

**LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 16, 2008**

1. Call to Order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Carlton Zentner at 8:45 a.m. Howard Wiedenhoft, Committee Member, Karen Christian, Committee Member; Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department; Deb Miller, Administrative Clerk; Patricia Cicero, Water Resources Management Specialist; Brian Resch, NRCS were also present.

2. Roll Call (establish a quorum):

Two officers were present to establish a quorum.

3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law:

It was determined by the chairperson that we are in compliance with the open meeting law.

4. Review of the January Agenda:

The January agenda was approved by the chairperson.

5. Citizen Comments:

There was no citizen comment.

6. Review and Approval of the December Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Wiedenhoft made a motion to accept the December meeting minutes as written. Mrs. Christian seconded. Motion carried.

7. NRCS Report – Brian Resch

Mr. Resch discussed the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) report. A hand-out was provided. See attached report.

8. Review County Cost Share Program

Mr. Watkins informed the committee members that the department is now accepting applications for the 2008 cost-share program. Applications will be accepted until March 15th. Environmental ranking sheets are used to determine which practices are given cost-share money. The individuals that have the highest ranking totals will be offered a contract for cost-share money to be used towards their practice. Nutrient management ranks the highest (for 1st time cost-sharing) and is categorized as a high priority practice.

Mr. Watkins recommends two changes to the cost-share program. The first is to change the cost-share cap from \$3,000 to \$4,000. He said that having a higher cap will provide an incentive for individuals to sign-up and complete their projects. The second recommendation is to limit nutrient management plans to four years. By doing so, it will mirror the state cost-share program. Also, under the state contract the nutrient management plan, after four years, has to remain in compliance under NR151. Mr. Zentner asked if the committee members could be given a written copy of the proposed changes before a vote is taken at the next meeting. Mr. Watkins will draft a copy of the recommendations and they will be mailed to the committee members prior to the meeting in February.

9. Status Update – Hope & Mud Lake Projects

Ms. Cicero provided a hand-out with an update regarding the Mud and Hope Lakes projects. The information was a breakdown of the sampling and management plans that were conducted. Information included data collection, data analysis, map development, and public involvement. A final management plan will be written in the winter/spring of 2008 with a project end date of June 30, 2008. Ms. Cicero also provided data of the fish species and aquatic plant species that were found in both lakes. Hand-outs were provided – see attached.

10. Correspondence

There was no correspondence at this time.

11. Set next meeting and agenda

It was decided by the committee members that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Jefferson County Land and Water Conservation Committee will be held on **Wednesday, February 20th, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 112.**

12. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Wiedenhoeft and seconded by Mrs. Christian at 9:40 a.m. Motion Carried.