

# Land & Water Conservation Committee (LWCC)

## Minutes

November 16, 2011

**1. Call to order:**

The monthly meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Burow at 8:32 a.m. Committee members Walt Christensen, Carlton Zentner, Scott Zimmerman (8:34 a.m.) were also present. Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Nancy Lannert, LWCD; Dennis Vollmer, NRCS; John Molinaro, County Board Chairman and Lisa Patefield, Jefferson County Humane Society were also in attendance.

**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.

**5. Review and approval of the October 19, 2011 meeting minutes:**

Christensen made a motion to approve the October 19, 2011 meeting minutes as written, Zentner seconded. Motion carried, 3/0.

**6. Citizens comments:**

There were no citizen comments.

**7. Humane Society of Jefferson County Request**

Lisa Patefield from the Jefferson County Humane Society explained to the Committee that they are searching for a suitable site to house a new Humane Society facility. Their current site, in use since 1976 has severe limitations for a new septic thus they are searching to relocate an expanded facility. Patefield made an inquiry as to purchasing a site owned by Jefferson County on the west side of County Road W, south of the Old Countryside parking lot. Much discussion followed, with most of the Committee opposed to selling County Farm property.

**8. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) report:**

Dennis Vollmer discussed the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) report. See attached.

**9. Discussion and possible action on proposed Highway Department location on the county farm:**

There was no activity to report on this item.

**10. Discussion and possible action on information regarding land values**

There was no activity to report on this item.

**11. Resolution Supporting merging WLWCA with WALCE and the repeal and recreation of the WLWCA bylaws and fees update:**

As Jefferson County LWCC did not pay their full allotment of dues to WLWCA (\$1400 paid vs. \$1800 owed) Watkins informed the committee that the LWCC will not have a vote at the Annual Business Meeting. However, the LWCC can bring up discussion points. There was discussion concerning the merger and other resolutions that are to be presented at the conference. Christensen moved that Burow attend the conference with the resolutions approved by the LWCC and express at the Business Meeting the committee's support of the pending resolutions. Burow seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/1.

**12. Highway 12 by-pass route**

Christensen presented a resolution to the Committee to preserve farmland, rural character and habitat by opposing the Fort Atkinson Hwy 12 bypass alternative 7a. (See Attached) He was approached by the Friends of Koshkonong who are opposed to the loss of habitat, the splitting up of farms, problems with emergency response that will result with alternative 7a. Molinaro suggested contacting the City of Fort Atkinson to seek their input/support. Further discussion followed with Christensen stating that he will be taking the motion to Highway Committee and Zoning for their support. A motion was made by Zentner and seconded by Burow to support the resolution and forward to the various departments with the amendment of removing call for the development of a county wide transportation plan. Motion passed 4/0.

**13. Notice of Non-Compliance with the Soil and Water Conservation Requirements – Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)**

Several landowners had voluntarily opted out of the Farmland Preservation Program. Lannert presented the following landowners as Voluntary Non-Participation requests: David and Sharon Wegner, Concord Township, Donald and Milene Wegner, Concord Township, Gehrke Farms, Jefferson Township, Arthur Fenner, Farmington Township, Ronald Dahmert, Hebron Township, Ewald Perschke, Milford Township, Joseph and Shelby Wichman, Watertown Township. A motion was made by Burow, seconded by Zimmerman to approve the Voluntary Non-participation requests. Motion carried 4/0.

Landowners who failed to annually certify by October 31, 2011 with the County concerning their participation in the Wisconsin Farmland Preservation Program were issued a Notice of Non-compliance. Lannert presented the following landowners as being Non-complied for failure to annually certify: Dennis Stockfish, Lake Mills Township, Mark Stelse, Jefferson Township, Mark Skau, Sumner Township, Gordon Schmidt, Ixonia Township, Troy Schlender, Milford Township, Frieda Reich, Sullivan Township, Sherry Randall, Hebron Township, R&W Ventures LLC, Cold Spring and Hebron Townships, Don and Shirley Payne Trust, Sullivan Township, Randy Nelson, Ixonia Township, Norbert Miller Trust, Aztalan Township, Samuel Meyers, Hebron Township, Jennie Meske, Sumner Township, Robert and Deana Kravik, Oakland Township, Darid Korth, Concord Township, Wally and Debra Klass, Lake Mills Township, Carroll and Lucille Haerterich, Lake Mills Township, Fischer Land and Cattle (Sherry Randall), Hebron Township, Kim and Mardell Emslie, Jefferson Township, Ron Drost, Cold Spring Township, Dorothy Beilke, Aztalan Township, Joshua Gross, Aztalan Township. A motion was made by Zimmerman, second by Christensen to approve the Notices of Non-compliance. Motion passed 3/0 with Burow abstaining.

**14. Monthly Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) financial report:**

Copies of the latest Statement of Revenue & Expenditures for LWCD were distributed. See attached. Watkins reported 90% of the inbound revenue for the Department has been received. The final request for reimbursement will be made to DATCP in December. It appears that the Department will have a surplus of approximately \$40,000 at the end of the year due to extra revenue from employee contributions to retirement, Farmland Preservation Late fees and under-spending on the purchase of vehicles.

**15. Correspondence:**

No correspondence.

**16. Set next meeting and possible agenda items:**

The next meeting date will be December 21, 2011. Highway 12 resolution, proposed location of Highway Department on County Farm and information on land values will be included once again on next month's agenda.

**17. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Christensen and seconded by Zimmerman at 10:16 a.m. Motion carried, 4/0.