

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes of June 4, 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, Larry Kriescher and Tom Snider.

LWCD Staff: Tom Davies

Others Present: Merrie Schamberger and Christina Mulder, NRCS

Absent: John Egan and Ken Neubauer, both 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 April 2, 2015 LCC Meeting Minutes: A Barker/Kriescher motion to approve the April 2, 2015, LCC meeting minutes passed 5-0.

Announcements:

- Tom D. passed out a photo of Nancy Barker receiving her award at the “Celebrating Women in Conservation” held by WI Land +Water.
- Tom D. informed the LCC that Ken Neubauer was currently in a nursing home rehabbing from a medical procedure.
- Tom D. informed the LCC that the LWCD would be presenting the LWRMP at the August 4th, 2015 State Land and Water Conservation Board meeting in Madison, Wisconsin.
- Tom D. informed the LCC that the LWCD was going to update their procedures for receiving “Requests for Proposal” (RFP) by making them more streamline and accessible for contractors, thereby increasing the number of RFPs received for each project.
- Tom D. reminded the LCC that the August 6th, 2015 LCC meeting would include the Educational Conservation Project Tour. The August meeting will start at 8:00 a.m.
- Tom D. distributed the April, May and June DATCP Monthly Newsletters.
- Tom D. circulated a flyer regarding the “Soil Health Field Day” scheduled for September 2, 2015.
- Tom D. provided a memo and resolution from Sue Ertmer, via Chairman Albrecht regarding the EPA rules governing “Waters of the US”. Chairman Farrey said he would take it to the Legislative Committee for review.
- Tom D. passed out a Glacierland RC & D “Project Update” bulletin.
- Tom D. informed the LCC that a new Kewaunee County ordinance prohibiting the mechanical application of wastes from January 1 through April 15 to land having 20 feet or less in soil depth to bedrock was passed by all townships and municipalities in Kewaunee County and goes into effect January 1, 2016.
- Tom D. reviewed information regarding the new pollution insurance available to farmers, landowners and CCAs to protect them in case manure and other contaminants applied on land under their ownership or management should cause a pollution issue.
- Tom D. informed the LCC that he has been selected for jury duty June 22-25, 2015.

- FSA requested that the LCC members remind farmers to complete their required crop reporting with FSA.
- Merrie Schamberger, NRCS announced that the local work group meeting for the EQIP funding allocation plan would be held August 4, 2015 at the Town of Wolf River Town Hall from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. LWCD Staff and LCC members are asked to attend.
- Nancy Barker reported that fellow County Board Supervisor Sue Locke had a fire in her apartment but was not harmed.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Farrey asked Tom Snider to comment on the Conservation Field Day event conducted by LWCD and fellow agencies in the Town of Winneconne. Mr. Snider commented on what a wonderful event it was for the kids, how well organized it was, and encouraged the LCC members to attend next years' event.

Business Items:

Review the State Joint Finance Committee Changes to the Proposed 2015-2017 State Budget that Affect the LWCD

Tom D. reviewed the changes/reductions to the State budget and informed the LCC that if allocated equally throughout the State, Winnebago County LWCD could realize approximately a \$3,000 to \$4,000 reduction in staffing grant funds as compared to the 2013-2015 State Budget. Tom D. also explained that the final State funding allocation plan is done by DATCP based on cropland acres, FPP participants and each county's efforts towards achieving landowner compliance with Ag Performance Standards. Tom D. stated that the preliminary allocation plan information should be available in late June or July.

Review the 2015 SWRM Grant Contract

Tom D. reviewed the content of the contract and explained how the numbers were derived. Tom D. explained that the carry over funds is quite normal because of the short construction season.

Review the LWCD Project List

Chairman Farrey reminded the committee members that he had requested that LWCD provide a list of the current and potential projects so the LCC would have a greater awareness of LWCD activities. The LCC reviewed the list and Tom D. answered questions and explained some of the project codes.

Review the Lower Fox River (LFR) Watershed TMDL Area in Winnebago County and the Reduction Goals for Phosphorus and Suspended Solids

Tom D. distributed a map of the area and a list of the sediment and phosphorus reduction goals for each of the sub watersheds within the LFR watershed. Tom D. explained what the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) actually represented. Tom D. reviewed how the load limits were derived, the process for contacting and educating the landowners within the designated area, and the very open and communicated process that would be used to bring the properties into compliance with the load limits. Tom D. reiterated that compliance with the TMDLs is voluntary, and that the current Winnebago County Ag Performance Standards implementation policy is also based on voluntary participation by landowners. Tom D. also commented that cost sharing is also required in most cases, and that federal dollars are available for this particular area. Tom D. also informed the LCC

that he is working with Barry Bubolz, NRCS on another contribution agreement that is intended to provide some reimbursement to LWCD for their outreach efforts and the work done on federally funded projects within the LFR watershed. The LCC reinforced the need for landowner education regarding TMDLs in advance of any implementation.

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

Tom provided the summary of CSAs to the LCC. Following a brief discussion, a Kriescher/Snider motion to approve \$560.00 for a well abandonment project for Nancy Lenz passed 5-0.

A Kriescher/Barker motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 a.m. passed 5-0.

Tom Davies, Recorder