

Land Conservation Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 14th, 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, Gary Peters, Marilyn Marshall, Virginia Wiedenfeld, Cathy Cooper, Randy Heims, Kent Marshall, Ken Anderson, Mike Finlay, DNR, Carlton Peterson, NRCS and Tammy Cannoy-Bender.

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

Motion made by Marty Brewer to approve the August Minutes as mailed, second made by Marilyn Marshall. Motion carried.

Cathy gave the Ash Creek Community Forest report. Nothing new to report. There was a 911 call made from a hiker and the EMT's that responded have requested the trails be GPS available. Cathy explained that it would be difficult as people are always making their own trails. This might be a project for an Eagle Scout.

Cathy gave the Mill Creek Watershed Report. Nothing new to report.

Kent gave the Working Lands Initiative (Farmland Preservation) Report. Working with farmers on their Nutrient Management Plans. He worked the fair on Friday & Saturday and Tammy worked on Sunday a few soil bags were handed out mainly for garden plots.

Ken gave the Conservation Technician report. A few of the projects have been completed and the will be with the bills for payment. Norm Sandmire, Scott Siefkes and Steve Weeden projects have been completed.

Cathy gave the County Conservationist Report. Nothing much to report. She spoke with Wendy Warren, South West Badger RC&D regarding 2016 funds. The Japanese Knotweed was sprayed this last Friday and it appears that the spraying is working. She also reported that Sue Porter, DATCP will be coming in later this fall to help with a class for the Nutrient Management Planning.

Virginia Wiedenfeld attended the Southwest Badger RC&D meeting on September 4th. Nothing really new to report most of the counties are dealing with the same issues that Richland is dealing with. She also reported that several of the counties did not pay the entire \$2500.00 dues last year.

The County Conservation field days will be October 6th & 8th at the Ash Creek Forest. The outlying school will be on the 6th with Richland Center being on the 8th. Everyone is welcome to come out, we will start at 9 a.m. with the fish shocking happening near the end of the day.

Conservation awards were next. After much discussion of potential winners. Motion made by Virginia Wiedenfeld to offer the award to John Huth for Conservation Farmer second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried. Motion was made by Randy Heims to have Mike Finley, DNR and Cathy Cooper permission to select the wildlife and the forestry awards, second made by Marty Brewer. Motion carried. The conservation banquet will be on October 21st at the American Legion with the meal beginning at 7 pm., Paula White will be the cater.

Carlton gave the NRCS report; currently he has approximately 35 application for the EQIP program and he is expecting for a total of 75 applications. The Little Willow proposal that he put in for has been denied and he continue trying to get this approved. September 31st is the end of the fiscal year.

Mike Finley gave the DNR report. The timber market has been doing really well. Mike reported that they did get their allocation of forest improvement money and this year they received \$150,000 for forestry improvement money. There is a good field day scheduled for the 19th of September for Oak management in the morning and the afternoon will be spent at Bev Schmitz's property on Maple Grove Rd. There was a 30 acre fire in Avoca late in the season.

Joann Cooley is on conference call, there was no FSA report. Cathy reported that due to health issues Duane Klang will no longer be attending the meetings.

The September bills were presented as follows; CK Norman Development, \$957.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,232.43; Richland County Highway Department, \$220.01; Ben Meadows, \$65.33; Steve Weeden & Advance Dairy Solutions, \$923.84; Scott Siefkes & Mike Lepke Excavating, \$5,538.75; Wanless Bulldozing, \$450.00; Norm Sandmire & Carl Oman Excavation Inc., \$8,928.00; Dave Huth & Wanless Construction LLC, \$343.00; Motion made by Gary Peters to approve the August Bills, second made by Marty Brewer. Motion carried.

The next meeting is set for Monday October 12th, 2015, at 9:00 a.m.

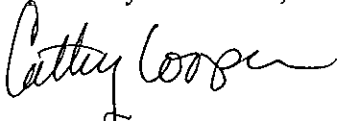
2016 Budget was reviewed. Motion was made by Randy Heims to have Cathy send a letter to Cary Norman & Judy Susmilch for a 1 year lease at the current rate, second made by Marty Brewer. Motion carried.

Motion made by Virginia Wiedenfeld to approve the proposed 2916 budget and take it to the Finance Committee second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

Marty Brewer, made motion to adjourn. Second by Marilyn Marshall. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Cooper
CC/tcb