

	<p style="text-align: center;">APPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday, June 8, 2017 – 4:30 P.M. HHS Building Room #1001 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Iowa County Wisconsin</p>
<p>Meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Bunker at 4:30 P.M.</p>		
<p>Roll Call, Approval of this Agenda and Approval of the Minutes of April 13th, 2017. Members present: Bob Bunker, Carol Anderson, Dave Gollon, Tom McGraw, Rodney Anding, Greg Parman, and Daniel Nankee. Members absent: Jason James. Others present: John Meyers, Bill Grover, Judy Anderson, Rick Anderson, Andy Walsh, Dave Marshall, Richard Wedepohl, Doug Carden, Kyle Carden, Katie Abbott, and Larry Bierke. Sup. Gollon made a motion to approve the agenda for this June 8th, 2017 meeting with the change of switching the order of item #9 (Friends of Birch lake update) and #10 (Presentation on Birch Lake). Sup. Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Sup. Parman made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13th, 2017 meeting. Sup. Nankee seconded the motion. Motion carried.</p>		
<p>Report from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee. No action will be taken. Bill Grover from Southwest Badger Resource Conservation & Development Council provided an update on the Council's activities and thanked the County for their continued support.</p>		
<p>Ordinance/Resolution related to waste water disposal at Blackhawk Lake. Sup. Anderson provided an update that Corporate Counsel is working on the ordinance and should have more information for the next meeting. The County Conservationist attended the recent Blackhawk Lake Commission meeting and will be working with Sup. Anderson and the Commission to review existing ordinances. A DNR report to the Commission showed fish populations in the Lake are in good shape.</p>		
<p>NRCS Update. Andy Walsh provided an update that the Local Work Group for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) will meet on June 14, 9am to 11am at the Belmont Community Center; this is a meeting of local stakeholders to determine conservation priorities for Iowa, Lafayette, and Grant Counties. NRCS completed 180 site visits and signed approximately 100 cost-share agreements in the last two months. The next batching date for EQIP is October 20, 2017 for fiscal year 2018 funds. NRCS will be conducting annual compliance reviews in the next week on approximately 35 farms. Brief discussion of ways LCD could help NRCS with CRP workload in the future.</p>		
<p>Farmers Appreciation Day Awards. Katie Abbott stated that award recipients were selected at the February committee meeting, but recently there was a concern about practices on one of the properties. LCD staff determined the issue was being addressed and recommended award recipients not change. Criteria should be developed for choosing award recipients before next year's selection.</p>		
<p>Presentation on Birch Lake by Dave Marshall and Richard Wedepohl. Mr. Marshall and Mr. Wedepohl presented data from past studies they conducted regarding Birch Lake, provided some management options, and gave an example of the Lake Bellevue dam diversion project.</p>		
<p>Friends of Birch Lake Update. Doug Carden said Friends of Birch Lake Association has raised close to \$100,000 for their dredging plan, and thinks they will reach \$100,000 by the July County Board meeting. Mr. Carden discussed some</p>		

options and negative aspects of a diversion project. Mr. Carden requested the Committee recommend approval of the Friends of Birch Lake plan to the County Board. No action was taken.

DNR River Grant RFP and Timeline.

Katie Abbott reported that a Request for Proposals for a feasibility study to remove TP #7 (Birch Lake Dam) is ready to send out; the feasibility study would be funded by a \$10,000 River Planning Grant from the DNR. Ms. Abbott asked feedback from the Committee on the timeline. Discussion of timeline options in relation to a January 21 Dam Removal Grant deadline and the late July and August meetings the Land Conservation Committee, Public Works Committee, and County Board. Sup. Gollon moved to release the RFP immediately. Mr. McGraw seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MOU for Lowery Creek Watershed Partnership.

Katie Abbott reported that the Lowery Creek Watershed Partnership was requesting she sign an MOU to collaborate on soil and water quality conservation promotion. Discussion of partnership opportunities and balancing workload to ensure we prioritize helping farmers. Motion by Sup. Anderson to sign the Lowery Creek Watershed Partnership MOU for a period of one year with periodic review of time spent on the effort and focus on the Land Conservation mission. Seconded by Sup. Gollon. Motion Carried.

County Conservationist Update.

Katie Abbott gave an update on her first weeks. She is working with Finance Director Roxanne Hamilton on a resolution for the Executive Committee requesting \$26,000 for an LCD truck. The 2017 Southern Area Association tour is Wednesday August 30, 2017 in Grant County. Ms. Abbott is working with the Blackhawk Lake Commission on reviewing ordinances and asked that the Committee review the ordinances, particularly in regard to fees, at the next meeting.

FPP, LWRM cost-share, and CREP updates.

Katie Abbott reported that Len Olson is now working part-time and is focusing on completing about 170 FPP status reviews throughout the summer and early fall. Ms. Abbott referred to a report on LWRM cost-sharing that was provided in the packet; spending these funds will be a priority to avoid future underspending penalties. Staff is also working on 30 CREP enrollments, with about 35 more expected. CRP is near or at the national acreage cap and there is still uncertainty about which CREP contracts will be accepted to the program.

Motion to set the next meeting date and adjourn.

The next LCC meeting was set by consensus for July 20th, 5:00 PM at the HHS Building, Room 1001, 303 W. Chapel St., Dodgeville. Motion by Sup. Gollon to adjourn. Seconded by Sup. Parman. Motion carried.