

**Land Conservation Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 9:02 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, Greg Cerven and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. JoAnn Cooley, FSA, Carlton Peterson, NRCS and the DNR Foresters were absent.

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

Motion made by Marty Brewer to approve the September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 meeting minutes; second made by Marilyn Marshall. Motion carried.

Cathy gave the Ash Creek Community Forest report. The Conservation Fields Days were October 7<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>. While the staff was out there, people came out from Highland to ride horses on the trails. Field days went well. Ken spoke to the committee about the beaver dams that are new again. He suggested to the committee about getting a trapper to help remove them. Ken does have a few people in mind to trap the beaver. Once they have been trapped and it gets closer to winter the dams will be removed.

Cathy presented the Mill Creek Watershed report. Nothing new to report; next on the agenda was the issue of having Ken Anderson doing the mowing of the dams that are part of the watershed. There was further discussion of what needs to be mowed and sprayed. Motion was made by Randy Heims to have Ken continue doing the mowing and maintenance of the grounds around the dams, second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried. It makes more sense to have Ken do the mowing/maintenance of the dams and it is less expensive for the department. Ken will provide proof of liability insurance.

Kent gave the WLI (Working Lands Initiative) Will be starting to lay fall contour strips, Ed Ruff, Southwest Technical College Agriculture Instructor, will have a Nutrient Management class this fall.

Ken gave the Conservation Technician report. Currently have a couple of projects happening now and there is still a couple more yet to get in this fall. The truck will be going back to Pine Valley at the end of this month. Should the office need to use the truck all he needs to do is call Pine Valley and ask for the truck if they are not using it.

Cathy gave the County Conservationist report. A - Nutrient Management Fund transfer- Walworth County had \$20,000 available for transfer, so Cathy contacted Walworth and asked for \$17,000 for 3 separate projects. All fell into place and the money that Walworth had was transferred at the state level to Richland County to use for cost sharing. B -The Little Willow Watershed grant contract still has a few issues that need to be worked out before it will be signed. C - The building lease will be up in December of 2015. Cathy wanted to let the committee know what may be happening, this will stay on the agenda for next month. Kent let the committee know about the Japanese Knotweed issues, there is a lot more than originally thought. It is expected that the Highway department is spreading it unintentionally by the mower as they continue to mow. Cathy went back to her office and got the Nutrient Management contracts that need to be approved by the committee. Tom Nee Jr. for \$4,592 on 164 acres, Eberle Farms LP, \$3,780.00 on 135 acres and Kevin & Janine Eberle for \$8,624.00 on 308 acres, motion made by Randy Heims to approve these contracts, second made by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion carried

Tammy reported that the Conservation Banquet will be Wednesday October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Richland Community Senior Center. The meal has been set and dinner will be served at 7 pm with program to follow. Jesse Peckham will be doing the awards again this year.

Next was the Wildlife budget for 2015, Motion made by Gary Peters to approve the 2015 budget; second made by Randy Heims. Motion carried. Greg informed the committee that next month they will need to set the 80% harvest date.

There was no DNR report.

Cathy gave a brief FSA report. Joanne has been in training for some of the new programs, she will be in turn training others in the state.

Cathy gave a brief NRCS report. EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program) ranking period ended October 3<sup>rd</sup> for this coming season. Jean Vodak, Carlton's assistant has left the office for a permanent position elsewhere.

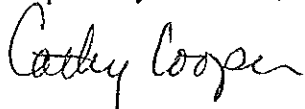
The following bills were presented; CK Norman Development, \$949.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,753.60; Wanless Bulldozing, \$500.00; Jerry Kliet, \$2,927.96; Brad McCauley, \$676.05; Darrell Olson Trucking & Jerry Kliet, \$2,310.00; Richland County Highway Commission, \$95.85; Kent Marshall, \$104.89; Rhyme business Products, \$11.30; Nita Liska and Storer Pump Systems, \$455.00. Motion made by Marty Brewer to approve the October Bills as presented second made by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion Carried.

NRCS has given their partners (FSA, LCD, DNR Forestry & DATCP) a print that will be hung up in the break room for appreciation and recognition of work done.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion made by Randy Heims to adjourn the meeting; second made by Marilyn Marshall. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Cooper  
Secretary Pro Temp  
CC/tcb