

Jefferson County Land & Water Conservation Committee Agenda
"Working Together to Protect & Enhance the Environment"

Jefferson County Courthouse
311 S Center Ave, Rm 112
Jefferson, WI 53549-1701

Wednesday, March 18, 2020 @ 8:30 am

Committee Members: Matt Foelker (Chair), Walt Christensen (Vice-Chair), Ed Morse (Secretary), Dan Herbst (UWEX Member), Mike Kelly (UWEX Member), JoAnn Davis (FSA Rep), and Margaret Burlingham (Member)

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call (Establish a Quorum)
3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law
4. Review of the March Agenda
5. Approval of the February 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes
6. Public Comment (members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time)
7. Communications
 - Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection (DATCP) March 2020 Report
8. Discussion on Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report
9. Discussion on Departmental Updates
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Notices of Noncompliance - Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Cancellation of Notices of Noncompliance - FPP
12. Review of the Monthly Financial Report (January)
13. Discussion and Possible Action on Purchase of Agriculture Conservation Easement (PACE) Applications & Baseline Documentation
14. Discussion on Items for the Next Agenda
15. Next Scheduled Meeting:
 - April 15, 2020 @ 8:30 am in Room 112
16. Adjournment

A quorum of any Jefferson County Committee, Board, Commission or other body, including the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors, may be present at this meeting.

Individuals requiring special accommodations for attendance at this meeting should contact the County Administrator 24 hours prior to the meeting at (920) 674-7101 so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Land & Water Conservation Committee Minutes

February 19, 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), Ed Morse (Secretary), Dan Herbst (UWEX Member), Mike Kelly (UWEX Member), and Margaret Burlingham (Member) were present. Also in attendance were Patricia Cicero, Interim Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD; Jim Schroeder, County Board Chairman (@ 8:43); Cody Calkins, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS); and Dave Terrall, Wildlife Damage. JoAnn Davis (FSA Rep) was excused.

- Others in Attendance: 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 February Agenda:

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

5. Approval of the December 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes:

Herbst made a motion to approve the December 18, 2019 meeting minutes as written, Morse seconded. Motion passed 7/0.

6. Public Comment:

The Committee received public comment on an item that was not on the agenda.

7. Communications:

- Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection February 2020 Report.
- Town of Palmyra, Proposed Lowland Drive Discontinuance Public Hearing, February 29 at 10 am

8. Discussion and Possible Action on 2019 Animal Damage Claims - Dave Terrall:

Terrall discussed the Jefferson County Wildlife Damage Program 2019 Claim Summary. Kelly made a motion to accept the claims, Herbst seconded. Motion passed 7/0.

9. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

Calkins discussed upcoming NRCS program deadlines: EQIP and general CRP signup, 2/28/2020. Conservation Stewardship Program, 3/20/2020.

10. Discussion on Departmental Updates:

Cicero is following proposed legislation that would move review of livestock siting applications to DATCP instead of the County. Cicero submitted the required annual report to DATCP. Cicero submitted the Healthy Lakes Grant application. Cicero attended two Focus Group meetings (Agricultural & Natural Resources) for the update to the Comprehensive Plan and Agricultural Preservation Plan. Allison Volk continues to keep in contact with Cicero in regard to the Wisconsin farmland loss numbers and a presentation to the LWCC.

11. Discussion on County Farm Tile System and Repair:

Evaluation and repair of the County Farm tile system is ongoing.

12. Discussion on Combining Land & Water Conservation Committee with University Extension

Education Committee: The Executive Committee intends to make a formal recommendation to the County Board to combine the LWCC and UWEX Committees to begin in the new term.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on 2020 LWCD Budget Amendment for the Multi-Discharger

Variance: Christensen made a motion to forward the resolution amending the budget to the County Board for discussion during their March meeting, Burlingham seconded. Motion passed 7/0.

14. Discussion on Glacierland Resource Conservation & Development Technical Assistance:

Jefferson County LWCD provided a letter of support (for in-kind office space and staff time) for Glacierland RC&D's grant application to fund a part-time RC&D staff person to work on conservation practice education and technical assistance in Jefferson County.

15. Discussion on American Farmland Trust Proposed Regional Conservation Partnership Program Grant to Support Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements:

Cicero & Burlingham discussed the Partnership Program Grant with Allison Volk from American Family Trust. The grant is an anticipated five million dollars statewide to help fund PACE.

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. Review of the Monthly Financial Report (December):

The most recent statement of revenues and expenditures was distributed.

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

There are no new applications.

20. Discussion on Items for the Next Agenda:

No new agenda items were proposed.

21. Next Scheduled Meeting:

- March 18, 2020 @ 8:30 am in Room 112

22. Adjournment:

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

Kim Liakopoulos

Administrative Specialist I ~ LWCD



DATCP REPORT
Bureau of Land and Water Resources
March 2020

Conservation Partner Meetings

- We will once again be hosting conservation partner meetings. The meetings bring together conservation partners to engage in more in-depth discussion on a range of topics from program funding, compliance, training, and program updates. [Register here](#).¹ Meeting dates:
 - March 24: Juneau
 - March 26: Oshkosh
 - April 9: Merrill
 - April 13: Dodgeville
 - April 14: Eau Claire
- The agenda is still in development. To help refine the afternoon agenda, visit [this survey](#).² Contact Coreen Fallat at coreen.fallat@wisconsin.gov with questions.

