Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes August 19, 2009

1. Call to order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Committee Chairperson, Mike Burow at 8:32 a.m. Committee members Greg Torres, George Jaeckel and Karen Christian were present. Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Beth Klotz, LWCD and Dave Terrall, USDA were also in attendance.

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 August Agenda: The August agenda was reviewed by the committee members.

5. Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments.

6. Review and Approval of the July Meeting Minutes:

Christian made a motion to approve the July meeting minutes as written, Jaeckel seconded. Motion carried, 4/0.

7. Deer Donation Budget via Animal Damage – Dave Terrall

Terrall briefly reviewed the history of the deer donation program. The DNR has placed the deer donation program into the animal damage program. This will increase the budget from \$14,600 to \$23,900. Jefferson County is strictly a pass through agency for this program. No Jefferson County funds are used for this program.

Jaeckel moved and Torres seconded to amend the Animal Damage budget to include the Deer Donation Program. Motion carried, 4/0.

Watkins will talk to Gary Petre regarding altering the 2010 Land & Water Conservation Department's budget to reflect this program change.

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

Mr. Resch, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) was unable to attend the meeting but sent a report. See attached report.

Burow moved and Jaeckel seconded to put the submitted NRCS report into the record. Motion carried, 4/0.

Watkins stated that Resch will begin a different position with NRCS on September 28, 2009, and will no longer be with Jefferson County.

9. NRCS – Contribution Agreement

The LWCD is currently working on 25 contracts for NRCS. A potential of approximately \$7,000.00 in additional LWCD revenue could be obtained through these contracts. Historically, approximately 25% of the contracts actually are re-enrolled. If the program goes well, the LWCD could increase the contract number for 2010.

10. Root Cellar/Quonset Hut

Watkins received a quote the Jefferson County Highway Department, of \$1900.00 to demolish the Quonset hut. Tree removal was not part of the bid. Watkins will contact the Parks Department to obtain a bid to remove the trees. This item will be placed on the September agenda.

11. Gravel/Borrow Contracts Update

Stade was awarded the fill contract. Jefferson County will be on stand-by with the contractor. This item will be placed on future agendas only if needed.

12. 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.

13. 2010 Budget Discussion

Watkins distributed a summary of the submitted budget. The 2010 levy is reduced by 2.89%. New proposed revenues include the contribution agreement and Farmland Preservation Program certification fee.

14. Correspondence:

An email was received from Gerard Sobczak suggesting the improvement of the condition of the burial sites on the potter's field.

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, September 16, 2009, at 8:30 in Room 202. Possible agenda items include: Monthly financial report, NRCS Contribution Agreement, 2010 budget and Quonset hut.

16. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Jaeckel and seconded by Christian at 9:12 a.m. Motion carried, 4/0.