

# **Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes**

## **September 21, 2016**

**1. Call to Order:**

The monthly meeting was called to order by Matt Foelker at 8:00 am. Committee members Matthew Foelker (Chair), Ed Morse (Vice Chair), Peter Hartz (Secretary), Gregg Patrick (Member), Laura Payne (Member), Frank Anfang (FSA Rep), and Margaret Burlingham (Public Member) were present. Also in attendance were Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD; Patricia Cicero, LWCD; and Cody Calkins, Natural Resource Conservation Service (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. Approval of the September Agenda:**

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

**5. Approval of the August 17, 2016 Meeting Minutes:**

Frank Anfang made a motion to approve the August 17, 2016 meeting minutes as written, Gregg Patrick seconded. Motion carried 7/0.

**6. Communications:**

- Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection (DATCP) September Report. See attached.
- Margaret Burlingham spoke about the Food, Land + Water Project she attended in Stevens Point.
- Ed Morse has been attending the Historical Society's meeting in regard to the Jefferson County Potters Field.

**7. Public Comment:**

There were no comments.

**8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:**

Cody Calkins discussed the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) report and informed the committee that NRCS in Jefferson County is now fully staffed. However, the District Conservationist position will be shared with Dodge County. This may change at a future time.

**9. Discussion on County Water Resource Management - Patricia Cicero:**

Patricia Cicero discussed Water Resource Management in Jefferson County. See the attached outline of the program and resources offered.

**10. Discussion on Potter's Field Maintenance:**

Mark Watkins informed the committee that Potter's Field will need a little extra maintenance to fill a few holes left when some small bushes were removed from the site.

**11. Discussion on Hoard's Dairyman Manure Pit:**

Mark Watkins spoke to the engineer Hoard's contracted to repair the manure pit. The engineer is working on a plan. The plan isn't finished and when the plan is available it will be presented to the LWCD.

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

Voluntary - Linda S Ball Trust, David Bienfang, Ricky J Gerbitz

Frank Anfang made a motion to accept the notices, Gregg Patrick seconded. Motion carried 7/0.

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

Dennis Stockfish

Gregg Patrick made a motion to accept the notices, Pete Hartz seconded. Motion carried 7/0.

**14. Review of the Monthly Financial Report (July):**

The most recent statement of revenues and expenditures (July) was distributed. See attached.

**15. Discussion and Possible Action on Purchase of Agriculture Conservation Easements (PACE) Applications:**

Margaret Burlingham informed the committee that the Haberman easement was completed 9/16/16. At this time 877 paid acres and 258 donated acres have been permanently protected by the Jefferson County Farmland Easement program.

**16. Discussion on Jefferson County Land & Water Conservation Report on Baseline Documentation for Easements:**

Mark Watkins - All easements are meeting standards. LWCD will continue to monitor.

**17. Discussion on Marketing Farmland Conservation Easements:**

Margaret Burlingham discussed possible marketing ideas - An article in the local paper in regard to Haberman's easement, a booth at Farm Tech Days, looking in to what other counties and/or states have done to create interest.

**18. Discussion on Items for the Next Agenda:**

Possible agenda items include: Items #8, #11 - #18, Farm Tech Days, County Farm lease, 2017 Budget Request update, send meeting invite to Kristin Westad @ NRCS, monitoring easements

**19. Next Scheduled Meeting:**

- October 19, 2016 @ 8:00 in Room 112

**20. Adjournment**

Gregg Patrick made a motion to adjourn at 8:55 am, Frank Anfang seconded. Motion carried 7/0.