Land Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes February 12th, 2018

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Larry Sebranek. Those present were Larry Sebranek, Gary Peters, Marilyn Marshall, Paul Kinney, Cathy Cooper, Ken Anderson, Kent Marshall, Dan Goltz, DNR, Greg Cerven, Juli Van Cleve, DNR, Carlton Peterson, NRCS and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. John Turgasen was absent.

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

Chairman Larry Sebranek moved to approve the January 2018 meeting minutes as mailed out.

Denise Lins gave a presentation for the Symons Foundation has the status of a 501c3 non-profit organization. The foundation was created in 2004, the foundation has changed their status to expand their mission statement to involve recreation in all of Richland County, the IRS has given their approval to do this, they are now able to do fund raising ad write grants for any recreation area in the county. Denise will speak with Cathy as to what is needed for funding and then the foundation can do fund raising and write grants for whatever is needed (shelter at Ash Creek Community Forest as an example), then the foundation would write the check for that improvement, at that time the County would go through the acceptation of the money for the project. Motion made by Gary Peters, we are interested in this proposal from the foundation, second made by Steve Williamson. Motion carried.

Cathy gave the Ash Creek Community Forest report. Nothing new to report.

Cathy gave the Mill Creek Watershed Report. She and Ken Anderson met with Mike Dreischmeier on flood proofing the Dobbs house that is below the dam behind Joe Triggs. The land owners are ok with what is being proposed; blocking in the 2 doors, tuck point work to keep the water from going into the home, installing a sump pump just in case any water does get in can be pumped out and some water proofing up the foundation by 8 to 12 inches. We still need to possibly raise the ground level up by about 1 foot. Once these standards are confirmed we will put the project out for bids. This will be a narrative type plan that we put out for bids the cost of this project is unknown as we have never had to do something like this. This is the least expensive way to take care of this issue.

Ken gave the Conservation Technician report. Getting some designs finished up to get them out for bids for the upcoming season, also getting the permits from the DNR for the rip rap jobs. We are also waiting for the official paperwork for the money that the state will be giving the county for this year.

Kent gave the Working Lands/Farmland Preservation report; continuing to work on nutrient management plans, we have 2 days in March for classes to be held for individuals to do their own plans.

Cathy gave the County Conservationist report. Kent & Ken will be attending the Land + Water conference in Lake Geneva this year as we don't have enough money in the budget to send 3 people this year. If the committee is interested we usually put together a basket to raise money in a silent auction for the youth projects (camp, poster & speaking contest). We will be collecting either money or gifts for the basket at the March meeting.

Greg Cerven/Dan Goltz gave the deer damage claim report There were 5 claims this year all but 1 met the requirements. After reviewing the claims motion was made by Steve Williamson to deny Mike White's claim for failing to meet the requirements and approve the other four claims as they met all the requirements, second made by Paul Kinney. Motion carried. Tammy reported that there were 20 deer with 1 that tested positive for CWD. Deer donated for the venison deer donations for a total 783 lbs. for the food pantry.

Juli VanCleve gave the DNR report. Gearing up for fire season, there has already been 2 fires in surrounding counties. There will not be any grant funding in February. A second women's woodland stewardship workshop will be held at the Kickapoo Valley Reserve.

Cathy, gave a brief Farm Service Agency (FSA) report. Joann Cooley was absent, she informed Cathy that the elections will be again in November as there was an issue that happened with the last election.

Carlton gave the NRCS report. The EQIP program sign up for 2018 was held in October of last year. The first allotment of funding was spent and there will not be a second sign up in May. There will be another sign up for 2019 probably in October of this year. However, we do have a signup for the Honey Bee program, the cover crop program and the monarch habitat program with a deadline for signup of May 18th, 2018, with funding possibly in July of this year. CSP sign up will end March 2nd.

Committee reports; Gary Peters nothing new the report.

The February bills were presented as follows; CK Norman Development, \$879.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,111.45; Richland Locker, \$1,500.00; Rhyme Business Products, \$38.99; Southern Area Association, \$125.00; Southwest Badger RC&D, \$1,070.00; Woodstock Nursery, \$390.50; Shopping News, \$610.90; Richland Observer, \$36.00; WI Land + Water Conservation Association, \$570.00; Grand Geneva Resort & Spa, \$204.00; Ken Anderson, \$137.19. Motion made by Marilyn Marshall to approve the February Bills; second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

The next meeting is set for Monday March 12th, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion made by Paul Kinney to adjourn the meeting, second made by Marilyn Marshall. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Cooper

CC/tcb