

Land Conservation Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 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, Virginia Wiedenfeld, Cathy Cooper, Ken Anderson, Kent Marshall, Greg Cerven, Dan Goltz, Randy Heims, Travis Mosely and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. Gary Peters and Carlton Peterson arrived a few minutes in to the meeting.

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

Motion made by Marty Brewer to approve the January 2015 minutes second made by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion carried.

Southwest Badger RC & D report was given by Don Barrett, he has been working with the office on helping to eradicate the Japanese Knotweed on Willow Creek. There will be a new coordinator for this area that may be working out of the Richland Office. Don mentioned that they are wanting to write a grant for the Japanese Hops that have been found on the bike path. Don is hoping to speak with the highway department and help them develop a mowing plan that will help not spread the plant fragment or seed of the invasive species in the area. They will also be doing some roadside studies of the invasive plants in the area where people are fishing. A Weed Management area called Southwest Wisconsin Invasive Species Collation "SWISC" is being formed by agencies as a group to help eradicate invasive species through education and other plans. He feels that the Willow Creek Project is a good project and other counties are using this project as a template for their own issues.

Chairman Sebranek dropped down to Wildlife Damage and claims at this point. Dan Goltz, DNR wildlife Biologist, is the person that issues the tags and reviews the property own compliance to the program. Dan handed out a copy of the letter he sends out to all participants. Travis Mosley, representative for Marion Weglarz appealed to the Committee to approve the Weglarz claim that was initially denied, after a lengthy discussion the motion was made by Marty Brewer to approve the claim, Chairman Sebranek asked three times for a second to Marty Brewer's motion, hearing none the motion failed for lack of a second. Motion was made by Gary Peters to deny the Weglarz claim, second make by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion carried. Next claim for the committee to review was the Tom Clary request for deer damage. Cathy Cooper, Dan Goltz and Greg Cerven could not unanimously agree to Mr. Clary's claim. After discussion regarding this claim, the motion was made by Virginia Wiedenfeld to approve Mr. Clary's claim, second was made by Gary Peters. Motion carried. There were 5 other claims that were up for damage claim that Cathy, Greg & Dan all agreed on to pay their claims. Motion was made by Randy Heims to pay the claims of Eugene Hilby, Brian Fontaine, Tom Jurgensen, Doug Munz and Mike White. Second was made by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

Cathy gave the Ash Creek Community Forest report. The last CRP payment will be October 2016 and we will not be able to renew the CRP contract. Ken reported that there was a trapper at the property and has trapped 5 beaver and the dams will need to be removed this May.

Cathy gave the Mill Creek Watershed Report. Nothing new to report, there will need to be a walk done along the creek to review the entire length of the channel.

Kent gave the Working Lands Initiative (Farmland Preservation) Report. He handed out the 2013 report showing how much money is brought back into the county from the program. Sue Porter will be coming in to assist in a training class for Nutrient Management and the reporting by the land owner. The class will be the 6th or 13th of March here in the conference room.

Ken gave the Conservation Technician report. This year the cost sharing program should receive approximately \$58,000. Currently working on surveying of projects to do this season. Cathy reported that the office has sent a letter to land owners in the Little Willow area about potential cost sharing opportunities.

Cathy gave the County Conservationist Report. She reminded the committee that it is time to start negotiations with Cary Norman for the office lease. Motion made by Virginia Wiedenfeld to move forward with contacting Mr. Norman regarding the office space lease, second made by Randy Heims. Motion carried.

There was no DNR report

Cathy reported that JoAnn Cooley is currently in Grant County training the new CED (County Executive Director). Randy Heims reported that yields need to be reported by the end of the month.

Carlton gave the NRCS report. EQIP funding for the 2 high priority applications have been approved and contracts are being written. The medium and low priority applications still have items to get done in order for them to be ready for the next sign up. The next EQIP sign up is tentatively set for September 1st, 2015. DALCI funding this year has changed a bit. All of the money will go to one state this year (Wisconsin) with \$800,000 going to in-house practices and the \$800,000 will go for funding of cold water stream restoration and habitat. This will be our last year for DALCI funding. The second DALCI sign up for the cold water funding will be in May. CSP program sign up ends February 27th, 2015.

The February bills were presented as follows; CK Norman Development, \$957.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,107.65; Steve Saucke, \$2,590.00; Rhyme Business Products, \$16.88; Richland Locker Co, \$520.00; Woodstock Nursery, \$178.00; Ken Anderson, \$190.90. Motion made by Randy Heims to approve the January Bills; second made by Virginia Wiedenfeld. Motion carried.

There was no committee member reports.

The next meeting is set for Thursday March 5th, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

Don Barrett, SW RC&D mentioned that they are looking at writing grants for the cleaning up of boat landings. There will be a meeting regarding the New Zealand Mud snail in Cross Plains on the 23rd. of February. Chairman Sebranek asked about the Phragmites and if there has been a grant written for cleaning them up

Motion made by Marty Brewer to adjourn the meeting, second made by Marilyn Marshall. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Cooper
CC/tcb