)

Wally Sedlar, County Conservationist, Adams County, reviewed with the LCC his reasons for Adams County LCC & LWCD rejoining the LWLWCA. Following the discussion a Snider/Neubauer motion to approve the request and vote in favor of Adams County rejoining the LWLWCA at the next LWLWCA business meeting passed 7-0. It was also noted by Tom D. that the LWCD staff were also supportive of the request and would be voting in favor at the next LWLWCA business meeting.

Review and Approve Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program Cost Share Agreements (CSA) to Provide Funding for Eligible Projects

There were no CSAs and the LCC took no action.

Review Draft Changes to the 2016-2020 Work Plan for the Winnebago County Land and Water Resource Management Plan Extension Request

Tom D. reviewed the minor changes to the Work Plan page by page with the LCC. The LCC made recommendations/edits to the Work Plan. Tom D. will present the revised Work Plan for review and approval at the April 2, 2015 LCC meeting.

A Barker/Kriescher motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m. passed 7-0.

Tom Davies, Recorder