

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (LCC)

Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2022 LCC Monthly Meeting

Meeting Room A, James P. Coughlin Center
& Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Convene: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Farrey at 10:02 a.m.

Present: **LCC Members:** Bruce Bohn, Chuck Farrey, Julie Gordon, Karen Powers, Ben Joas, & Tom Snider

LWCD Staff: Chad Casper, Andy Maracini & Melanie Leet

Others present: Levi Schultz, NRCS

Absent: Roger Zentner

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

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

Approve March 10, 2022 LCC Meeting Minutes:

A Powers/Joas motion to approve the minutes passed 6-0.

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

None

Announcements:

- Director Casper thanked the LCC for changing the meeting time to 10:00 am to allow time to attend the P & F Meeting.
- Director Casper let the LCC know that it has been challenging to recruit a candidate to fill the Conservation Technician position. Casper said the position vacancy will continue to be posted for recruitment.
- Director Casper let the LCC know that the 2022 Tree Day is planned for April 13th.
- Director Casper informed that the 2022 Plat Book is complete and should be available in a week or so.
- Director Casper informed the LCC that the two LCC citizen members will be appointed and approved by the County Board in the near future.
- Director Casper expressed his appreciation working with all the LCC members and wished those well who will not continue to be on the LCC.

Committee Chairman's Report:

- Chairman Farrey let the LCC know that is has been a pleasure to serve as the Chair of the LCC and feels that this committee has taken a forefront on establishing good policy for the LWCD.

Business Items:

Progress report/update on the Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) Program

Melanie Leet gave the LCC a detailed report on the 2019-2022 MDV Program. Leet discussed the farmer outreach that was completed in the Winnebago Watershed that resulted in several projects getting installed in 2021 and others planned for installation in 2022. Leet explained that the outreach efforts made by everyone in the LWCD helped get our MDV funds allocated.

Discussion on the USDA's Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities Grant

Director Casper discussed the Climate-Smart Commodities Grant which is an opportunity for funding practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions or sequester carbon. Casper explained that another requirement of the grant proposal is to develop carbon markets and promote the resulting climate-smart commodities. Casper informed the LCC that the LWCD would be part of two proposals, one proposal is with the WDNR and includes the four Lower

Fox Watershed counties and the other is with Edge Dairy Farmer Cooperative and Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance and includes eight counties in the Upper Fox/Wolf Watersheds. Casper will keep the LCC informed as both of the proposals progress.

Review and Approve the Resolution to Support NACo's Position on Defining the "Waters of the United States" (WOTUS) Regulations with Agricultural Considerations

Following a brief discussion, a Gordon/Bohn motion to amend the resolution to include forwarding the resolution to the State of Wisconsin passed 6-0. A Snider/Joas motion to approve the resolution as amended passed 6-0.

Review and Approve Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program Cost-Share Agreement (CSA) for Ethan Calder's well abandonment project for \$500.00, CSA 22-01

Following a review of the CSA, a Gordon/Powers motion to approve \$500.00 for the Ethan Calder's well abandonment project passed 6-0.

Review the LWCD Project List

The LCC reviewed and acknowledged the new projects on the list.

A Bohn/Powers motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m. passed 6-0.

Chad Casper, Recorder