

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (LCC)

Meeting Minutes of December 6, 2018

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:** Steve Binder, Bruce Bohn, Chuck Farrey, Julie Gordon (arrived 9:08 a.m.), Ben Joas, and Roger Zentner.

LWCD Staff: Tom Davies

Others present: Barry Benson, USDA, WS

Absent: Tom Snider-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 November 1, 2018 LCC Meeting Minutes:

A Bohn/Joas motion to approve the minutes as presented passed 4-0-1 (Zentner abstained).

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

There were no public comments.

Announcements:

- Tom Davies distributed the December DATCP Newsletter for the LCC to review.
- Tom Davies reported that the LWCD had been awarded a \$200,000 NRDA grant and a \$40,000 NAWCA grant to help cost-share two shoreland protection projects. Davies stated that contract details will need to be worked out and that a budget amendment would be needed in 2019 to receive the funds.
- Tom Davies informed the LCC of an off-target manure application on the Fred Boss farm. Davies stated that Overton's Farm LLC operated the land and their custom manure applicator, Waste Control Services, applied manure into an adjacent water course. Davies explained that Overtons completed all the necessary corrective actions to abate the issue.
- Tom Davies reminded the LCC the Roger Zentner would be on the December 18, 2018 County board agenda for his re-appointment to the LCC by Chairman Ramos.
- Tom Davies informed the LCC that \$70,000 of SEG NMP funds and \$34,000 of bond funds from the 2018 SWRM Grant (DATCP funds) would be carried over into the 2019 LWCD Budget. Chairman Farrey will sign the paperwork when completed.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Farrey had questions and comments regarding the impacts to the Land and Water Conservation Department when towns incorporate into villages. Discussion ensued regarding County ordinance jurisdictions, impacts to adjacent towns, and tax base/revenue impacts from annexations.

Business Items:

Review and Approve or Deny, the 2018 Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP) Participant Claims- Barry Benson, USDA Wildlife Specialist

Barry Benson reviewed the proposed claims and explained why the number of claims was so low this year. Following a brief discussion, a Joas/Bohn motion to approve the claims as presented passed 6-0.

Review and Approve the 2019 LCC Meeting Schedule

Following a brief review a Gordon/Binder motion to approve the schedule passed 6-0.

Approve Authorization for Tom Davies to Approve Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program (WCWQIP) Cost Share Agreements (CSAs) Exceeding \$5,000 of County Funding for the Remainder of 2018

Tom Davies explained that this was an annual item in order to allow for the full execution CSAs in the remainder of 2018. Davies stated that a completed CSA is required in order to secure the 2018 funding for the project and to make it eligible to be carried over into the 2019 LWCD budget. Following a brief discussion a Joas/Gordon motion to approve the authorization passed 6-0.

USDA, Farm Service Agency (FSA) Update on the Farm Bill and Observations Regarding Local Dairy Operations

Rhonda Vande Hey, FSA provided a written summary of FSA programs and the impacts on the local farm economy. She also included information from a conference she attended on issues impacting agriculture. Chairman Farrey and Roger Zentner also provided their thoughts and observations on the current status of the local ag-economy.

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

Tom Davies reviewed the CSA summary with the LCC. Following a brief discussion, a Zentner/Gordon motion to approve \$20,000 for the Wilsman Rev Liv Trst and \$20,000 for Eric and Kelly Rennert, both for streambank protection projects passed 6-0.

Review the LWCD Project List

The LCC reviewed and acknowledged the changes to the project list.

Discuss Recommended WLWCA Poster Contest Procedure Changes and Judge the 2018 WLWCA Poster Contest Posters in Meeting Rooms A & B

Tom Davies reviewed the new WLWCA recommendations on pre-judging the posters to reduce the amount of posters to be displayed and judged by the LCC. Davies explained that almost 300 posters were submitted and the amount of time and building space required to display them all was becoming problematic. Davies went on to state that the WLWCA recommendation is to pre-judge the posters down to five per category before the LCC does their judging. The LCC members supported the new recommendations and asked the LWCD to implement them for all future WLWCA Poster Contests. The LCC members then individually judged the posters in meeting rooms A and B.

A Bohn/Gordon motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 a.m. passed 6-0.

Tom Davies, Recorder