

# Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes

## July 15, 2020

### 1. Call to Order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Matt Foelker at 8:45 am. Committee members Matt Foelker (Chairperson), Walt Christensen (Vice-Chairperson), Dan Herbst (UWEX Member), and John Kannard (UWEX Member) were present. Mike Kelly (Secretary), JoAnn Davis (FSA Rep), and Margaret Burlingham were present via Zoom. Also in attendance were Patricia Cicero, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD; and Joe Strupp, LWCD.

- Others in Attendance via Zoom: Frankie Fuller, Anita Martin

### 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 July Agenda:

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

### 5. Approval of the June 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes:

Herbst made a motion to approve the June 17, 2020 meeting minutes as written, Christensen seconded. Motion passed 7/0.

### 6. Public Comment:

The Committee received public comment on an item that was not on the agenda having to do with the Climate Change Task Force.

### 7. Communications:

- Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection July 2020 Report.
- Land Trust Alliance Rally 2020 - October 6 - 8 Virtual Event <https://alliancerally.org/>

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

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

### 9. Discussion on Departmental Updates:

Farmland Preservation Program spot check is complete and status reviews are in progress, information for the annual report is being compiled, 2021 budget work has commenced.

### 10. Discussion on Wisconsin Counties Association Agriculture, Environment, and Land Use Steering Committee - Mike Kelly:

Kelly & Anita Martin have become members of the Wisconsin Counties Association Agriculture, Environment, and Land Use Steering Committee. Kelly gave a summary of the first meeting they attended. Kelly will share the resolutions passed by the Committee.

**11. Discussion on Department Water Resources Technical and Professional Assistance:**

Cicero outlined the work of the Water Resources Management Specialist position and answered committee questions.

**12. Discussion and Possible Action on Notices of Noncompliance - Farmland Preservation Program**

**(FPP):** David & Kay Blank, Weenonah Brattset Trust, Quentin & Mary Carpenter, James & Virginia Christiansen, GCW Schultz Farm Inc, Ethel Schlitz Trust, Robert Zoellick - Voluntary: Patricia Gilbert, Gilside Farms, James & Adela Koch Trust, Dean & Donna Miller Trust, Ronald Rew

Kannard made a motion to accept the notices, Herbst seconded. Motion passed 7/0.

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

There were no cancellations.

**14. Discussion on Regional Conservation Partnership Program:**

Cicero discussed the partnership program and answered committee questions.

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

There are no new applications at this time. Gerry Kokkonen has completed purchased easement monitoring with donated easements to be completed in concurrence with gravel pit monitoring. Annual monitoring reports are due to NRCS State office before the end of October.

**16. Review of the Monthly Financial Report (May):**

The most recent statement of revenues and expenditures was distributed.

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

Possible agenda items include: Alison Volk, American Farmland Trust - Jefferson County Data - Farms Under Threat Report, Matt Krueger, Wisconsin Land + Water, may also attend.

- **Next Scheduled Meeting:** August 19, 2020 @ 8:30 am in Room 205

**18. Adjournment:**

Christensen made a motion to adjourn at 9:45 am, Herbst seconded. Motion passed 7/0.