

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (LCC)

Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2017

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:** Chuck Farrey, Guy Hegg, Larry Kriescher, Tom Snider and Roger Zentner

LWCD Staff: Chad Casper

Others Present: Merrie Schamberger, NRCS, Rhonda Vande Hey, FSA, Barry Benson and Laurie Koeck, USDA-WS, Mike Klich and John Coniff, All Saints Lutheran Church

Absent: Nancy Barker, Bruce Bohn, excused

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

Chairman Farrey confirmed with Chad Casper that the meeting had been properly public noticed.

Approve December 1, 2016 LCC Meeting Minutes:

A Hegg/Zentner motion to approve the December 1, 2016, LCC meeting minutes passed 5-0.

Public Comment of Agenda Items:

Mike Klich and John Coniff with All Saints Lutheran Church stated their case on wanting to be eligible for cost-share funds to abandon their church's well. Mike stated that the church switched over to the Town of Algoma water utility due to arsenic in the well and it was never properly abandoned. The Town of Algoma sent the church a letter stating that the well must be abandoned and to contact the Winnebago County LWCD for possible cost-share assistance. Klich and Coniff are requesting that the LCC reconsider their eligibility for cost share assistance on the well abandonment.

Announcements:

- Chad discussed the LWLWCA meeting that was held on January 27, 2017. There were several informative presenters and many positive comments received.
- Chad distributed the 2017 LCC meeting schedule.
- Chad reminded the LCC that the WLWCA conference will be held on March 15-17 in Elkhart Lake and the deadline to register is February 15, 2017.
- Chad announced that Dan Stokes was elected to the FSA Committee to replace John Egan.
- Chad discussed the re-appointing of both Bruce Bohn and Roger Zentner to the LCC. This was missed in 2016 and the appointments will be done at February's County Board Meeting. Confirmation was made with our Corporation Council that there are no issues regarding both Bohn and Zentner previously voting or participating with the LCC.
- Chad discussed and handed out information on the proposal by Representative Adam Jarchow to divide the WI Department of Natural Resources into several agencies.
- Chad informed the LCC that \$100 was paid for the 2017 LWLWCA dues.
- Rhonda Vande Hey, Jennifer Magnuson and Briana Swetlik, FSA all introduced themselves to the LCC.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Farrey discussed the Wisconsin County Association (WCA) Steering Committee resolution on Act 55.

Chairman Farrey informed the LCC that the administrative rules for FPP indicate that it is mandatory, but believes there is no basis in law to support this.

Business Items:

Review and Approve or Deny, the 2016 Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP) Participant Claims

Barry Benson and Laurie Koeck, USDA-WS reviewed the 2016 Winnebago County Wildlife Damage Summary with the LCC. Benson noted that John Yost was short of meeting the harvest deadline of September 15, 2016, but met his harvest quota soon after. Benson recommended paying on all claims. Following a brief discussion, a Snider/Kriescher motion to pay on all claims that met the program requirements including John Yost passed 5-0. A total of \$20,699.93 was approved for these 2016 claims.

Review and Approve Paying the 2017 WLWCA Dues (\$2013.00)

Chad explained the importance of being a paid member and supporting the WLWCA's work on behalf of County LCCs and LWCDs. Chad explained that the dues had gone up \$16.00 from the previous year. Chad also reminded the LCC members that the WLWCA will be lobbying on behalf of the upcoming 2017-2019 budget for LWCD funding. A Zentner/Snider motion to pay the dues passed 5-0.

Review and Approve the County Board Resolution Associated with the LCC and P & F Committee Approved 2017 Budget Transfer to Allocate New SEG Grant Funds into the LWCD 2017 Budget

Following a review of the County Board Resolution # 098-012017 for the 2017 Budget Transfer, a Hegg/Kriescher motion to approve the resolution passed 5-0.

Discuss the Proposed "Soil Health Challenge", a New Soil Health Demonstration Farm Program for the Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program

Chad gave an overview of the proposed Soil Health Demonstration Farm Program. The program will educate the participants and other producers on how improved soil health can benefit them and the environment. Ideally, the LWCD will have several locations around the county to showcase soil health by having educational signage, demonstration field days, etc. The proposed program will be brought back to March's LCC Meeting for approval.

Review and Approve NR151/ATCP50 Implementation/Compliance Notification Letters

The LCC reviewed the NR151/ATCP50 Compliance Notification Letters Summary provided to them. Chad gave insight regarding the landowners listed on the summary. Following the discussion, a Hegg/Kriescher motion to approve the letters for mailing to the landowners passed 5-0.

Report on the Lower Fox River Watershed TMDL Implementation Project

Chad informed the LCC that due to snow cover, that minimal field work in the Lower Fox River Watershed was being completed. Once the snow melts, work will continue in assessing cropland and livestock facilities. The LWCD will have a Fox Valley Technical College volunteer this year to help assist with these duties and other work within the department.

Report on the Winnebago System Lake Management Initiative

Chad provided details on the four Department of Natural Resources Lake Management Planning Grants that were applied for through Fox Wolf Watershed Alliance. There was one grant application submitted for each lake (Winnebago, Butte des Morts, Winneconne, and Poygan). This allows for maximum funds to develop one unified Lake Management Plan (LMP). We will be finding out in the next week or so if the grants are awarded. Chad informed the LLC that the Steering Team is currently working on an outreach and communication plan. The plan will gather input and data from stakeholders and the public which will be a very transparent process. Meetings will be scheduled with a consultant in 2017 to identify any data gaps, create a future work plan, and cost estimates. Additional DNR grants will be applied for at the end of 2017. The Steering Team's goal is to have the LMP completed the end of 2018.

Discuss the Request of Cost Sharing for a Well Abandonment by All Saints Lutheran Church in the Town of Algoma

Discussion was had on the existing Well Abandonment Program. The program states that only privately owned wells (not commercial or municipal) are eligible for cost sharing. A Hegg/Snider motion was made to have the All Saints Lutheran Church provide information on when the well was initially installed, this request will be then brought back to the March LCC meeting for review passed 5-0.

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

Following a review and discussion of the projects listed on the CSA Summary, a Snider/Hegg motion to approve \$879.00 for Bonnie Binner, \$518.00 for Steve Ploetz, and \$783.00 for John Anderson all for well abandonment projects passed 5-0.

Review the LWCD Project List

Chad reviewed the project list. Chad shared details on the Lake Poygan Breakwall project and stated that grants were recently applied for phase 2 of the project.

A Kriescher/Zentner motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 a.m. passed 5-0.

Chad Casper, Recorder