

**Land & Water Conservation Committee**  
**Minutes**  
**July 15, 2009**

**1. Call to order:**

The monthly meeting was called to order by Committee Co-Chairperson, Greg Torres at 8:30 a.m. Committee members George Jaeckel and Karen Christian were present. Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); and Beth Klotz, LWCD were also in attendance. Carlton Zentner arrived at 8:32 a.m. Brian Resch, NRCS, arrived at 8:35 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 July Agenda:**

The July agenda was reviewed by the committee members.

**5. Citizen Comments:**

There were no citizen comments.

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

Christian made a motion to approve the June meeting minutes as written, Torres seconded. Motion carried.

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

Resch discussed the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) report. See attached.

**8. NRCS – Contribution Agreement**

A potential contribution agreement between NRCS and LWCD is being explored. 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. The department would work on 25 contracts. The contracts would need to be completed by September 31, 2009. There is a potential revenue generation of approximately \$7,000.00 - \$9,000.00 by participating in the program.

Jaeckel moved and Christian seconded to grant Mark Watkins the authority to enter into a contribution agreement with the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Motion carried, 4/0.

This item will be placed on the August agenda.

**9. Root Cellar/Quonset Hut**

Watkins contacted the Jefferson County Highway Department and requested a written quote to raze and remove the Quonset hut. The hut may be collapsed and buried on-site. The quote has not been submitted at this time. This item will be placed on the August agenda.

**10. Gravel/Borrow Contracts Update**

Hoffman Construction was given the State contract. The contract is currently suspended for State review. Once they get the go ahead, Jefferson County will be able to enter into a contract with the contractor. The utilities have been buried on-site. The utility company will be responsible for reimbursement for any crop damage that occurred due to the burial.

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

Copies of the latest Statement of Revenue & Expenditures for LWCD were distributed. See attached. The Department is on target with revenues and expenditures.

**12. 2010 Budget Discussion**

Copies of the draft 2010 budget were distributed and reviewed by the committee. Basically, the only increase was in wages and benefits. Health insurance decreased. No capital project funds are being requested in 2010.

**A. Potential Service Fee Discussion**

Watkins did not recommend a service fee increase for the Non-Metallic Mining Program. He did state that an increase in fees from \$300 to \$1000 could be made for the Livestock Siting Program. The workload on these projects would warrant this increase. He also stated that an annual certification fee could be established for the Farmland Preservation Program.

Zentner moved and Jaeckel seconded to increase the livestock siting fee from \$300 to \$1000 per application. Motion carried, 4/0.

Jaeckel moved and Zentner seconded to establish a \$5.00 annual certification fee for the Farmland Preservation Program.

Zentner moved and Christian seconded to amend the motion to state for a one year trial period to sunset one year from today. Motion carried, 4/0.

The amended motion to establish a \$5.00 annual certification fee for the Farmland Preservation Program for a one year trial period to sunset one year from today carried 4/0.

**13. Southern Area Tour Report**

The Southern Area Tour was held in Shullsburg on June 19, 2009. A history of the area was provided along with a mine tour and trolley tour. Reclamation projects were shown. A business meeting was also held with agency reports provided.

**14. Correspondence:**

There was no correspondence.

**15. 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, August 19, 2009, at 8:30 in Room 202. Possible agenda items include: Monthly financial report, gravel/borrow contracts update, NRCS Contribution Agreement, 2010 budget and Quonset hut.

**16. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Zentner and seconded by Jaeckel at 9:36 a.m. Motion carried, 4/0.