

Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes

August 18, 2021

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), Mike Kelly (Secretary) (@ 8:35), John Kannard (UWEX Member), Kirsten Jurcek (FSA Rep), and Margaret Burlingham (PACE Rep) were present. Also in attendance were Patricia Cicero, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); and Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD. Dan Herbst (UWEX Member) was absent.

- Others in Attendance: Anita Martin, 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 August Agenda:

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

5. Approval of the July 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes:

Kannard made a motion to approve the July 21, 2021 meeting minutes as written, Christensen seconded. Motion passed 5/0.

6. Public Comment:

There were no comments.

7. Communications:

- Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection (DATCP) August 2021 Report.

8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

NRCS did not attend the meeting therefore a report was unavailable.

9. Discussion on Departmental Updates:

Nancy Lannert, prior to retirement, and Joe Strupp are in the process of updating conservation plans and sending out spot check status reviews for the northeast quadrant. Marisa Ulman is performing a Rock Lake shoreline survey. Cicero and Strupp are conducting interviews for the Resource Conservationist vacancy. Trees have been ordered for the 2021-2022 tree sale. Cover crop & pasture establishment cost share contracts are being signed. LWCD received a \$500 donation from Irene Kirst to go towards the new cover crop and pasture establishment program. Cicero is researching conservation projects that could be eligible for American Recovery Plan Act funds.

10. Discussion on LWCD Budget:

Cicero discussed the LWCD Budget. The 2022 Finance Committee budget hearing for LWCD is September 16, 2021 @ 9:00.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on LWCD Fee Schedule:

Cicero discussed the LWCD Fee Schedule. No changes were proposed for 2022. Kannard made a motion to accept the fee schedule, Christensen seconded. Motion passed 6/0.

12. Discussion on Jefferson County Soil Builders (JCSB):

Cicero discussed the meet and greet held at Brew with a View on July 22nd between JCSB and local lake groups. JCSB is working on an application for a producer-led grant through DATCP that is due at the end of September.

13. Discussion on Farmer-Led Grazing Group:

Jurcek gave an overview of Rock River Regenerative Grazers, a farmer-led grazing group in Jefferson County. Rock River Regenerative Grazers is working on an application for a producer-led grant through DATCP that is due at the end of September.

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

There were no notices.

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

Thomas & Catherine Tackman

Christensen made a motion to accept the notice, Burlingham seconded. Motion passed 6/0.

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

There are no new applications at this time. Cicero informed the committee that an appraisal has been ordered for the current application.

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

The most recent statement of revenues and expenditures was distributed.

18. Discussion on Items for the Next Agenda:

Possible agenda items include:

- **Next Scheduled Meeting:** Cicero requested to change the September meeting date due to a scheduling conflict. Kannard made a motion to **change the meeting date to September 22, 2021 @ 8:30 in Room 202**, Christensen seconded. Motion passed 6/0.

19. Adjournment:

Christensen made a motion to adjourn at 9:40 am, Kannard seconded. Motion passed 6/0.