

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (LCC)

Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2022 LCC Monthly Meeting

Meeting Rooms A & B, James P. Coughlin Center  
& Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Convene: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Farrey at 9:00 a.m.

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

**LWCD Staff:** Chad Casper

Others present: Merrie Schamberger & Michael Borucke, NRCS

Absent: Doug Nelson (excused)

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 October 6, 2022 LCC Meeting Minutes:

A Gordon/Zellmer motion to approve the minutes passed 6-0.

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

None

Announcements:

- Director Casper informed the LCC that the deer processor (Beck's Meat) for the Deer Donation Program is no longer accepting donations for the program. Casper said that deer donations will have to go to an approved processor in a neighboring county.
- Director Casper informed the LCC that the County is currently going through a General Code recodification process.
- Director Casper let the LCC know that Terry and Lynn Leichtfuss applied for EQIP to potentially help fund the abandonment of their manure storage pit to the proper design specifications. Casper said that this will need to be completed in 2023 to get them in compliance with the LWMO.
- Director Casper reminded the LCC know that the USDA – Climate Smart Commodity awards was announced and the proposal made with FWWA and Edge Cooperative was selected. Casper said that a meeting is planned on December 8<sup>th</sup> to start discussing what the next steps will be. Casper stated that the LCC would need to approve the subaward for the LWCD along with the County Board.
- Director Casper handed out a flyer to the LCC on the 2023 Farmer Roundtable sponsorship opportunities through the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance.
- Michael Borucke introduced himself as the new Soil Conservation Technician for NRCS.
- Merrie Schamberger let the LCC know the 2023 NRCS EQIP cookbook is being released in December and they will no longer have caps on the funding.

Committee Chairman's Report:

- Chairman Farrey informed the LCC that the ARPA Commission approved to have \$3,000,000 of ARPA funds be equally allocated to the municipalities in the County. Farrey explained that this would equate to approximately \$136k for each municipality.
- Chairman Farrey informed the LCC that the request for \$3,000,000 of ARPA funds for water quality initiatives in the LWCD will be on the ARPA Commission agenda on 12/14/22. Farrey said if passed, this would then advance to the County Board for approval.
- Chairman Farrey let the LCC know that a resolution will be advancing to County Board to rename the ARPA funds to Spirit funds.

## Business Items:

### Review and Approve the 2023 LCC Meeting Schedule

Director Casper requested to change the March 2, 2023 LCC meeting to March 9, 2023 because it conflicts with the Annual WLWCA Conference. Following a brief review of the 2023 LCC Meeting Schedule, a Gordon/Horan motion to approve the schedule as amended passed 6-0.

### Discuss and Approve the LWCD's continued participation in the Statewide Phosphorus Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) Program

Director Casper reviewed the MDV funds based on the associated HUC 8 watersheds and the municipal wastewater treatment facilities participating in the program. Casper informed the LCC that for the small amount of available funds, it requires a fair amount of administrative time in order to fulfill the WDNR requirements for the program. Casper stated that it would be more efficient to focus staff time on other more substantial funding sources for the LWCD in the future. Casper recommended that if the LWCD participates in the MDV Program in 2023, the largest available watershed funding would be selected to be as efficient as possible with LWCD staff time. Following a lengthy discussion, a Horan/Gordon motion to approve participation in the MDV Program passed 6-0.

### Approve Authorization for Chad Casper to Approve Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program (WCWQIP) cost-share agreements exceeding \$5,000 for the remainder of 2022

Director Casper explained that this was necessary in order to allow for the full execution of CSAs for the remainder of 2022. Casper stated that completed CSAs are required in order to secure the 2022 funding for the projects and make them eligible to be carried over into the 2023 LWCD budget. Following a brief discussion, a Gordon/Stokes motion to approve the authorization passed 6-0.

### Review and Approve Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program Cost-Share Agreements (CSAs) - CSA 22-15, Kristi Zellner Well Abandonment Project for \$500.00, CSA 22-16, Gary L. Marquardt Well Abandonment Project for \$500.00, CSA 22-17, Bohn Farms Inc. Wetland Restoration Project for \$8,750.00, CSA 22-18, Jesse & Jacqueline Steiner Wetland Restoration Project for \$7,350.00 & Ronald & Linda Wachholz Liv Trst Waterway System & Streambank Shaping and Seeding Project for \$11,550.00

Following a review of the CSAs, a Zellmer/Stokes motion to approve \$500.00 for the Kristi Zellner Well Abandonment Project, \$500.00 for the Gary L. Marquardt Well Abandonment Project, \$8,750.00 for the Bohn Farms Inc. Wetland Restoration Project, \$7,350.00 for the Jesse & Jacqueline Steiner Wetland Restoration Project and \$11,550.00 for the Ronald & Linda Wachholz Liv Trst Waterway System & Streambank Shaping and Seeding Project passed 6-0

### Review the LWCD Project List

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

### Judge the 2023 WLWCA Poster Contest posters

The LCC members judged the 2023 posters.

A Horan/Gordon motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 a.m. passed 6-0.

Chad Casper, Recorder