

**Land & Water Conservation Committee**  
**Minutes**  
**June 17, 2009**

**1. Call to order:**

The monthly meeting was called to order by Committee Chairperson, Mike Burow at 8:30 a.m. Committee members Greg Torres and Karen Christian were present. Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Beth Klotz, LWCD; Jennifer Kiser, LWCD; Nancy Lannert, LWCD; Brian Resch, NRCS; Justin Vogel, NRCS; Rob Klotz, Zoning; and Terry Gard, Human Services were also in attendance. Carlton Zentner arrived at 8:38 a.m.

**2. Roll Call (establish a quorum):**

A quorum was established.

**3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law:**

It was determined that the committee was in compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

**4. Review of the June Agenda:**

The June agenda was reviewed by the committee members.

**5. Citizen Comments:**

There were no citizen comments.

**6. Review and Approval of the May Meeting Minutes:**

Torres made a motion to approve the May meeting minutes as written. Christian seconded. Motion carried, 3/0.

**7. Introduction of New Student Intern – Jennifer Kiser**

Watkins introduced Jennifer Kiser, the new student intern for the LWCD. This is a grant funded position.

**8. Root Cellar/Quonset Hut**

Gard stated that he was concerned about the safety of the Quonset hut and had contacted Watkins with a request to have it taken down. Watkins informed the group that photos had been taken of the hut and presented at the last LWCC meeting. The historical value of the hut is being evaluated. An estimate for restoration of the hut has not been able to be obtained. Burow stated that he also thought the hut was a safety concern.

Burow moved and Torres seconded to authorize the LWCD to request an estimate from the Jefferson County Highway Department for razing the Quonset hut. Motion carried, 4/0.

**9. NRCS Report (Natural Resources Conservation Service) – Brian Resch:**

Resch discussed the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Floodplain Easement reports. See attached.

**10. NRCS – Contribution Agreement**

Handouts were distributed regarding a potential contribution agreement between NRCS and LWCD. The LWCD would assist the NRCS by performing job functions related to the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Payment would only be provided to LWCD if the CRP contract is approved. An LWCD employee would have some of his duties reassigned to enable him to perform this new task. More details regarding this proposed contribution agreement and funding level will be available in July. This agenda item will be placed on the July LWCC meeting agenda.

**11. Gravel/Borrow Contracts Update**

Watkins distributed a Summary of Bids Received from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. No bid has been let yet. This agenda item will be placed on the July LWCC meeting agenda.

**12. Assembly Bill - 75 (AB 75) – Rob Klotz**

On June 9, 2009, the Jefferson County Board passed a resolution opposing proposed changes to the State Farmland Preservation Program in the Budget Bill. Rob Klotz stated that this state attorney written law was not reviewed by the Zoning, LWCD and general public before being placed in the Budget Bill. This Bill would require the Zoning Department to update their current plan, which was created with extensive county citizen input. This update would be an added expense to the county. It also would make a requirement of a \$1000/acre fee be paid to the Zoning Department before a rezoning application could be accepted. This fee would then be sent to the State with no guarantee that any of the funds would be used in Jefferson County. The Bill has passed the Assembly and is now before the Senate.

Burow moved and Torres seconded the Jefferson County Land and Water Conservation Committee support of the resolution opposing proposed changes to the State Farmland Preservation Program in the Budget Bill and directs Watkins to notify the local Senators of this support. Motion carried, 4/0.

**13. Monthly Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) Financial Report**

Copies of the latest Statement of Revenue & Expenditures for LWCD were distributed. See attached.

**14. 2010 Budget Discussion**

Handouts were distributed regarding a potential fee increase for the Non-Metallic Mining (NMM) Reclamation Program. If fees were increased to the maximum allowed by NR135.39.4, it could generate an increase of \$1,790.00 annually.

The Livestock Siting fee could be increased from \$350.00 to \$1000.00.

**A. Potential Service Fee Discussion**

Service Fee Schedule: Conservation Division was distributed. See attached. Fees could be charged regarding the Farmland Preservation Program.

This agenda item will be placed on the July LWCC meeting agenda.

**15. Gypsy Moth Spraying Program Follow Up**

On May 21, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. 36 acres were sprayed for gypsy moth eradication. A reimbursement request for administrative costs has been made.

**16. Southern Area Tour Sign Up**

The Southern Area Tour will be held this Friday in Shullsburg.

**17. Correspondence:**

There was no correspondence.

**18. Set next meeting and possible agenda items:**

It was decided by the members that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee will be held on Wednesday, July 15, 2009, at 8:30 in Room 202. Possible agenda items include: Monthly financial report, gravel/borrow contracts update, NRCS Contribution Agreement, 2010 budget and potential service fees, Quonset hut, and SAA tour report.

**19. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Torres and seconded by Christian at 10:42 a.m. Motion carried, 4/0.