

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of November 5, 2015

LWCD Conference Room, James P. Coughlin Center

Convene: The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Snider at 9:00 a.m.

Present: **LCC Members:** Nancy Barker, Bruce Bohn, John Egan, Guy Hegg (arrived 9:10 a.m.), Larry Kriescher and Tom Snider.

LWCD Staff: Tom Davies

Others Present: Barry Benson, USDA WS

Absent: Chuck Farrey, excused

Confirm Meeting/Agenda has been Properly Public Noticed in Accordance with County Policy:
Vice-Chairman Snider confirmed with Tom Davies that the meeting had been properly public noticed.

Approve October 1, 2015 LCC Meeting Minutes: A Bohn/Kriescher motion to approve the October 1, 2015, LCC meeting minutes passed 5-0.

Announcements:

- Tom D. informed the LCC that the Weigh in on Winnebago Waterways Project Steering Team was going to pursue the large lake management plan grant for the Winnebago System as discussed at the previous LCC meeting.
- Tom D. informed the LCC that Diane Schauer, IS Coordinator for Calumet County was applying for a grant to allow her to assist Winnebago County with some IS issues.
- Tom D. explained that Richard Koepp has a very difficult well abandonment project that may cost nearly \$3,000. Mr. Koepp is requesting from the LCC cost sharing that exceeds the \$1,000 cap. The WCWQIP does allow the LCC to exceed the cap on a case by case basis.
- Tom D. reviewed a letter from DATCP officially acknowledging the approval of the Winnebago County Land and Water Resource Management Plan five year extension 2016-2020.
- Tom D. announced on behalf of FSA that there will be a general CRP signup starting December 1, 2015 and ending February 26, 2016.
- Tom D. distributed the 2014 DATCP/DNR Land and Water Annual Report for the LCC to review.
- Tom D. distributed the DATCP November Newsletter and an attachment called out in the letter.

Chairman's Report:

Vice Chairman Snider, on behalf of Chairman Farrey, commented on the reasons behind the actions taken to remove \$15,000 from County Executive Harris's 2016 budget for a portion of the cost of a Winnebago System Management Plan Coordinator to be co-funded by Fond du Lac and Calumet counties. Snider also commented on possible options going forward.

Business Items:

Review and Approve the 2015 USDA Wildlife Damage Abatement & Claims Program (WDACP) Crop Prices to be used to Reimburse the Program Participants for Their Crop Damage

Barry Benson, USDA, WS provided the proposed crop prices for the 2015 program. Following a brief review and discussion, a Bohn/Hegg motion to accept the prices as proposed passed 6-0.

Discuss and Set the 2015 USDA Wildlife Damage Abatement & Claims Program (WDACP) Harvest Cut-Off Date to be used to Reimburse the Program Participants for Their Crop Damage

Mr. Benson informed the LCC that field checks were complete. Following a brief discussion, a Hegg/ Kriescher motion to set the Harvest Cut-Off Date at December 15, 2015 passed 6-0.

Review and Approve or Disapprove the 2016 Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program Budget

Mr. Benson reviewed and discussed the 2016 Budget with the LCC and LWCD Staff. Following the discussion and recommended budget changes, a Hegg/Bohn motion to approve the budget as amended (Budget Total \$15,848.99) passed 6-0.

Review and Approve or Disapprove a Letter of Intent to Participate in the 2016 Deer Donation Program

Mr. Benson reviewed the WDNR required letter with the LCC. Benson also shared some history of the Deer Donation Program. Following a brief discussion, a Hegg/Bohn motion to approve participation in the program via the letter of intent passed 6-0.

Review the LWCD Project List

The LCC reviewed the new additions to the list. Vice-Chairman Snider stated he was pleased with the format used for the list that is provided to the County Board.

Review and Approve the 2016 LCC Regular Meeting Schedule

The LCC discussed the schedule and some concerns regarding conflicts with other County Committee meetings. Following the discussion a Bohn/Barker motion to approve the schedule as presented (meeting on the first Thursday of each month) passed 6-0.

Discuss Shoreland Buffer Agreement Renewal and Payments for Buffers Originally Installed Through the Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program

Tom D. presented information about the current Buffer Program and the possibility of renewing current contracts, updating the current incentive payment, and increasing the number of years the buffer must be maintained. Tom D. explained he wanted to provide the LCC plenty of time to think about this issue and provide guidance. Vice-Chairman Snider asked Tom D. to prepare some options to be presented at the December LCC meeting.

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 Barker/Kriescher motion to approve \$4,900.00 for Anthony Chier for a wetland restoration and \$445.00 for Edward Koelbl for a well abandonment passed 6-0.

A Kriescher/Hegg motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m. passed 6-0.

Tom Davies, Recorder