

WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of December 5, 2013

LWCD Conference Room, James P. Coughlin Center

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

Present: **LCC Members:** Nancy Barker, Bruce Bohn, James Englebert, Chuck Farrey, Ken Neubauer, Tom Snider, and Dan Stokes; **LWCD Staff:** Tom Davies, and Kim Huettl

Others Present: Jake Vande Berg/FSA, Merrie Schamberger/NRCS and Barry Benson/USDA-Wildlife Services

Absent: none

Confirm Meeting/Agenda has been Properly Public Noticed in Accordance with County Policy: Chairman Farrey confirmed with Tom Davies that the meeting had been properly public noticed.

Approve November 7, 2013 LCC Meeting Minutes: A Neubauer/Barker motion to approve the November 7, 2013 LCC meeting minutes passed 7-0.

Announcements:

- Tom D. passed out the monthly DATCP report for the LCC to review.
- Tom D. distributed the LWCB Election Policy for the LCC to review before their January 31, 2014 LWLWCA meeting.
- Tom D. informed the LCC that the LWCD may be applying for a WDNR Lakes Protection Grant to offset the cost of sediment testing that will be done in conjunction with the Upper Pool Lakes shore land inventory.
- Tom D. reported that well water tests from the homes adjacent to the Oakridge Road Groundwater Restoration Project had come back free of e-coli with the exception of two that tested positive for coliform. The Public Health Department said the positive results could be due to how and/or where the samples were taken. Tom D. added that additional testing would be done in spring during the snow melt period.
- Tom D. informed the LCC that \$10,275.00 of SEG Grant funds used for NMP cost sharing had been transferred to Waushara County.
- Tom D. passed out information regarding wood utilization yards used to address the Emerald Ash Borer infestation.
- Tom D. informed the LCC of a new NRCS EQIP application policy requiring landowners to obtain and submit all necessary permits for their project with the application in order to get the best ranking. This new rule would require all projects to be fully designed and permitted before the landowner applies for EQIP funding. Tom informed the LCC that he would not be charging landowners for permits they may not need should their EQIP application be denied. As an alternative, the LWCD would provide a "letter of standing" stating the project is permit eligible, and that a permit would be issued when an approved design and proper fees are submitted to LWCD by the landowner.
- Tom D. shared with the LCC that UWEX and LWCD had met regarding the Speaking & Poster Contests and Conservation Field Days. The meeting was very productive and things are moving forward.
- Tom D. informed the LCC that the new truck would be ordered soon and should arrive mid March.

- Tom D. and Kim Huettl, Agronomist Assistant, LWCD informed the LCC that Kim's hours would end as of December 13, 2013. Kim thanked the LCC for allowing her to work and learn with LWCD and informed the LCC that she would be pursuing additional education at FVTC in the Agronomy Program. The LCC thanked Kim for her work and wished her all the best in the future.
- Merrie Schamberger informed the LCC that the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) was currently under a sign up period until January 17, 2014.

#### Business Items:

##### Review and Approve the Five Year Cooperative Service Agreement between Winnebago County and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and United States Department of Agriculture, Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services for the Implementation of the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program and the Required Resolution for Approval from the Winnebago County Board

Barry Benson/USDA-WS reviewed the proposed agreement with the LCC, and explained that it was basically the same as the previous agreements. Tom D. explained that all costs for the program, including the LCC's time, is fully reimbursed to the LWCD by the WDNR. Following a brief discussion, a Neubauer/Barker motion to approve the Agreement and the associated resolution for the County Board passed 7-0.

##### Review and Approve the 2014 USDA Wildlife Damage Abatement & Claims Program (WDACP) Budget

Barry Benson and Tom D. reviewed the budget with the LCC. Following a brief discussion, a Neubauer/Snyder motion to approve the budget contingent on the County Board approval of the WDACP Five Year Cooperative Service Agreement previously discussed passed 7-0.

##### Approve Authorization for Tom Davies to Approve Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program (WCWQIP) Cost Share Agreements (CSAs) Exceeding \$5,000 of County Funding for the Remainder of 2013

Tom explained to the LCC that this is an annual authorization to finish out the year that allows LWCD to have completed CSAs that can be carried over into 2014. Following a brief discussion a Snyder/Englebert motion to approve the authorization passed 7-0.

##### Review and Approve NR151/ATCP50 Implementation/Compliance Notification Letters

Tom reviewed the Compliance Notification Letters Summary provided to the LCC. Following a brief discussion an Englebert/Neubauer motion to approve the letters for mailing passed 7-0.

##### Review and Approve Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program Cost Share Agreements (CSA) to Provide Funding for Eligible Projects

There were no CSAs, therefore the LCC took no action.

##### Review and Approve the 2014 LCC Meeting Schedule

Following a brief review and discussion regarding the "draft" schedule, a Neubauer/Barker motion to approve the schedule passed 7-0.

A Snyder/Stokes motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 a.m. passed 7-0.

Tom Davies, Recorder