

# Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes

## February 15, 2017

### 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) (at 8:05), Lloyd Zastrow (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; Gerry Kokkonen, LWCD; Nancy Lannert, LWCD; and Dave Terrel, 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. Approval of the February Agenda:

Mark Watkins addressed a typo on the posted agenda listing the approval of the December 12, 2017 meeting minutes. The meeting minutes that need approval are from the December 21, 2016 meeting. Agenda corrected and approved.

### 5. Approval of the December 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes:

Frank Anfang made a motion to approve the December 21, 2016 meeting minutes as written, Margaret Burlingham seconded. Motion carried 6/0.

### 6. Communications:

- Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection (DATCP) January & February Reports. See attached.
- WI Land+Water Annual Conference Registration Form.

### 7. Public Comment:

There were no comments.

### 8. Discussion and Possible Action on Wildlife Damage Claims - Dave Terrel, USDA Wildlife Services:

Dave Terrel discussed the 2016 Wildlife Damage Claims. Gregg Patrick made a motion to accept Tom Anfang's claim, Lloyd Zastrow seconded. Motion carried 7/0.

### 9. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

NRCS didn't attend the meeting therefore a report was unavailable.

### 10. Discussion on Hoard's Dairyman Manure Pit:

Mark Watkins - The waste facility remains empty and idle. The ground water contamination levels are still too high to re-start the Live Test Addendum.

### 11. Discussion on Farmland Preservation Program Updates:

Nancy Lannert brought the committee up to speed with the new Farmland Preservation Tax Credit Requirements. LWCD is working with the Department of Ag (DATCP) and the Department of Revenue (DOR) to make the required Certificates of Compliance meet standards. Both DATCP and DOR are using the Jefferson County LWCD as a pilot County based on their expertise and ability to work the bugs out of this new set of requirements.

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

Voluntary - Susan Teubert

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

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

Franz & Vickie Weigand

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

**14. Review of the Monthly Financial Report (November & Preliminary Year End ):**

The most recent statement of revenues and expenditures (November & Preliminary Year End) were distributed. See attached.

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

Gerry Kokkonen - An application came in, all paperwork was filled out correctly and submitted to NRCS. NRCS informed Gerry Kokkonen that the farm didn't rank in the top 3 so the application was denied. The article in the LWCD annual newsletter has caught people's attention and LWCD has spoken to 3 other interested parties.

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

Gerry Kokkonen will begin monitoring easements starting with the most recent easements along with NRCS. After these conclude, Gerry Kokkonen will begin annual monitoring of all other easements.

**17. Discussion and Possible Action on an Application Period for the PACE Program:**

No action at this time. This item will be added to the March LWCC meeting.

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

Margaret Burlingham did an interview (which was then set up as a podcast) with Michael Clish on WFAW AM 940 Morning Magazine.

**19. Discussion and Possible Action on Farmland Easement Dairy Breakfast Sponsorship:**

No action at this time. This item will be added to the March LWCC meeting.

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

Possible agenda items include: items #9, 10, 12-19, a blank easement application for reference, inviting the DNR to discuss a variety of items including but not limited to permits and personnel contact concerns, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Farm Tour

**21. Next Scheduled Meeting:**

- March 15, 2017 @ 8:00 in Room 112

**22. Adjournment**

Ed Morse made a motion to adjourn at 9:25 am, Frank Anfang seconded. Motion carried 7/0.