

**Land Conservation Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Larry Sebranek. Present were, Larry Sebranek, Gary Peters, Marty Brewer, Marilyn Marshall, Virginia Wiedenfeld, Cathy Cooper, Kent Marshall, Ken Anderson, Randy Heims, Jake Elder, DNR and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. JoAnn Cooley, FSA and Carlton Peterson, NRCS arrived later in the meeting.

Motion made by Virginia Wiedenfeld to approve the agenda as amended & proof of publication; second made by Randy Heims. Motion carried.

Motion made by Marty Brewer to approve the May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014 meeting minutes; second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

Marilyn Marshall, Vice Chairperson for the Richland County Zoning and Land Information Committee called the committee to order.

Motion made by Gary Peters to approve the agenda & proof of publication; second made by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion carried.

Working Lands Initiative (Farmland Preservation) grant Cathy Copper and Mike Bindl announced that just a week from last Friday, Cathy received an email that Richland County could apply for round four of a grant to work on the Farmland Preservation Plan. The plan expires December 31, 2015 and needs to be updated and recertified by DATCP. The grant would pay up to 50% of the cost, up to \$30,000. There was discussion that the money may not be there in the future. And that the County can request a 2 year extension. The original deadline was May 15<sup>th</sup>, but it appears there was some room for a few extra counties to get in on this round of grants yet. Richland County could be taking a chance of there being no money available next year, so applying this year makes sense. Contact person would be Mike Bindl as it was agreed between Cathy and Mike. Motion made by Larry Sebranek to approve the grant application, second made by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion carried.

Randy Heims made motion for the Land Conservation Committee to approve the grant application, second made by Marty Brewer. Motion carried.

Motion made by Jim Lewis to adjourn the Zoning & Land Information Committee from the meeting; second made by Larry Sebranek. Motion carried.

Zoning & Land Information meeting adjourned at 9:15 am.

Before the Zoning & Land Information Committee left, Larry spoke about the RC & D meeting that he attended last Friday (6/6/14). It was discussed at the meeting that Grant County combined the two departments together (Zoning & Land Conservation) and it has not been working very well.

Land Conservation meeting continued.

Kent gave the WLI (Working Lands Initiative) report. Finished up laying strips for the spring; will probably have more to do after crops are harvested.

Cathy gave the Ash Creek Community Forest report. The mowing of the trails for the first time this season has been done.

Cathy gave the Mill Creek Watershed report. The last riser cage has been painted. The dam behind the Sylvan Town Hall needs to have a gate or something put up so that we can keep people from driving on the dam. The committee agreed that maybe two 8 ft. gates would work.

Ken gave the Conservation Technician report. He has 2 cost sharing contracts for the committees' approval, Jerry Kliet for a stream crossing and Janet Abers for stream crossing and some riprapping. Motion made by Randy Heims to approve both contracts for cost sharing; second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

Cathy gave the County Conservationist report; the office received a complaint about some hog manure being injected on a farm off of Town Hall Rd. They were injecting in manure up and down the hill not on the contour. The operation that is doing this is High View Farms, they are a large "CAFO" operation that requires permits from the DNR. The DNR has issued a notice of noncompliance as the land they were working is not part of their nutrient management plan.

Japanese Knotweed was next on the agenda. Cathy updated the committee on the progress of the spraying from last year and how those areas are looking this year. She also presented the committee with this year's spraying contract that will cost the same as last year. Motion made by Marty Brewer to approve the contract for spraying; second made by Randy Heims. Motion carried.

Jake Elder gave the DNR report. A couple of the supervisors are retiring. DMAP "Deer Management Assistance Program will be helping area land owners with their deer hunting habitat. This program is just starting out.

JoAnn Cooley gave the FSA report. Starting crop reporting; just received notice that continuous CRP signup have begun however, the office has not received any other information. There will not be a general CRP sign up this year. The crop years will be 2007 thru 2013 for the continuous sign up. Any of the 10 year CRP contracts that are expiring this fall will have the opportunity to a one year extension. The office can do crop reporting for Vernon, Iowa and Crawford Counties.

Carlton Peterson gave the NRCS report. The office has received the allocations for the EQIP program. We can start developing contracts for those who have qualified. There are 2 for the honey bee initiative, there are 18 applications for the CSP program and we are still waiting for those that have qualified. The local work group meeting will be combined with surrounding counties; the meeting will be on July 9<sup>th</sup> at the Richland Community/Senior Center.

Cathy reminded the committee of the Southern Area tour on July 30<sup>th</sup>.

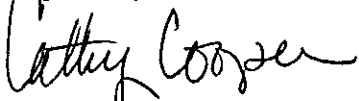
The following bills were presented; CK Norman Development, \$949.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,142.73; Rhyme Business Products LLC; \$1.98; Harry Young & Storer Pump Systems, \$560.00; Southern Area Association, \$125.00; Todd Stittleburg & Krueger Excavating, \$1,610.00; Wanless Bulldozing, \$550.00; WI DNR, \$70.00. Motion made by Gary Peters to approve the June Bills as presented second made by Randy Heims. Motion Carried.

Cathy informed the committee that the office will be purchasing a digital recorder as the micro cassettes are no longer being made.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion made by Randy Heims to adjourn the meeting; second made by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Cooper  
Secretary Pro Temp  
CC/tcb