

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (LCC)

Meeting Minutes of October 7, 2021 LCC Monthly Meeting

Meeting Room A, James P. Coughlin Center

Convene: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Farrey at 9:02 a.m.

Present: **LCC Members:** Bruce Bohn, Chuck Farrey, Julie Gordon, Ben Joas & Tom Snider

**LWCD Staff:** Chad Casper

Others present: Jessica Schultz, Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance, Levi Schultz, NRCS

Absent: Karen Powers & Roger Zentner

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 September 2, 2021 LCC Meeting Minutes:

A Gordon/Snider motion to approve the minutes passed 5-0.

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

There were no public comments.

Announcements:

- Director Casper let the LCC know that there is a Farmer Roundtable planned at the Fin 'n' Feather in Winneconne on 2/16/22
- Director Casper let the LCC know that Coughlin Center meeting rooms A & B are already reserved on the day of the November 4<sup>th</sup> LCC meeting. The LCC agreed to change the next LCC meeting to November 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 in meeting room B at the Coughlin Center.
- Director Casper distributed the October DATCP Report for the LCC to review,
- Director Casper distributed a new brochure created by Sheila Smith, LWCD that will promote the value of soil health practices.
- Director Casper informed the LCC that the County Exec. is asking all departments to have a standardized memo that will provide more detail on agenda items.
- Director Casper let the LCC know that Cross Farms had a manure spill that had occurred near Oakridge Rd. and Green Meadow Rd. A manure tanker truck had tipped over and approximately 5,000 gallons spilled into the road ditch. Casper explained that measures were made to contain the manure from flowing. All the manure was cleaned up and there is no water quality concern.

Chairman's Report:

- No Report

Business Items:

Winnebago Waterways Program Update and Report

Jessica Schultz, Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance gave a detailed update on the Winnebago Waterways Program. She highlighted the AIS/Clean Boats, Clean Water efforts and how the future may look different because of potentially having to apply for multiple small grants. Schultz explained that the personal managing grants need to consider the large scale of the Winnebago System when awarding funds. Schultz also explained the need for additional WDNR staff dedicated to managing the Winnebago System and that currently there is 15% of one WDNR staff responsible

for the entire Winnebago System. Schultz complimented all the great work the Winnebago LWCD does and expressed that it would be great to showcase this more to the public. Schultz went on to say that she recognizes that LWCD staff are at full capacity and additional staff would greatly benefit efforts towards accomplishing water quality improvement goals set within the County. The LCC thanked Schultz for her report.

Review the Draft Agreement between Winnebago County and Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance for Implementation of the Great Lakes Sediment Reduction Nutrient Program Grant

Chairman Farrey had concerns regarding the ability to fulfill the County's grant responsibilities in the agreement if the LWCD new position request was not approved. Director Casper agreed that an additional staff for the LWCD would be needed to truly keep the momentum going with the soil health efforts and keep working towards accomplishing the pollutant goal reductions set in the 9KE Plan. Casper said that he would be able to fulfill the County's grant responsibilities by temporarily adjusting staff workloads. Casper went on to explain that as momentum grows with the soil health efforts identified within the grant, the LWCD would not have the capacity to apply for future soil health grants and be a dedicated resource for the producers in the County without the new position. Farrey said he plans to have this on the LCC agenda in November for approval.

Review a Water Quality Improvement Program "Soil Health Challenge" Applicant

Director Casper informed the LCC that David Zwicky from the Town of Nekimi has applied to participate in the "Soil Health Challenge" Program. Casper gave an overview of the "Soil Health Challenge" and explained that the applicant was looking to enroll 20 acres into the Program.

Review and Approve NR151/ATCP50 Implementation/Compliance Notification Letters

Director Casper reviewed the notification letters summary sheet and gave the LCC an overview of all the work designed by the LWCD on the two farms to control the runoff from manure and feed storage. Casper went on to explain that all of the best management practices installed are controlling the manure and feed storage runoff and both of these sites are now in compliance with NR151/ATCP50. Following a brief discussion, a Bohn/Gordon motion to approve the letters for distribution to the landowners passed 5-0.

Review and Approve Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program Cost-Share Agreements (CSA) to provide funding for eligible projects

Following a review of the CSA summary a Bohn/Gordon motion to approve \$10,832.00 for the Mark & Nancy Benkoske Streambank Protection and Shoreline Habitat Restoration for Developed Areas project, \$11,400.00 for the David Zwicky Soil Health Challenge project, \$500.00 for the Jerry & Peggy Bell well abandonment project, \$317.63 for the Blake & Madeline Taylor well abandonment project, \$500.00 for the Mark Kainz & Julia Salomon well abandonment project, \$500.00 for the Douglas Vollmer well abandonment project and \$500.00 for the Michael & Amy Matschi well abandonment project passed 5-0.

Review the LWCD Project List

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

A Bohn/Joas motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 a.m. passed 5-0.

Chad Casper, Recorder