Annual Reporting

- Just a reminder that county annual reports are due **March 20, 2020**. Your county should have received an email on January 3, 2020 with a link to the report questions. If you did not receive the email or need it resent, please contact Coreen Fallat at coreen.fallat@wisconsin.gov. Thank you to the 25 counties that have completed their reports already.
- If you would like one of your projects to be featured in this year's report, please contact Coreen Fallat as soon as possible. This will give us time to get the story together. Thank you!

Farmland Preservation Program

- The Winnebago County Farmland Preservation Plan was approved.
- Please send any revisions to your 2019 DOR Farmland Preservation CoC spreadsheets to Katy.Smith@wisconsin.gov.
- We are currently accepting applications for the 2020 AEA petition cycle. Interested counties and petitioners can contact Wednesday at wednesday.jordan@wisconsin.gov for help starting the petition process or to schedule an informational meeting.

Soil and Water Resources Management Grants

- The 2021 Joint DATCP/DNR Nonpoint Source Grant Application is available on the SWRM Grant Resources [webpage](#).³ Email applications to datcpswrms@wisconsin.gov by April 15, 2020.

Land and Water Conservation Board

- The board continues to look into potential non-point funding sources, is having discussions around climate change with regards to LWRM planning, and reviewing results from the Water Quality Task Force.
- Iron and Columbia county will be presenting their LWRM plan revisions; Iowa and Lafayette county will be presenting five year reviews of their plans at the April 7th LWCB meeting.

¹ <http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/confreg/ConservationPartnerMeeting.jsp>

² <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XL2DPLD>

³ https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/SWRMSect6.aspx

Drainage Program

- In accordance with s. 88.815, Wis. Stats., the Department filed notice to administratively dissolve 22 suspended drainage districts in June 2017. Jefferson County dissolved 6 districts and re-activated 1 district. June 2020 will end the 36-month waiting period and the remaining 15 districts will be dissolved. These include 5 districts in Dodge County, 1 district in Kenosha County, 1 district in Oconto County, 1 district in Racine County, 4 districts in Rock County, 1 district in Walworth County, and 2 districts in Waukesha County. If you have any questions, please contact Barton Chapman at Barton.Chapman@Wisconsin.gov.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- The updated CREP County/State 15-Year Agreement ([LWR-283](#)) and CREP Perpetual Easement Application ([LWR-209](#)) along with accompanying [instructions](#) are available on [the website](#).⁴ Starting with FSA CRP sign-up 53, the updated forms should be used for completing all CREP agreements and easement applications submitted to DATCP. The new forms are dated 2020 in the upper left hand corner of the first page.
- FSA is currently accepting new enrolls through September 30, 2020, and re-enrolls no later than August 21, 2020.
- DATCP is starting up perpetual easement monitoring efforts for the season, which include sending monitoring notification letters to landowners that have easements with expired federal contracts, as well as scheduling monitoring site visits. If you would like any assistance in monitoring easements for compliance, please contact Melissa Gilmore at melissa.gilmore@wisconsin.gov.

Agricultural Impact Statement (AIS) Program

- AIS staff will continue to participate in the review process for the South Bridge Connector project in Brown County. WisDOT is in the process of preparing a Tier One Environmental Impact Statement for this project, which could include the construction of a third bridge over the Fox River in or south of the city of Green Bay. AIS staff have assisted in the Indirect and Cumulative Effects analysis and expect to provide comments on the Purpose and Need, and the Range of Alternatives for the project.

Workshop Opportunity – “Unexpected Tomorrows”

- As part of its efforts to support farmers facing increased stress due to economic challenges, the Wisconsin Farm Center at the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is hosting a series of free, one-day workshops for farmers. These workshops will present opportunities for farmers to hear from others in similar situations as well as learn about stress management techniques and resources available to them. For dates and locations and to register, visit [this webpage](#).⁵

Conservation Engineering

- DATCP will be looking to hire an agricultural/conservation engineer for the Northwest area working out of the Altoona office to replace Pat Schultz (see below). More information to follow once the position is posted.

Staffing Update

- Pat Schultz has accepted a position in Minnesota with the Board of Water & Soil Resources in their technical training and certification program starting the beginning of April. We thank Pat for his work at DATCP in the Conservation Engineering Section for the past eight years and we wish him well in his new position!
- Tim Jackson recently accepted a position with the Bureau of Land and Water Resources as a Land Use and Zoning Specialist. Tim comes to us from Wabasha County, Minnesota where he worked as a Zoning Technician and Aquatic Invasive Species Program Manager. He will start on March 30th and will primarily work on Livestock Facility Siting and Farmland Preservation Planning and Zoning. Please join us in welcoming him!

⁴ https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/CREPCounties.aspx

⁵ https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Growing_WI/FarmCenterOverview.aspx