

MINUTES
Land Conservation Committee Meeting
Date: October 11, 2012

- 1. Meeting called to order at: 8:30 am, Land Conservation Department Conference Room**
- 2. Present:** Bob Bunker, Ron Benish, Dave Ladd, Dan Nankee, Roger Dax, John Meyers, and Greg Parman

Absent: None

Others Present: Jim McCaulley (LCD), Lucas Conmey (LCD), Dave Terrall (APHIS), Andy Walsh (NRCS)

Notice of Meeting Certification:

Motion to accept by: Dan Nankee

Seconded by: Greg Parman

Additions to agenda: LWRM, LCD cost benefit, TP 15 issue, NRCS update.

MEETING NOTES: Nothing to report

3. APHIS Issues

Discussion on the 2013 budget and crop damage by wildlife. Department of Natural Resources reimburses landowners for damages. \$2.00 from hunting license fees plus bonus tags pay for this reimbursement. 90% of the crops harvested was questioned.

Motion made by John Meyers to approve the 2013 budget. Seconded by Ron Benish. Motion carried. (Roxie needs to be notified.)

Motion made by Ron Benish to set crop price reimbursement. Seconded by Greg Parman. Motion carried.

Motion made by John Meyers to set 90% harvest date at December 1, 2012. Seconded by Roger Dax. Motion carried.

4. LWRM Projects

Matrix was presented on the projects. Total cost of LWRM projects contracted this time is \$20,525.00 with cost share portion being \$16,492.00. Most of the projects are for nutrient management, well decommissioning and stream crossings. Cost sharing is \$8.00/acre flat rate (2.00/acre for 4 years) for nutrient management, and 70% for all other projects.

John Meyers moved to accept and approve the new projects.
Seconded by Roger Dax. Motion Carried.

Ron Benish moved to make payments for completed projects.
Seconded by Greg Parman. Motion carried.

5. WLI/FPP Report

Jim McCaulley reported 220 farm visits were completed with workload split 50% Len Olson, 30% Jim McCaulley, and 20% Lucas Conmey. One fourth of the FPPs are reviewed every year. \$1.4 M credits to Iowa County. Land Department staff rent the Highway Department's car for these visits. By 2015 every farmer participating in FPP will be required to be in total compliance.

6. PL-566 Report

County is responsible for 12 dams. Six have been inspected by NRCS engineer Mike Dreischmeier and six were inspected by Jim McCaulley. There was a little extra expense this year due to mowing all the dams. Beaver baffle was put in this year at Norwegian Hollow dam for a cost of \$500.00 (estimate). The LCD and Ridgeway Township are working on getting rid of beavers at Murphy's Dam on Loves Creek. Black Hawk Lake, on Plank Road, used a backhoe to take out a plug.

Motion made Roger Dax to approve the extra maintenance costs on the dams. Seconded by Ron Benish. Motion carried.

7. Blackhawk Lake Update

Ron Benish reported on Blackhawk Lake. \$131,103.04 in cash and reserves. Couple of cabins will be built. Mooring fees will be increased by \$25.00. Sales tax will now be charged using the new computer program.

Motion made by John Meyers to follow through on the State ID #. Villages will be first before County. Seconded by Dan Nankee. Motion carried.

8. CREP Report

No CREP applications will be processed until the State or Federal Farm bill passes.

Motion made by Ron Benish to approve this decision. Seconded by Roger Dax . Motion carried.

9. WLWCA-WALCE Report

Jim McCaulley attended the first combined WLWCA-WALCE meeting in Wisconsin Rapids. Future annual meetings will be held in February. Leon Wolfe was the 3rd runner up in the Land & Water Board election. Fracking sand sales are possible here in Wisconsin. The Farm Bureau organization is asking the value of all LCCs. Iowa County was sharing staff with Highway Department.

10. Manure Storage and Utilization Ordinance Update

Review and discussion of the draft Iowa County Animal Waste Storage and Nutrient Utilization Ordinance document. Structures greater than 3500 cubic feet are required a permit. Reference was made to page 6, sections 4.01 and 4.02. Also recommend to have NRCS current standards in place. Discussion held to raise the \$100 application fee to \$400. County cannot be more restrictive on a surety bond.

Motion made by Roger Dax to increase the increased application fee. Seconded by Ron Benish. Motion carried.

11. 2013 DATCP Grant Update

LWRM contributions may remain level, but staffing could be down. Budget adjustments will be made when DATCP funding is reported.

12. LCD Office Space Update

The LCD and USDA may not remain co-located. Andy Walsh (NRCS) and USDA will re-advertise for his agency's relocation.

13. LCD Future Revenue Ideas

Future revenue ideas were discussed, including a \$25.00 late filing fee for Farmland Preservation Program Self Certifications.

Greg Parman moved to assess a \$25 late filing fee for 2012 FPPs. Seconded by Roger Dax. Motion Carried.

14. Youth Conservation Day Report

200 youth were in attendance from four schools—Mineral Point, Highland, Barneveld, Iowa Grant. Dodgeville SD would like to participate in the future. Staff consisted of LCD, DNR, Andy Walsh (NRCS), Ron Benish, and Dave Ladd.

15. LCD Staffing Update

Tammy Havlick has resigned; however, she will continue to work one day a week, schedule permitting, through the end of this year. A new office assistant is expected to be hired by November 15. Jim commented on the work of Lucas Conmey and Len Olson, and values their expertise and dedication. Nancy Mueller continues to do a real good job, too.

16. Thursday Notes

A copy was sent to members for review. No comments.

17. Other Business

Land and Water Resource Management plan to be done the same time as Scott's plan. Wait a year. Request submitted to DATCP.

Our levy is approximately \$140,000. With NRCS, every \$1.00 levied yields a return of \$43.54 in conservation revenues (\$1 – \$19 directly to us; \$1 – \$24 with NRCS).

Twin Valley Lake Dam is County-owned -- TP 15

Floodplain in breach of dam study is being done

Andy Walsh gave an NRCS update. \$670,000 is cost sharing amount for Iowa County. There are 66 contracts averaging \$10,000 per contract.

18. Comments

No comments.

19. Set Date and Location of Next Meeting and Adjournment

Thursday, December 13, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. in the Land Conservation Department's conference room.

Motion made by Greg Parman to accept date and location. Seconded by Ron Benish. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn by Greg Parman. Seconded by Roger Dax. Motion carried.