

Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes

November 17, 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), Dan Herbst (UWEX Member), and John Kannard (UWEX Member) were present. Also in attendance were Patricia Cicero, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); and Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD. Committee members Mike Kelly (Secretary), Kirsten Jurcek (FSA Rep), and Margaret Burlingham (PACE Rep) were not present.

- Others in Attendance: Anita Martin (via Zoom) and Dean Weichmann, Jefferson County Soil Builders.

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 November Agenda:

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

5. Approval of the October 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes:

Herbst made a motion to approve the October 20, 2021 meeting minutes as written, Kannard seconded. Motion passed 4/0.

6. Public Comment:

There were no comments.

7. Communications:

- Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection November 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:

LWCD is working with Finance, Corporation Counsel, and the Drainage Board to discuss the Board's, meetings, budget, and collaboration with Jefferson County. Cover crop cost share program field visits are being performed by Joe Strupp and Josh Butteris. Gerry Kokkonen is taking drone footage of Jefferson County Parks for the Parks website and Facebook. Kokkonen is in the process of completing annual gravel pit inspections. Cicero & Marisa Ulman gave a presentation to the Lake Mills Town Board on previous & future work related to a stream that flows into Rock Lake.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Jefferson

County Soil Builders (JCSB): Herbst made a motion to enter into a MOU with the JCSB, Christensen seconded. Kannard made a motion to amend the MOU to include "Grant funds, where needed, can be used for LWCD administrative fees" under the heading Sharing of Grant Funds, Herbst seconded. Motion passed, with amendment, 4/0.

- 11. Discussion on Producer-Led Groups: Jefferson County Soil Builders & Rock River Regenerative Grazers:** Nothing new to report at this time.
- 12. Discussion and Possible Action on Multi-Discharger Variance Application:**
Herbst made a motion to submit the Multi-Discharger Variance application for 2022, Christensen seconded. Motion passed 4/0.
- 13. Discussion and Possible Action on Transfer of Bond Cost Share Funds to Green Lake, Marquette, and Door Counties:** Herbst made a motion to transfer (\$33,750) bond cost share funds to Green Lake (\$4,756), Marquette (\$12,200), and Door (\$16,794) counties, Kannard seconded. Motion passed 4/0.
- 14. Discussion and Possible Action on Notices of Noncompliance - Farmland Preservation Program (FPP):** Harvey Buske Trust, Barbara Frank, FS, LLC, Eugene & Betty Hasel Trust, Rodell Lea, Lein Acres, LLC, Richard & Marilyn Riedel Trust, Harvey Schave, Adeline Schwemmer Trust, Betty Strike RL Trust
Voluntary: Robert & Laura White Trust

Christensen made a motion to accept the notices, Herbst seconded. Motion passed 4/0.
- 15. Discussion and Possible Action on Cancellation of Notices of Noncompliance - FPP:**
There were no cancellations.
- 16. Discussion and Possible Action on Purchase of Agriculture Conservation Easement (PACE) Applications & Baseline Documentation:** American Farmland Trust and NRCS have yet to receive a contract for additional PACE funding. Kokkonen is working with a landowner that made a request to reapply for an easement. Kokkonen will submit the needed documents to NRCS.
- 17. Review of the Monthly Financial Report (September):**
The most recent statement of revenues and expenditures was distributed.
- 18. Discussion on Items for the Next Agenda:**
Possible agenda items include: Cover Crop & Pasture Establishment Cost Share Overview
- **Next Scheduled Meeting:** December 15, 2021 @ 8:30 in Room 202
- 19. Adjournment:**
Kannard made a motion to adjourn at 9:25 am, Herbst seconded. Motion passed 4/0.