

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes of November 3, 2011
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, Paul Eisen, James Englebert, Chuck Farrey, Ken Neubauer and Dan Stokes.

LWCD Staff: Tom Davies and Melanie Leet

Others Present: Jake Vande Berg, FSA, and Barry Benson, USDA Wildlife Services

Absent: none

Approve October 6, 2011 LCC Meeting Minutes: An Englebert /Neubauer motion to approve the October 6, 2011 LCC meeting minutes, passed 7-0

Announcements:

- Tom reported that Harvey Rengstorff, Town of Winneconne passed away.
- Tom passed out the two WLWCA *Thursday Notes* for the LCC to review.
- Tom announced that the Forest County resolution on managing the national forests had been passed by the legislative committee by a vote of 9-4. Tom also distributed an article from the Wisconsin Outdoor news supporting the principles of the resolution.
- Tom reminded the LCC about the WLWCA Conference in December and asked if anyone was planning on attending. He will have the conference resolutions and voting proxy on the next LCC meeting agenda.
- Tom distributed an article from the Winnebago Lakes Council newsletter regarding the Shoreland Buffer Tour sponsored by LWCD.
- Tom mentioned that the LWCD's budget had been approved with an amendment to add \$1900 into the "membership dues" account for the WLWCA annual dues.

Business Items:

Note: Due to scheduling conflicts Chairman Farrey, with LCC approval, addressed item B. of the agenda first.

Progress report on the James Schuster manure storage project

Melanie Leet reported that the concrete structure had been poured and that some small repairs and back filling needed to be done to complete the project. Melanie passed around photos of the project and explained that it was a major step to getting the manure storage project finished. She stated there was about a weeks worth of earth work remaining once things were dry enough to proceed and that Schuster would be utilizing the reception pit to get manure started into the storage system to generate heat for winter/cold weather. The LCC thanked Melanie for her report and congratulated her on seeing this project to completion.

Set the crop prices to be used to reimburse the 2011 Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP) participants for their crop damage and set the harvest cut off date

Barry Benson, USDA, WS distributed a list of proposed crop prices based on the current local markets. The LCC reviewed and discussed the price of each crop being paid for in Winnebago County. A Bohn/Neubauer motion to approve the prices as presented passed 7-0. The LCC then discussed the reasoning/need for a harvest cut off date with Barry. Following a brief discussion a Stokes/Barker motion to set the harvest cut off date at November 28, 2011, passed 6-0. (Eisen not present during the vote.)

Review and Approve Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program Cost Share Agreements (CSA) to provide funding for eligible projects

Following a brief discussion, a Neubauer/Englebert motion to approve \$842.00 for a well abandonment for Joachim Weigel Residual Trust passed 7-0.

Review and Approve NR151/ATCP50 implementation /compliance notification letters

There were no letters and the LCC took no action on this item.

Discuss current status of the 2012 Soil and Water Resource Management (SWRM)

Tom explained that DATCP had not yet provided the SWRM grant allocation plan and that there was a possibility that an additional 10% to 15% may be cut from the staff and support funds. This would be a deviation from the approved State budget and could mean an additional \$13,000 to \$20,000 reduction in the grant. Tom distributed a draft letter he created to be sent to State legislators representing Winnebago County and State Agency officials to provide an alternative to the proposed reductions. Following a good discussion and review of the letter with suggested edits by several committee members, a Barker/Eisen to approve and support the letter as revised by Tom, passed 7-0.

An Englebert/Stokes motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 am passed 7-0.

Tom Davies, Recorder