

Land Conservation Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 5th, 2015

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Larry Sebranek. Those present were Larry Sebranek, Marty Brewer, Virginia Wiedenfeld, Cathy Cooper, Ken Anderson, Gary Peters, Carlton Peterson, Jake Elder and Tammy Cannoy-Bender.

Motion made by Marty Brewer to approve the agenda as amended & proof of publication, second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

Marty Brewer had an amendment to the February minutes fifth paragraph down need to correct Motion was made by Gary Peters to deny the Weglarz claim, second make by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion carried with Marty Brewer voting No. Motion made by Gary Peters to approve the February 2015 minutes with Marty's amendment second made by Marty Brewer. Motion carried.

Next on the Agenda DATCP/DNR Joint allocation, this is for the money received from the state for staffing, cost sharing and nutrient management planning. Motion made by Duane Klang to approve the allocation request and have the Chairman sign, second made by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion carried.

Ken gave the Ash Creek Community Forest report. Nothing new to report.

Cathy gave the Mill Creek Watershed Report. The new owners of the "Dosch Dam" are asking to convert it to a dry dam. Cathy has been checking to this and according the NRCS state office it can be done. We will need permission from the DNR floodplain engineer and the Corp. of Engineers. This dam should be an easy conversion of wet to dry by just lifting the gate and releasing the water. Cathy will get in contact with the new land owner to confirm this is what they want before she gets in contact with the Corp. of Engineers. Ken informed the committee that the DNR is in agreement with the request because the stream below the dam is actually a trout stream and it needs colder water.

Cathy gave the Working Lands Initiative (Farmland Preservation) Report. Kent is currently out of the office. Sue Porter will be coming in to assist in a training class for Nutrient Management on Friday 3/6/15.

Ken gave the Conservation Technician report. Nothing new to report. He did check into the number of miles driven on the County Truck; 4,000 miles is the average driven when the Land Conservation Department has the truck for May thru October. Steve Alexander from Pine Valley had said that the sharing of the truck works, however if they had it through the summer months it would be used on a regular basis. Ken mentioned that it would be nice to have a little smaller 4x4 truck for the conservation department.

Cathy gave the County Conservationist Report. A. Proxy Letter is no longer needed for the conference. B. WI Land + Water By-Laws: The basic change in the laws is the name change of the organization. C. Building Lease; Cathy will be communicating with Carey Norman's negotiator (Judy) to get a meeting schedule set up. D. Phone Line: Cathy informed the committee that the federal offices will be changing their phone line to a digital system and the 647-2100 line will no longer be a part of the system, she would like to keep the conservation phone line. Noting that if the internet is down, then the phone line and everything else is down. It was suggested for her to contact Barb Scott at the Health and Human Services building to see if they have any old phones with an answer machine that we could use provided they can be programmed. E. Conservation Banquet location, Tammy has checked into 3 different locations for the banquet this year and after discussion with the committee a motion was made by Virginia Wiedenfeld to have the banquet at the American Legion and to have Paula White "Heavenly White Catering" cater the meal, second made by Marty Brewer. Motion carried.

Cathy asked the committee if they are receiving the agenda and minutes in a timely manner. There have been issues of not receiving mail as the postal system has everything going to Milwaukee for sorting and then mailed out from there. By doing this it adds an extra day or 2 from the date items are mailed out. It was suggested that for the committee members who have email to have items emailed and for the others to keep an eye out for the mail.

Jake Elder gave the DNR report. Not much to report, Jake wanted to remind the committee of burning permit are needed and that the DNR has been moving away from emergency fire wardens in the country and local businesses to having the burning permits available on line or over the phone for the public to get themselves. Currently there are quite a few vacancies in the surrounding area so the local office will be busy covering the other offices in the area, therefore the office will be closed even more.

Joann Cooley, FSA is out of the office, she didn't give an update to anyone.

Carlton Peterson gave the NRCS report; the office has received notice from the state of the 56 EQIP applications received 8 will receive funding at this point. The application were ranked from high to low and the low one will not be funded. There will be a cover crop sign up again this year in May. This is geared toward those who have not received cover crop funding in the past. The DALCI program sign up will also be happening in May. We are currently in the middle of the Conservation Stewardship Program "CSP" sign up. The deadline was extended to March 13th. The state office set the goal for CSP applications for the county at 15 applications, this office will have close to 40 applications by the end of the sign up. Cathy mentioned the Resource Conservation Partnership Program "RCPP". This program is a special program for the Little Baraboo watershed that effects land in the northwest corner of Westford Township. This program will provide up to \$8800 per year of additional cost sharing each year for up to 5 years depending on how much technical assistance and county sharing the county provides in that watershed

There were no committee member reports.

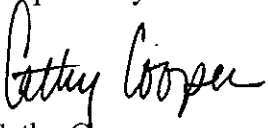
The March bills were presented as follows; CK Norman Development, \$957.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,105.93; Woodstock Nursery, \$1,009.00; Cathy Cooper, \$32.78; Richland Center Shipping News, \$37.20; Ken Anderson, \$48.30. Motion made by Marty Brewer to approve the March Bills, second made by Marilyn Marshall. Motion carried.

The next meeting is set for Monday April 13th, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion made by Gary Peters to adjourn the meeting, second made by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Cooper
CC/tcb