

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes of September 3, 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, Guy Hegg, Larry Kriescher and Tom Snider.

LWCD Staff: Tom Davies and Chad Casper

Others Present: Merrie Schamberger, NRCS

Absent: John Egan, 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 August 6, 2015 LCC Meeting Minutes: A Snider/ Bohn motion to approve the August 6, 2015, LCC meeting minutes passed 5-0-1 (Hegg abstained).

Announcements:

- Tom D. welcomed Guy Hegg to the LCC and introductions were completed.
- Tom D. distributed the newly approved revised Work Plan for the LCC members to insert into their 2016-2020 LWRMP.
- Tom D. passed out the September 2015 DATCP Newsletter for the LCC to review.
- Tom D. provided a new LCC and LWCD Staff Directory that included Guy Hegg.
- Tom D. distributed the LWLWCA Summer/Fall Tour and Meeting packets to the LCC. Tom D. reminded them all to get permission from Chairman Albrecht and to inform Lynette on or before September 16, 2015 if they plan to attend and/or ride along with LWCD Staff.
- Tom D. discussed the wonderful Soil Health Field Day event that was conducted on September 1-3, 2015. Several of the LCC members had attended and shared their thoughts about the event.
- Tom D. informed the LCC that he had signed the participation papers for the 2015 Deer Donation Program which had already been approved by the LCC.
- Nancy Barker discussed the upcoming Glacierland RC&D Advisory Board Meeting in Chilton, WI. Nancy will report on the status of Glacierland RC&D at the next LCC meeting.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Farrey commented on the current status of the EPAs "Waters of the US" rule, and some current court rulings regarding its impacts and jurisdiction within certain States in the US.

Chairman Farrey also discussed the new Shoreland Zoning laws and the impacts they could have on Town and County zoning authority, the Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) and FPP participants' eligibility for State tax credits. He also identified issues with NR115 and NR151 regarding setbacks from navigable streams.

Business Items:

Discuss the August 6, 2015 LCC Educational Tour

Tom D. solicited feedback and comments from the LCC regarding their educational tour conducted as part of their August 6, 2015 LCC meeting. The LCC members were very pleased with the tour discussed/commented on several of the projects observed that day. Bruce Bohn commented on how important it is to communicate all the LWCD has to offer to the “Non-Ag” sector of the public that still may have a need for the LWCD to help them address issues on their land. Tom S. suggested presenting at an upcoming meeting of the Towns Association Planning Committees conducted by Catherine Neiswender, UWEX. Tom D. said he would check into visiting with the group and trying to attend other Town functions in the future to present info about LWCD programs and services.

Update on the “Weigh in on Winnebago Waterways” Project

Chad Casper, LWCD reviewed the current status of the Project and some of the issues to be explained to the County Board if allowed to present on the topic. The LCC discussed many of their thoughts and opinions regarding the Project. The LCC thanked Chad for his update.

Review the LWCD Project List

The LCC reviewed the new additions to the list. Chairman Farrey reinforced how important the list is in maintaining LCC and County Board awareness regarding the number and the diversity of the projects the LWCD designs and installs.

Review “Social Factors and Conservation Behavior: A Survey of Agricultural Landowners in the Lower Fox River Basin”

Tom D. reviewed the document and informed the LCC it would be mailed out to landowners in the Lower Fox River Watershed by the “Alliance for the Great Lakes” at no cost to the LWCD. It will be sent with a LWCD approved cover letter.

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

Following a review of the CSA summary sheet, a Hegg/Bohn motion to approve \$417.00 for Julie Calder for a well abandonment and \$6,600.00 for a long term cover crop demonstration project on land owned by JJ Keller Corporation and operated by Amos Ihde passed 6-0.

A Snider/Kriescher motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:36 a.m. passed 6-0.

Tom Davies, Recorder