

Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes

September 17, 2014

1. Call to Order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Matt Foelker at 8:03 am. Committee members Frank Anfang, Matthew Foelker, Peter Hartz, Ed Morse, and Carlton Zentner were present. Also in attendance were Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD; Sharon Ehrhardt, Jefferson County Solid Waste; 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 September Agenda:

The September agenda was reviewed by the committee members.

5. Review and Approval of the August 20, 2014 Meeting Minutes:

Carlton Zentner made a motion to approve the August 20, 2014 meeting minutes as written, Frank Anfang seconded. Motion carried 5/0.

6. Citizen Comments:

There were no citizen comments.

7. Communications:

- Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection (DATCP) September Report. See attached.

8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

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

9. Agricultural Plastics Recycling Program Discussion:

- **Recycling Efforts** - Sharon Ehrhardt, Jefferson County Solid Waste: Sharon Ehrhardt has spoken to farmers in Jefferson County and they aren't showing an interest in an Ag plastic recycling program. It's easier and more cost effective for them to just get a dumpster. Sharon Ehrhardt has looked into the cost involved in starting a program and has found that the cost outweighs the value and the start-up costs are prohibitive.
- **Grand Funding** - Mark Watkins contacted DATCP to check into the possibility of grant funding for Ag Plastics. DATCP informed Mark Watkins that Ag plastics are not acceptable for grant funding at this time.

- **Partnering Efforts** - Mark Watkins has spoken to the neighboring counties in this regard. Other counties would be interested in receiving Ag plastics if they can get it delivered at no cost to existing programs. At this time there are no funds available to offer producers or incentives to participate.

10. Deer Donation Program for Fall 2014:

See attached. The committee agreed that this program was beneficial to all parties involved. Carlton Zentner made a motion to keep the program going in Jefferson County, Ed Morse seconded. Motion carried 5/0.

11. Adaptive Management Potential Partnership with the City of Oconomowoc:

Mark Watkins spoke to the committee about a partnership with the City of Oconomowoc for Adaptive Management. Peter Hartz informed the committee that if we partnered with Oconomowoc for these practices, it could very well stretch our limited staff too far. Adaptive Management isn't well received by the municipalities and we would meet with some resistance. Peter Hartz thought it would be good for the county to partner with Oconomowoc, if they took the lead. Our staff and budget is already limited and Oconomowoc has the resources. The committee asked that we revisit this item at our next meeting after Mark Watkins speaks with the City of Oconomowoc again to get a better understanding on how they plan to proceed.

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

Voluntary Notice - Joseph & Gale Yaeger Trust - The committee accepted the voluntary notice.

13. Cancellation of Noncompliance – Farmland Preservation Program (FPP):

Timothy & Carol Ann Hunn - The committee accepted the cancellation.

14. Monthly Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) Financial Report:

As the finance department is completing work on the 2015 county budget, an August financial report was unavailable at this time.

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 October 15, 2014 at 8:00 in Room 112. Possible agenda items include: Items #9 and #11

16. Adjournment:

Frank Anfang made a motion to adjourn at 9:32 am, Carlton Zentner seconded. Motion carried 5/0.