

Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes

September 16, 2020

1. Call to Order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Matt Foelker at 8:30 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); and Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD.

- Others in Attendance: Anita Martin and Frankie Fuller (via Zoom)

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 September Agenda:

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

5. Approval of the August 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes:

Herbst made a motion to approve the August 19, 2020 meeting minutes as written, Kannard seconded. Motion passed 7/0.

6. Public Comment:

There were no comments.

7. Communications:

- Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection September 2020 Report.

8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

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

9. Discussion on Departmental Updates:

Nancy Lannert (LWCD) is working on Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program re-enrollments.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Transfer of Nutrient Management Cost Share Funds to Fond du

Lac County: Christensen made a motion to transfer a portion of unused nutrient management cost share funds to Fond du Lac County, Herbst seconded. Motion passed 7/0.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Letter of Support and Match for Regional Conservation

Partnership Program Grant Application: Herbst made a motion to sign the letter of support and forward it on to American Farmland Trust, Christensen seconded. Motion passed 7/0.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Land & Water Resources Management Plan:

Updates to the plan are ongoing. LWCD staff met with the advisory committee and received good feedback and suggestions that will be incorporated into the draft plan.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Delegating the County Conservationist to Sign Conservation Reserve Program Plans: Christensen made a motion to delegate the County Conservationist to sign Conservation Reserve Program plans including the ones already signed in 2020, Kannard seconded. Motion passed 7/0.

14. Discussion on 2021 Department Budget:

Cicero discussed the preliminary 2021 Budget, including the preparation of 3 budget scenarios with expenditure decreases, as well as the possibility of funding the Water Resources Management Specialist position.

15. Discussion and Possible Action on Extending the County Farm Lease:

Herbst made a motion to extend the County Farm lease another 3 years, Christensen seconded. Motion passed 6/1 with Kelly being opposed to a 3 year extension. Kelly suggested a 1 year extension as an alternative.

16. Discussion and Possible Action on Notices of Noncompliance - Farmland Preservation Program (FPP): There were no notices.

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

There were no cancellations.

18. Discussion and Possible Action on Purchase of Agriculture Conservation Easement (PACE) Applications & Baseline Documentation: Nothing to report at this time.

19. Review of the Monthly Financial Report (July):

The most recent statement of revenues and expenditures was distributed.

20. Discussion on Items for the Next Agenda:

Possible agenda items include: Proposed Courthouse Remodel

- **Next Scheduled Meeting:** October 21, 2020 @ 8:30 am in Room 205

21. Adjournment:

Herbst made a motion to adjourn at 9:40 am, Christensen seconded. Motion passed 7/0.