

Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes

March 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), 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; 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 March Agenda:

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

5. Approval of the February 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

Gregg Patrick made a motion to approve the February 15, 2017 meeting minutes as written, Margaret Burlingham seconded. Motion carried 7/0.

6. Communications:

- Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection (DATCP) March 2017 Report. See attached.
- Possible DNR visit to discuss a variety of items, i.e. permits and personnel contact concerns. Mark Watkins will continue to request a visit from DNR. Hopefully April.
- Margaret Burlingham attended a meeting with the ~~Foundation for a Sustainable Wisconsin~~ Food, Land & Water Project sponsored by WI Land + Water.

7. Public Comment:

There were no comments.

8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

Cody Calkins discussed Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) programs. EQIP program contracts are being drawn up and soil health applications will be available in the near future.

9. Discussion on Hoard's Dairyman Manure Pit:

The waste facility remains empty and idle.

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

There were no notices at this time.

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

There were no cancellations at this time.

12. Review of the Monthly Financial Report (Year End):

The most recent statement of revenues and expenditures (Year End) was discussed. There is no new information at this time. Mark Watkins gave an overview of the first quarter finances for the department.

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

There are no new applications at this time.

14. Review of and Discussion on PACE Application Form:

Margaret Burlingham discussed the application with the committee. See attached.

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

Mark Watkins informed the committee that the baseline documents have been completed and everything is up to date.

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

Margaret Burlingham suggested advertising a 90 day application period for the PACE program in August. Frank Anfang made a motion to advertise an application period for the PACE program. Advertising will start in correlation with the beginning of the County Fair and running for 90 consecutive days. Gregg Patrick seconded. Motion carried 7/0.

17. Discussion on Marketing Farmland Conservation Easements:

See item #16.

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

The dairy breakfast is 5/20/17. Mark Watkins will contact the breakfast's host in regard to the sponsorship.

19. Discussion on 4th Grade Farm Tour:

The farm tour is 5/3/17 at Kutz Dairy. Margaret Burlingham will bring more information to the April LWCC meeting.

20. Discussion on Items for the Next Agenda:

Possible agenda items include: Items # 8-13, 15-19, a Land & Water Departmental report.

21. Next Scheduled Meeting:

- April 19, 2017 @ 8:00 in Room 112

22. Adjournment

Gregg Patrick made a motion to adjourn at 9:00 am, Pete Hartz seconded. Motion carried 7/0.