

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (LCC)  
Meeting Minutes of August 3, 2023 LCC Monthly Meeting  
Meeting Room A, James P. Coughlin Center  
& Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Convene: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Farrey at 9:01 a.m.

Present: **LCC Members:** Bruce Bohn, Chuck Farrey, Julie Gordon, Kay Horan, Doug Nelson, Dan Stokes & Doug Zellmer

**LWCD Staff:** Chad Casper

Others present: Lynn Szulczewski, NRCS, Olivia Hoffman, Glacierland RC&D

Absent: None

Confirm Meeting/Agenda has been Properly Public Noticed in Accordance with County Policy:

Chairman Farrey confirmed with Director Casper that the meeting had been properly public noticed.

Approve July 6, 2023, LCC Meeting Minutes:

A Horan/Stokes motion to approve the minutes passed 7-0.

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

There were no public comments.

Agency Reports:

Lynn Szulczewski, NRCS said that the 2024 EQIP sign-up deadlines were announced and are November 1, 2023, and May 17, 2024. Szulczewski also mentioned that the CSP sign-up deadline is February 9, 2024.

Olivia Hoffman, Glacierland RC&D reported that phragmites mapping will be completed soon in Winnebago County.

Announcements:

- Director Casper informed the LCC that the 2024 LWCD budget is complete and will be submitted by August 7<sup>th</sup>. Casper stated that the budget will be reviewed with Exec. Doemel in August.
- Director Casper let the LCC know that Legislature's Joint Finance Committee vote has resulted in a \$6,638 reduction to county conservation staffing for the LWCD in 2024.
- Director Casper let the LCC know that the LWCD is working on trying to secure a processor for the Deer Donation Program this year. Casper said that we worked in the past with Becks Meats, and they opted out of the program in 2022.
- Director Casper let the LCC know that the aquatic vegetation surveys were completed in July at the Stabenow and Clarks Bay breakwall sites. Casper said that the aquatic plant response exceeded expectations and he would give a more detailed report at the September LCC Meeting.
- Director Casper let the LCC know that the LWCD has a display at the County Fair promoting the department and showcasing some of the work we do.
- Director Casper told the LCC that he met with UWO representatives regarding a potential LWCD internship opportunity in the future.
- Supervisor Horan informed the LCC that the Winnebago County Committee Structure is on the August 7<sup>th</sup> agenda for the Judiciary & Public Safety Committee. Horan explained that they are proposing to have a Natural Resource Committee that would consist of LWCD, Park and Extension. Horan urged other LCC members to attend the Judiciary & Public Safety Committee and oppose this change.

Committee Chairman's Report:

- No Report

## Business Items:

### Update and Report on the Winnebago Waterways Program

Director Casper gave the LCC a detailed update and report on the Winnebago Waterways Program. Casper discussed some of the initiatives happening including; working with GEI on a streambank inventory, Climate Smart Grant, Terrell's Island/Samer's Bay project, GLSNRP Grant in the Rat River Watershed, AIS Program and many other projects. Casper also informed the LCC that the Winnebago Waterways Director position has not been filled and FWWA is working hard to recruit someone hopefully soon.

### Review and Discuss the Final Draft of the LWCD Spirit Fund Program Policy Plan

Director Casper gave the LCC an overview of the final draft of the LWCD Spirit Fund Program, Policy Plan. Bruce Bohn asked what best management practices (BMPs) are included in the Structural BMP portion of the plan. Casper stated that all eligible BMPs are identified in ATCP 50 unless otherwise noted in the policy plan. Chairman Farrey explained the process for amending the plan in future years. Farrey also explained that the plan is scheduled to advance to the County Board Special Orders meeting in September for final approval. The LCC thanked the LWCD staff for all the work put into creating the Spirit Fund Program Policy Plan.

### Review and Approve the Resolution to Request Authority to Apply for and Accept a Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant

Director Casper informed the LCC that a local group of 12 producers were looking to pursue a Producer-Led Grant. The group's name is the "Muddy Bottom Farmers" and the grant funds would be allocated towards two field days, a winter workshop, and I & E materials. The LWCD would be the collaborator and the fiscal agent for the grant in 2024. After a brief discussion, a Gordon/Horan motion to approve the Resolution passed 7-0.

### Review and Approve Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program Cost-Share Agreement (CSAs) - CSA 23-11, James Chaudoir Well Abandonment Project for \$500.00 & CSA 23-12, Jerry & Lynn Szulczewski Rain Garden Project for \$500.00

Following a review of the CSAs, a Gordon/Zellmer motion to approve \$500.00 for the James Chaudoir Well Abandonment Project & \$500.00 for the Jerry & Lynn Szulczewski Rain Garden Project passed 7-0

### Review the LWCD Project List

The LCC reviewed and acknowledged the new projects on the list.

A Horan/Bohn motion made to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 a.m. passed 7-0.

Chad Casper, Recorder