

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes of June 6, 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, Bruce Bohn, James Englebert, Chuck Farrey, Ken Neubauer, Tom Snider and Dan Stokes

LWCD Staff: Tom Davies & Sheila Kiddy

Others Present: Jake Vande Berg, FSA

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 May 2, 2013 LCC Meeting Minutes: An Englebert/Neubauer motion to approve the May 2, 2013 LCC meeting minutes passed 5-0-2 (Farrey and Snider abstained).

Announcements:

- Tom mentioned that the 2014 LWCD Budget process was underway. The LWCD levy target is \$474,548 which is an increase of about \$15,000 over the 2013 budget.
- Tom informed the LCC that the WDNR Permit for Nuisance Deposition Clean Up on Shoreland is in draft form in Madison waiting for approval.
- Tom explained to the LCC that NRCS was revising their MOU with LWCDs to be more cooperative with the use of equipment and vehicles. Once available, a copy of the revised MOU will be brought to the LCC for review.
- Tom announced that the WDNR had approved the Winnebago County MS4 Permit application completed and submitted by Andy Maracini, GIS Tech. The LWCD does this work on behalf of the Highway Department.
- Tom reviewed information regarding proposed changes in the administration of the Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) by the State Joint Finance Committee.
- Chairman Farrey announced and discussed a Regional Towns Association Meeting being held at the Vinland Town Hall on June 11, 2013 regarding the new rules governing the FPP.
- Chairman Farrey also mentioned the WCA meeting where Jim VandenBrook, Executive Director, WLWCA spoke. Chairman Farrey was very complimentary of Mr. VandenBrook and his presentation.
- Nancy Barker informed the LCC that the Menasha Historical Society had donated a Plat Map of Winnebago County printed in 1862. The map is located in the foyer of the J.P. Coughlin Center.
- Jake Vande Berg, FSA, reported that CRP, SAFE, and Continues CRP signups are ongoing and that the SAFE enrollments are quickly reaching the total allowable acres. Jake also mentioned that crop reporting is very slow due to the late spring and wet conditions. Sheila, Dan and Bruce all mentioned the extensive crop loss they had observed in the wheat and alfalfa fields. Jake offered to research it more to get a better handle on the overall impact in Winnebago County.

Business Items:

Review and Approve NR151/ATCP50 Implementation/Compliance Notification Letters

Sheila Kiddy reviewed the compliance letters summary and a summary of the landowners currently inventoried for FPP. Sheila asked the LCC to let her know if they knew of anyone participating in FPP that was not on the list. Following the discussion of the information provided, a Barker/Stokes motion to approve the letters passed 7-0.

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 therefore the LCC took no action.

Discuss Potential Changes to the 2014-2015 Soil & Water Resource Management (SWRM) Grant

Tom distributed information regarding increases the State Joint Finance Committee proposed for the 2014-2015 SWRM Grant for staff support. Tom explained that these increases, even if minimal, could be very helpful in supplementing the LWCD budget the next two years.

Discuss the 2013 SWRM Grant Award/Contract

Tom explained that the 2013 SWRM Grant staff support funds were \$11,057 more than budgeted and that the additional funds would be used to hire a limited term, part-time employee to assist with the Ag Performance Compliance work associated with FPP. The employee is scheduled to start on July 1, 2013 and work until the funds are expended. The LCC was very supportive of utilizing the funds to support FPP participant certification.

An Englebert/Neubauer motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 a.m., passed 7-0.

Tom Davies, Recorder