

Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes

October 15, 2014

1. Call to Order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Matt Foelker at 8:05 am. Committee members Frank Anfang, Matthew Foelker, Peter Hartz (@ 8:14), Ed Morse, and Carlton Zentner were present. Also in attendance were Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD; Gerry Kokkonen, LWCD; Dennis Vollmer, NRCS; and Dave Terrell, USDA Wildlife Services.

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 October Agenda:

The October agenda was reviewed by the committee members. No changes were proposed.

5. Review and Approval of the September 17, 2014 Meeting Minutes:

Carlton Zentner made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes as written, Frank Anfang seconded. Motion carried 4/0.

6. Citizen Comments:

There were no citizen comments.

7. Communications:

- Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) October Report. See attached.

8. Dave Terrell - USDA Wildlife Services - 2014 Crop Damage Prices - 2015 Budget Approval:

Dave Terrell spoke to the committee in regard to the USDA/APHIS Wildlife Services Annual Budget. See attached. After a short discussion, the committee agreed the prices were a fair average. Frank Anfang made a motion to accept the numbers as listed, Carlton Zentner seconded. Motion carried 5/0.

9. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

Dennis Vollmer, NRCS has been out of the office so there isn't an official report this month but one will follow in November.

10. Agricultural Plastics Recycling Program Discussion:

- Update from Regional Meeting - Gerry Kokkonen: See attached. The committee agrees that the county would benefit from an Ag plastics recycling program, but the farmers are concerned with the costs involved. Mark Watkins suggested we get more concrete numbers and discuss this again at the November meeting.

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

The City of Oconomowoc spoke to Mark Watkins in regard to addressing the committee about adaptive management. The committee decided that unless Oconomowoc is willing to provide a person to facilitate the management we couldn't accommodate their partnership at this time. We don't have the staff or budget. Mark Watkins will talk to the City of Oconomowoc and get their thoughts then bring the information back to the committee.

12. Fall Animal Waste Handling Update:

Mark Watkins gave an update regarding animal waste issues going on this fall. The department has received complaints this fall that have been investigated on a case by case by case basis. Odor has been the most common complaint from time of year applications. Nutrient management plans are being followed.

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

None at this time.

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

None at this time.

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

The most recent statements of revenues and expenditures were discussed. Mark Watkins said that the department is right on track and he's confident that the department will come in either at or under budget for 2014.

16. 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 November 19, 2014 at 8:00 in Room 112. Possible agenda items include: Ag plastics recycling, possible cropland at the highway shop, mountain bike trails at the county farm, cost share contracts.

17. Adjournment

Frank Anfang made a motion to adjourn at 9:15 am, Pete Hartz seconded. Motion carried 5/0.