

Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes

August 19, 2015

1. Call to Order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Matt Foelker at 8:00 am. Committee members Matthew Foelker (Chair), Carlton Zentner (Vice Chair), Peter Hartz (Secretary), Ed Morse (Member), and Frank Anfang (FSA Rep) were present. Also in attendance were Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); and Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD.

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. Approval of the August Agenda:

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

5. Approval of the July 15, 2015 Meeting Minutes:

Frank Anfang made a motion to approve the July 15, 2015 meeting minutes as written, Ed Morse seconded. Motion carried 5/0.

6. Communications:

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

7. Citizen Comments:

There were no citizen comments.

8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

Since there is no NRCS presence in Jefferson County at the present time, a report was unavailable.

9. Discussion on Land & Water Resources Plan:

Mark Watkins completed the Land & Water Resources Plan, presented to the Land & Water Resources Board in Madison, and it has been adopted through 2021.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) 2016 Budget Request:

Mark Watkins discussed the 2016 Budget Request. The LWCD is at or slightly below 2015. The Farmland Conservation Easement Commission's \$55,000 request was removed as a levy item but may become a contingency fund item if necessary. Health Insurance costs are unknown at this time.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Funding Farmland Conservation Easements from County Land Sales:

See attached. Walt Christensen, Farmland Conservation Easement Commission, discussed a resolution to fund future Farmland Easements and asked for LWCC support. After a lengthy discussion and debate, Carlton Zentner made a motion to add and amendment to the resolution excluding profits from the sale of the County Farm. There was no second and the motion was dismissed.

Pete Hartz made a motion to support the resolution as written, Frank Anfang seconded. Motion carried 4/1. Carlton Zentner was opposed.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Funding Farmland Conservation Easements from the Sale of the Old Highway Shop:

See attached. This item was addressed along with item # 11.

Pete Hartz made a motion to support the resolution with the value not to exceed 20% of the sale price, Frank Anfang seconded. Motion carried 5/0.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Notices of Noncompliance - Farmland Preservation Program (FPP):

There were no notices.

14. Discussion and Possible Action on Cancellations of Notices of Noncompliance - FPP:

There were no notices.

15. Review of the Monthly Financial Report (June):

The most recent statements of revenues and expenditures (June) were distributed. See attached.

16. Discussion on Items for the Next Agenda:

Possible agenda items include: Items # 5 - 8, # 10 - 16.

17. Next Scheduled Meeting:

- September 16, 2015 @ 8:00 in *Room 202*

18. Adjournment

Carlton Zentner made a motion to adjourn at 9:20 am, Frank Anfang seconded. Motion carried 5/0.