

Land Conservation Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Larry Sebranek. Those present were Larry Sebranek, Gary Peters, Paul Kinney, Marilyn Marshall, Randy Heims, Cathy Cooper, Ken Anderson, Kent Marshall, Wendy Warrens and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. Nathalie Schattner from FSA arrived later in the meeting Steve Williamson was absent.

Motion made by Gary Peters to approve the agenda & proof of publication; second made by Paul Kinney. Motion carried.

Hearing no corrections or additions Chairman Larry Sebranek approved the May 8<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> minutes as mailed/emailed out.

Wendy Warrens, Southwest Badger RC&D, gave a report on the 2016 calendar year of events, (report attached to master minutes). The County has 12 hours of grant writing assistance for either the County or for another group that could benefit from this service. They now have access to a no-till drill that is housed in Dodgeville and will be available to rent for a small nominal fee.

Cathy gave the Ash Creek Community Forest report; Don Wanless mowed the trails after the last meeting and had some trees over the trails that Ken & Kent helped him get removed off the trail. Paul Kinney asked what maintenance is required at the community forest, since the fishery doesn't use the tanks for trout there isn't much maintenance to do throughout the season other than the mowing of the trails. Larry Sebranek will be making a donation box for patrons of the forest/trails.

Cathy gave the Mill Creek Watershed Report; the big dam above 171 was plugged and Ken & Kent went out to unplug it. There have been some beaver dams that needed to be removed.

Ken gave the Conservation Technician report. Ken has been working with Ben about the fishing easement and he will have the easement available for approval at the July meeting.

Kent gave the Working Lands/Farmland Preservation report. Nothing new only got to layout a few contour strips as the weather was not cooperative earlier this spring. Starting to work with farmers to get their soil test updated for their certificate of compliance. While entering self-certifications Tammy has found areas within the County that have been zoned out of Exclusive Agriculture and are not eligible for the credit. The owners will need to work with the zoning office to update these as the township zoned them at the time of adopting county zoning.

Cathy gave the County Conservationist report; the computer issue was resolved in house and a new computer purchase will not be necessary at this time. Paul Kinney asked Cathy what she means by the statement "if we move", the office does have an out on the lease with CK Norman Development if needed. Chairman Sebranek has asked for Cathy to figure out what it will cost the office to move and what will be the loss if we moved. The clientele that this office works with will not go the Health and Human Services Building, this would be a great disservice to the farmers and land owners of Richland County.

Master Contract with Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP); by going with the new master contract a new signature every year would not be necessary and only the amounts would change that would have to be approved by the committee and then the county conservationist would be the person to sign the master. Motion made by Gary Peters to take this master contract to the County Board with the corrections of County Conservationist as the one to sign. Second made by Randy Heims. Motion carried.

The building lease was discussed during the County Conservationist report.

No DNR report;

Nathalie Schattner gave the FSA report; the hiring freeze is still on, so JoAnn Cooley is still in Grant County. Nathalie is certified now so as soon as the hiring freeze is lifted she can begin applying for positions within the FSA. The CRP cap has been reached so any new offers are being tabled. Corn prevent plant claims need to be in by June 15, the soybean prevent plant claim can't be taken until after the 15<sup>th</sup> and before the 30<sup>th</sup> of June, this is mainly for crop insurance.

Cathy gave a brief NRCS report. Carlton is out for 6 weeks with knee surgery. Josh Bushee will be a soil con for paper work and Brian Hillers will be the acting DC for signing any plans.

There were no Committee reports.

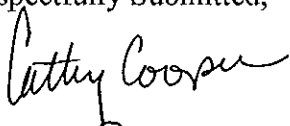
The June bills were presented as follows; CK Norman Development, \$957.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,133.38; Don Wanless, \$900.00; Premier Coop, \$73.16; Tammy Cannoy-Bender, \$29.68. Motion made by Paul Kinney to approve the June Bills; second made by Randy Heims. Motion carried.

The next meeting is set for Monday July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. Alternate will be July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 if needed.

Motion made by Gary Peters to adjourn the meeting, second made by Randy Heims. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Cooper  
CC/tcb