

**Land & Water Conservation Committee
Minutes
May 15, 2013**

1. Call to Order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Walt Christensen at 8:30 a.m. Committee members Sarah Bregant, Walt Christensen, Matthew Foelker, Carlton Zentner (@ 8:35 a.m.), and Scott Zimmerman (@ 8:32 a.m.) were present. Also in attendance were Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD; Patricia Cicero, LWCD; John Molinaro, County Board Chairman/Supervisor; and Dennis Vollmer, NRCS.

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 May Agenda:

The May agenda was reviewed by the committee members.

5. Review and Approval of the April Meeting Minutes

Sarah Bregant made a motion to approve the April meeting minutes as written, Matthew Foelker seconded. Motion carried, 4/0.

6. Communications

There were no communications at this time.

7. Citizen Comments:

John Molinaro, County Board Chairman/Supervisor, spoke to both Senator Olson and Senator Schilling from the Joint Finance Committee to lobby to keep the Land and Water Conservation money in the state budget.

8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

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

9. Notice of Noncompliance with Soil and Water Conservation Requirements - Farmland Preservation Program (FPP):

Noncompliant: Thomas & Sanja Geise

Voluntary Non-Participation: Duane Pitterle, Lloyd L & Jane E Schuld

Matthew Foelker made a motion to accept the notices, Sarah Bregant seconded. Motion carried, 5/0.

10. Cancellation of Noncompliance – Farmland Preservation Program:

None at this time

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Highway Facility:

Update given by John Molinaro. The board has approved money to be given to a design firm to have an appropriate sized building designed.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Values Study:

Land value study was included in item #11.

13. 2013 Department of Agriculture Grant Contract Review - Mark Watkins

Mark Watkins indicated that the grant ended up being what we expected for the LWCD staff. We are right on target for 2013. See attached.

14. Letter of Support for City of Lake Mills Grant - Patricia Cicero

Patricia Cicero wrote a letter of support for the City of Lake Mills for grant applications the city will be sending out. See attached. Scott Zimmerman made a motion of support, Matthew Foelker seconded. Motion carried, 4/1. Carlton Zentner was opposed.

15. Department Vehicle Use Report - Mark Watkins

Invoices Jan - April ~ 69.4 gallons used @ \$204.51. See attached.

16. Update - Tree Sale Completion - Mark Watkins

Tree Sale was complete as of May 10, 2013. See attached.

17. Monthly Land & Water Conservation Department Financial Report - Mark Watkins

The most recent statements of revenues and expenditures were distributed. We are still on right on schedule with our budget. See attached.

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 June 19, 2013 at 8:30 in Room 202. Possible agenda items include: Removal of Item #12 from the agenda, 2014 budget process, a new Non-Metallic Mining policy, a change in the ordinance for manure storage, fees for an individual worksheet for livestock sitting and manure storage. Scott Zimmerman brought up the possibility of renting out the land around Countryside for farming this season. Mark Watkins will investigate to see if it's possible.

19. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Matthew Foelker and seconded by Scott Zimmerman at 9:14 a.m. Motion carried, 5/0.