

APPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday, October 12, 2017 at 3:30 PM HHS Building, Room 2001 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533

Iowa County Wisconsin

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Bunker at 3:30 P.M.

Roll Call, Approval of this Agenda and Approval of the Minutes of September 18 2017.

Members present: Carol Anderson, Rodney Anding, Bob Bunker, Daniel Nankee, and Greg Parman. Excused: Dave Gollon. Members absent: Thomas McGraw and Jason James. Others present: Katie Abbott, Andy Walsh, Mike Peterson, and Dave Terrall. Sup. Parman made a motion to approve the agenda for this October 12th, 2017 meeting, provided agenda items may be moved if needed. Mr. Anding seconded the motion. Motion carried. Sup. Parman made a motion to approve the September 18th, 2017 minutes with a change to list Sup. Gollon as excused rather than absent. Mr. Anding seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Report from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee. No action will be taken.

None

NRCS Update. Andy Walsh provided an update. The agreement between NRCS & LCD/LCC must be reviewed each year. The agreement is valid through 2018. Next year a new one will be developed to start in 2019. Mr. Walsh handed out copies of the agreement and requested he be contacted if there were any questions. Mr. Walsh also mentioned the EQIP batch date is October 20.

Preliminary map for Birch Lake Park and updated easement area. Mike Peterson, Village of Barneveld Trustee, presented a map showing the high water mark of the pooling area behind Birch Lake Dam if the dam filled but didn't overflow. The park area would be excluded from the County's easement with DNR based on this high water mark. The Village will then work on annexation of the park and a perpetual easement with DNR so they can patrol and make improvements at the park. Sup. Nankee moved to approve the map and forward to County Board. Sup. Parman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Wildlife Abatement Program:

- a) 2018 Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims budget approval
 - Dave Terrall presented the 2018 budget. Brief discussion of CWD testing. Sup. Parman moved to approve the budget. Mr. Anding seconded. Motion passed.
- b) 2017 crop price approval
 - Mr. Terrall present the proposed 2017 crop prices for abatement purposes. Mr. Anding moved to approve the prices as presented. Sup. Nankee seconded. Motion carried.
- c) 2017 budget amendment revision
 - The budget amendment approved at the previous LCC meeting was required to put out bids for fencing. The bids came in higher than 10% of the previous budget amendment so it needs to be re-approved. The higher costs were due to rocky ground that makes fencing more difficult. Sup. Anderson moved to approve the budget amendment. Mr. Anding seconded. Motion carried.

Blackhawk Lake updated Operational Agreement: Discussion of an addendum to the Agreement regarding matching dollars for dam maintenance and if discussion should wait until Birch Lake issue is resolved. Discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

Blackhawk Lake Gray Water Ordinance: Sup. Anderson provided the new Public Health Ordinance to the Blackhawk Lake Commission at their October meeting. The Commission was fine with the

Ordinance and had no further concerns on this issue.

Land Conservation Department Update: Katie Abbott presented Department updates.

a) 2018 budget update: with the State budget finalized, the LCD received a preliminary allocation amount for staffing and cost-sharing. The staffing grant will be higher than initially budgeted since the State budget included a funding increase.

b) Program updates: FPP, CREP, dam maintenance, cost-share

FPP site visits are done and the self-certification mailing is going out shortly. About 30 CREP contracts were submitted with about 15 to go.

Dam inspections and chainsawing trees encroaching on dams will take place this fall. There was a trespass issue on one of the dams, where a rope was tied to the spillway for people to climb down into the inlet pipe. There was also a bike ramp built at the edge of the plunge pool. The rope and ramp were removed and Ms. Abbott is checking with Corp. Counsel and insurance regarding steps to take to try to prevent future issues.

Cost-share underspending due to cancelled 2016 contracts will only be a few thousand dollars, which won't have a large impact on our funding calculations. 2014 and 2015 underspending still has a larger impact on our funding. The last of the 2017 funding contracts are in progress.

c) Outreach updates: Youth Conservation Field Day, farm tours

The Youth field day was moved to the rain date. A couple presenters couldn't make the new date so Rob from LCD and two DNR employees filled in. Photos of the day were passed around. Ms. Abbott had the opportunity to briefly introduce herself and mention cost-share programs at the Iowa County Uplands Farmer-Led Watershed Group's farm tour, which was attended by about 75 people.

Fee schedule review. Ms. Abbott provided the current fee schedule. She explained that the cost of endangered species reviews (cricket frog surveys and removal) can be cost-prohibitive and was concerned that the County fee could be the reason a project doesn't happen. She recommended changing the fees to \$0 if the project uses LCD cost-sharing, \$50 per day if it's an NRCS cost-shared project with a maximum of \$500, and \$200 per day if the project is not cost-shared by LCD or NRCS. Discussion of CREP and tree planter fees; consensus was to keep CREP fees as they are, and increase tree planter fees to match DNR's rate. Ms. Abbott will provide a resolution for review at the next LCC meeting.

Agenda items for future meetings: fee schedule resolution, Blackhawk Lake Operational Agreement

Motion to set the next meeting date and adjourn.

The next meeting date was set by consensus for Tuesday November 21 at 3:30 pm, with an alternate date of November 20 if other committee members cannot attend. Motion by Sup. Nankee to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Anding. Motion carried.