

Land & Water Conservation Committee (LWCC)

Minutes

September 21, 2011

1. Call to order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Mike Burow at 8:37 a.m. Committee members Walt Christensen, Carlton Zentner and Scott Zimmerman were also present. Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); and Beth Klotz, LWCD 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 September agenda:

The September agenda was reviewed by the committee members.

5. Review and approval of the August 17, 2011 meeting minutes:

Zentner made a motion to approve the August 17, 2011 meeting minutes as written, Zimmerman seconded. Motion carried, 3/0, Christensen did not vote because he was not at the August meeting.

6. Citizens comments:

There were no citizen comments.

7. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) report:

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

8. Discussion and possible action on proposed Highway Department location on the county farm:

Watkins distributed an aerial photo (see attached) depicting that the potential additional land that would be needed for an access road to the proposed highway shop would be a minimum of 5.45 acres. Burow requested that the acreage be determined for the proposed berms and landscaping also. Watkins will obtain and provide that information at the next meeting.

9. Discussion and possible action on information regarding land values

Watkins distributed (see attached) an email from Dave Ehlinger, Finance Department, with a status update that Ehlers would be contacting Ehlinger on Monday. He is still awaiting contact. This item will be on the October agenda.

10. Notice of Non-Compliance with the Soil and Water Conservation Requirements – Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)

There were no Notices of Non-Compliance with the Soil and Water Conservation Requirements – Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) this month.

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. Watkins also distributed a copy of the 2012 Recommended Budget summary sheet. See attached. The 2012 request is 28.2% less than the 2011 budget. This is due in part to no capital items requested, employee retirement and health insurance contributions and farmland rental rate increase. The half-time Administrative Clerk position is to be restored to full time in 2012.

12. Correspondence:

There was no correspondence at this time.

13. Set next meeting and possible agenda items:

It was decided by the members that the next scheduled meetings of the Land & Water Conservation Committee will be held on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at 8:30 in Room 202. Possible agenda items include: Monthly financial report, discussion and possible action on proposed Highway Department location on the county farm, and discussion and possible action on information regarding land values, and Notices of Non-compliance.

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Christensen and seconded by Zimmerman at 9:38 a.m. Motion carried, 4/0.