

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2013  
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, James Englebert, Chuck Farrey, Ken Neubauer, Dan Stokes and Tom Snider

**LWCD Staff:** Tom Davies

Others Present: Merrie Schamberger, USDA, NRCS

Absent: Bruce Bohn, excused

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 7, 2013 LCC Meeting Minutes: A Snider/Stokes motion to approve the February 7, 2013 LCC meeting minutes passed 6-0.

Announcements:

- Tom distributed information regarding the March 21, 2013 WCA “*Legislative Briefing*” meeting at the Bridgewood Resort in Neenah, WI.
- Tom informed the LCC that DATCP was holding a public hearing on ATCP 50 revisions on March 27, 2013, at the Outagamie Highway Department conference room. Hearing times are 2:30-4:30pm and 6-8pm.
- Tom reviewed the current draft of the new WDNR General Permit to remove Nuisance Plant and Animal Deposition from beds of Navigable Waters.
- On behalf of Jake Vande Berg, FSA, Tom informed the LCC that FSA will hold a CRP general sign-up from May 20 through June 14, 2013.
- Merrie Schamberger, NRCS, informed the LCC that a National Civil Rights Review would be occurring in the USDA Service Center and that some LCC members may be contacted as part of the process. Merrie also requested to be put on the April LCC Agenda to present a brief power point presentation on the Civil Rights policies of USDA. Chairman Farrey instructed Tom to place it on the April Agenda.
- Chairman Farrey briefly reviewed a letter he is sending to Eric Fowle, Executive Director, East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, regarding an article in their newsletter about the Winnebago System Planning Grant.

Business Items:

Review and Approve a letter to State Legislators for the restoration of staff dollars to LWCDs in the 2013-15 Wisconsin State Budget

Tom reviewed the draft letter with the LCC and explained the reason for sending it. Following a brief discussion a Snider/Neubauer motion to approve and send the letter as written passed 6-0.

Report on the DATCP sponsored Farmland Preservation Program (FPP), draft administrative rules (ATCP 49) public hearing

Chairman Farrey reported to the LCC that he testified at the hearing in support of allowing landowners to voluntarily participate in the FPP. Chairman Farrey explained that landowners that participate in towns without FPP zoning do so voluntarily via “Agreements” done directly with the State of Wisconsin, and that landowners in towns/counties with FPP zoning should be afforded the same privilege, regardless of a town’s or county’s planning and zoning agenda/plan. Chairman Farrey also added that other individuals representing other counties echoed his thoughts and provided additional concerns regarding the FPP certification process during their testimony.

Review the 2013 DATCP & DNR Final SWRM Grant Allocation Plan and the new Formula proposed for the 2014 SWRM Bond Funds Grant Allocation Plan

Tom reviewed the 2013 Allocation Plan funding amounts for the LWCD and the proposed new formula for future DATCP funding of cost shared practices and staff dollars. Tom explained that DATCP is targeting its funds and support to those practices and county staff that are concentrating their efforts towards bringing farmers in compliance with the Ag Performance Standards and implementing their Land and Water Resource Management Plans. Tom explained that 2013 funds would not be committed until the SWRM Grant Contract was fully executed by all parties.

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

There were no CSAs to approve, thus the LCC took no action.

A Barker/Neubauer motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m., passed 6-0.

Tom Davies, Recorder