

Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes

August 21, 2019

1. Call to Order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Matt Foelker at 8:30 am. Committee members Matt Foelker (Chairperson), Ed Morse (Secretary), Dan Herbst (UWEX Member), Frank Anfang (FSA Rep), and Margaret Burlingham (Member) were present. Also in attendance were Patricia Cicero, Interim Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); and Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD. Walt Christensen (Vice-Chairperson) was excused and Mike Kelly (UWEX Member) was absent.

- Others in Attendance: Anita Martin, Frankie Fuller

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 August Agenda:

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

5. Approval of the July 17, 20169 Meeting Minutes:

Anfang made a motion to approve the July 17, 2019 meeting minutes as written, Burlingham seconded. Motion passed 5/0.

6. Public Comment:

The Committee received public comment on an item that was not on the agenda.

7. Communications:

- Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection August 2019 Report.
- Preferred Method of Contact to Committee Members from LWCD.

8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

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

9. Discussion on Departmental Updates:

Cicero updated the committee on departmental operations: 2020 Budget preparation is underway, trees have been ordered for the 2019/2020 Annual Tree Sale.

10. Discussion on County Farm Tile System Repairs:

Cicero notified the Committee that tile inspection is complete and repairs will begin this fall after harvest.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Notices of Noncompliance - Farmland Preservation Program (FPP): Steven & Denise Soldner

Anfang made a motion to accept the notice, Herbst seconded. Motion passed 5/0.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Cancellation of Notices of Noncompliance - FPP:

There were no cancellations.

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

The most recent statement of revenues and expenditures was distributed.

14. Discussion on 2020 Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) Budget:

Cicero discussed the 2020 Draft Budget.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Purchase of Agriculture Conservation Easement (PACE) Applications & Baseline Documentation:

Cicero informed the Committee that the monitoring for purchased easements is complete for 2019 and the reports have been submitted to NRCS.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on American Farmland Trust Meeting Regarding PACE - Margaret Burlingham:

Burlingham attended an American Farmland Trust meeting in July to discuss the feasibility of restoring funding to the state's Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) program. Burlingham recommended inviting one of the speakers to a future LWCC meeting.

17. Discussion on Items for the Next Agenda:

Possible agenda items include: offer an invitation to Jennifer Filipiak from American Farmland Trust to speak at an LWCC meeting.

18. Next Scheduled Meeting:

- September 18, 2019 @ 8:30 am in Room 202

19. Adjournment:

Anfang made a motion to adjourn at 9:15 am, Burlingham seconded. Motion passed 5/0.