

**Land Conservation Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 11th, 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, and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. JoAnn Cooley, FSA and Carlton Peterson, NRCS arrived later in the meeting.

Motion made by Marilyn Marshall to approve the agenda & proof of publication; second made by Randy Heims. Motion carried.

Motion made by Gary Peters to approve the July 14th, 2014 meeting minutes; second made by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion carried.

There was no Southwest Badger RC&D report.

Ken gave the Ash Creek Community Forest report. He reported that he went out with Don Wanless when he was mowing the trails to make sure he got everything that needed to be mowed.

Cathy gave the Mill Creek Watershed report. Ken and Kent went out a couple of days to mow, spray and clean up the dams. Ken rented out his tract-skid steer machine with a brush hog on the front for the clean-up as there isn't anyone locally that rents this equipment out anymore. Ken charged \$300.00 for the rental of his equipment, he did check with Simpson's and he was told that when they were renting equipment out they charged \$350.00. Motion was made by Randy Heims to approve the rate that Ken charged for the equipment rental, second made by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion carried.

Kent gave the WLI (Working Lands Initiative) report. He handed out the 2013 report from the state letting the counties know what they got back in credit. Richland County property owners last year got back in total over \$500,000. Cathy reported to the committee that in 2016 the committee will need to issue notices of non-compliance for property owners that may still be claiming the credit off of an old zoning certificate as we can only assume they are taking the credit. Richwood property owners will have to get a certificate of compliance before they will be able to claim the credit.

Ken gave the Conservation Technician report. Busy month, contractors have been able to get out and get some work done. Cathy has a variety of nutrient management contract that need to be approved; Mark Parker \$3976.00 and Parker Hill Farm, \$1867.60, Oakwood Fruit Farm \$140.00, Louis Family Limited Partnership, \$4211.20, Greg & Judy Alvin and Steve & Judy Louis \$1498.00 and John W Louis \$675.80, for a combined total of \$12,367.60 leaving approximately \$550.00 for nutrient management cost sharing for 2014. Motion made by Randy Heims to approve the contracts that Cathy has presented, second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

Cathy gave the County Conservationist report; Gary and Cathy went on the Southern Area tour that was held in Sauk County this year. Plastic Recycling Center, Badger Ordinance Ammunitions Plant and Devil's Lake State Park were visited and there was a lot learned. Richland County will be giving the tour either in 2015 or 16'. It is time to start thinking as to what we can show case in the county; S & S Cycle, Oakwood Fruit Farm, the new sewer treatment plant(s) just to mention a few ideas. The area coordinator was discussed at the business meeting during the tour. It was decided that it will be the responsibility of the counties in the Southern Area and it will be in alphabetical order so Richland County will not be responsible for this for a number of years. Next was the review of the job descriptions, the only thing that was added to the descriptions was computer skills. After the committee reviewed them the motion was made by Marty Brewer to approve the descriptions and forward them on to the personnel/finance committee, second made by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion carried.

There was no DNR report, however if we don't get rain soon there will be fire issues again.

Cathy gave a brief NRCS report for Carlton. They are in the middle of signing contracts for a variety of programs; all of the contracts need to be signed by September 1st of this year.

JoAnn Cooley gave the FSA report. CRP continuous sign up, HELI sign up for qualifying property; there will not be a general sign up for CRP this year. Three options for expiring contract this year, 1) let the contract expire 2) file for a 1 year extension at the current soil rental rate and 3) File for continuous CRP for either a 10 or 15 year contract. There is a Livestock forage disaster program. The office was a pilot county for a new project. The office scheduled 104 appointments, the state office brought in 4 technicians from other counties and they got thru all appointments in 3 days. JoAnn Otto will be a member of this team and going to other counties. Letter regarding base acres has gone out to property owners for them to confirm their acres. JoAnn interviewed 6 people last week for a temporary part-time intermittent position that the office currently has. One has been selected and the position has been offered, at this point she is waiting to hear back from them.

At this point Larry asked Cathy about the Japanese Knotweed; it has all been cut and she is waiting for it to be sprayed. The sprayers would like the regrowth to be waist high before it is sprayed. Cathy thought it would be sprayed in the next week.

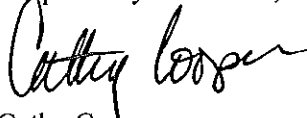
Carlton Peterson came in and gave the rest of the NRCS report. The new EQIP sign up for 2015 deadline is October 3rd of this year.

The following bills were presented; CK Norman Development, \$949.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,471.46; Wanless Bulldozing, \$450.00; Premier Co-op, \$165.15; Cathy Cooper, \$24.64; Ken Anderson, \$410.81; Tammy Cannoy-Bender, \$6.95; Todd Stittleberg & Krueger Excavating, \$6,300.00; Jordan Maclay & Wanless Construction LLC, \$4,844.00; Jim Jacobsen & Wanless Construction LLC, \$4,487.00; Norm Sandmire, \$656.08; Norm Sandmire & Site Excavation Inc., \$8,227.10; Richland County Highway Commission, \$171.08 and Norm's Small Engines & Sports, \$173.69. Motion made by Randy Heims to approve the August Bills as presented second made by Gary Peters. Motion Carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 8th, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion made by Gary Peters to adjourn the meeting; second made by Randy Heims. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Cooper
Secretary Pro Temp
CC/tcb