

Land Conservation Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 9th, 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, Cathy Cooper, John Turgasen, Kent Marshall, Ken Anderson, JoAnn Cooley, FSA, Carlton Peterson, NRCS, Greg Cerven, Wildlife Damage and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. Virginia Wiedenfeld was absent.

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

Hearing no additions or corrections Chairman Larry Sebranek declared the October meeting minutes approved as mailed.

Cathy gave the Ash Creek Community Forest report. Nothing new to report, still working on getting the trails GPS'd. There are a few Boy Scouts that are looking for Eagle Scout badges and this could be a project for one of them.

Cathy gave the Mill Creek Watershed Report. Property owner Allen Halink and sons are working on having a lot of rip rap to be done along the banks of the creek, they are going thru a federal cost sharing program for assistance.

Ken gave the Conservation Technician report. We were short money on the Stibbe waterway project and Vernon County had some extra bond money that they are going to transfer some of their bond money to Richland. Motion made by Gary Peters to approve accepting the transfer of bond money from Vernon County and to have Chairman Larry Sebranek sign for the transfer. Second made by Marty Brewer. Motion carried.

Kent gave the Working Lands Initiative (Farmland Preservation) Report. He handed out a report that the state had compiled regarding the amount of claims made for the credit. Cathy added that the certificates of compliance will need to be numbered for the state, however the state has not figured out how they want the numbering system done.

Cathy gave the County Conservationist Report. She has sent in for the Japanese Knotweed reimbursement, however the payment will take some time as the state is working on a new reimbursement program that has not been mastered yet. Cathy is also still working on the Notice of Discharge (NOD)

Building Lease. Cathy received a letter from our Landlord Cary & Lori Norman, regarding the extension of the building lease and they have agreed to a month to month lease until the NRCS/FSA negotiations are complete. Cathy will continue to look into other space.

Wildlife damages report; Greg Cerven had a variety of items to present to the committee for their approval. A. 2016 budget is basically the same as 2015 for \$21,200.00. Motion made by Marty Brewer to approve the 2016 budget. Second made by John Turgasen. Motion Carried. B. Set commodity prices; Greg handed out the list of prices, Corn \$3.51/bu., Soybeans, \$8.49/bu., Alf. Hay \$112.00/ton and Mixed Hay \$67.00/ton. Motion made by Gary Peters to accept the prices as presented. Second made by Marty Brewer. Motion carried. C. Renew 5 year plan of Administration, Motion made by Marilyn Marshall to approve the plan as presented, second made by Marty Brewer. Motion carried. D. Renew 5 year service contract with Greg Cerven. Motion made by Marty Brewer to renew the service contract with Greg Cerven, second made by John Turgasen. Motion carried. Greg also requested to have the 80% harvest date set. After further discussion of the harvest date, motion was made by John Turgasen to set the date as November 20th, 2015, second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

Conservation Banquet went off without any problems, we may need to increase the meal price to \$15.00 next year or find a different caterer. Need to set up the room differently if held at the American Legion.

There was no DNR report.

JoAnn Cooley gave the FSA report. Before JoAnn got started Chairman Larry Sebranek asked her what was happening with the negotiations for their building lease. FSA/NRCS have written out the requirements that they will need in the lease. JoAnn does not know what Mr. Norman's reaction was to the initial request. She continued on with the FSA report. They have been busy with deadlines for programs. Crop reporting deadline is November 15th, 2015. CRP general sign up will run from December 1st, 2015 to February 26th, 2016.

Carlton Peterson gave the NRCS report. October 2nd was the deadline for the general EQIP sign up. The 2017 deadline will be September 1, 2016. There will be a honeybee sign up and a monarch butterfly sign up later in the spring of 2016.

Committee reports; Chairman Larry Sebranek reported that he would like someone else to take over attending the RC&D meetings that happen 4 times a year.

The November bills were presented as follows; CK Norman Development, \$957.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,317.25; Steve Sanders & Storer Pump Systems, \$724.50; Janet Carter-Hyre & Storer Pump Systems, \$980.00; Heavenly White Catering, \$708.00; Tammy Cannoy-Bender, \$12.66; Greeley Signs & Graphics, \$30.50; R & K Tire & Auto Service, \$66.95; Richard Hackl & Jim Stanek, \$4,865.00; American Legion Club LTD, \$30.00; Tom Sweeney & Wanless Construction LLC, \$2,264.36; Richland County Highway Commission, \$153.41. Motion made by Gary Peters to approve the November Bills as reported, second made by Marilyn Marshall. Motion carried.

Chairman Larry Sebranek reported that he finance/personnel committee approved the land conservation department to get a gas card but, they would like us to get one that will take off the federal gas tax prior to billing. Premier co-op will take this tax off.

The next meeting is set for Monday December 14th, 2015, at 9:00 a.m.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Cooper
CC/tcb