

Land Conservation Committee
Meeting Minute
December 9th, 2019

- #1 The Land Conservation meeting was called to order by Chair Steve Williamson at 3:00 pm; those present were, Steve Williamson, Melissa Luck, Chad Cosgrove, John Turgasen, Shaun Murphy Lopez, Cathy Cooper, Ken Anderson, Juli VanCleve and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. Marc Couey was absent.
- #2 Chad Cosgrove motioned to approve the agenda and proof of publication, second made by Shaun Murphy Lopez. Motion carried.
- #3 Chad Cosgrove motioned to approve the October 14th meeting minutes as sent out second made by Melissa Luck. Motion carried.
- #4 Ash Creek Community Forest report. The ordinance amendment regarding the hours of us, motion made by Melissa Luck to forward the amendment on to Ben Southwick, Corporation Counsel for the January County Board meeting, second made by Shaun Murphy-Lopez. Motion carried. Cathy reported that the rules signs will be posted after the amended ordinance is passed. Melissa asked about Juli's winter hike; everyone that attended had a good time. The map is done, and Melissa can move forward with the brochure for the property. Melissa brought up the RTF (Recreational Trail Funds grant that needs to be submitted in May, she will bring information to the January meeting as to what will be needed.
- #5 Cathy reported on Mill Creek Huth Dam, Ken & Kent spent basically all of last week getting the dam water drawn down and the pipe fixed with assistance from Wanless Construction; Cathy showed the committee some pictures showing what was blocking the water from draining out. Shaun Murphy Lopez suggested that the office have a list of projects for all of the Mill Creek dams to present in January.
- #6 Ken gave the Conservation Technician report; he has one cost share contract that needs to be extended to the 2020 construction season. Motion by Chad Cosgrove to extend Ed Chitwood's cost share contract, second made by John Turgasen. Motion carried.
- #7 Cathy gave the Working Lands (Farmland Preservation) report. Tammy has sent out the self-compliance forms for the participants in farmland preservation to return back to the office with their filing fee. The office will have some training this winter for land owners to write their own nutrient management plans.
- #8 Cathy gave the County Conservationist report. She is currently working on updating the county's manure storage ordinance. The current ordinance is from 2008. The state is working on revising the livestock siting ordinance and once they are done Cathy will start working on ours. Cathy has set a date with Ron Fruit and the WRCO morning show for January 8th regarding the drinking water study. January 16th at the Brewer Library from 6 to 8pm there will be a drinking water forum discussing the upcoming study.
- #9 Water trading agreement, the Hub Rock sanitary district would like the conservation office to do work similar to what Ken has done with the city of Richland Center regarding the reduction of phosphorus. This will be a billable project for Ken's work. Motioned by Shaun Murphy Lopez for Cathy to pursue the Hub-Rock contract, second made by Chad Cosgrove. Motion carried.
- #10 Land and Water plan update, the committee needs to review the current plan and prioritize projects for the next five years.

#12. Wildlife; 80% harvest date has been suggested by the DNR to set it for the end of the year. Motioned by John Turgasen to accept the DNR suggestion of the end of the year. Second made by Chad Cosgrove. Motion carried. Motion made by Chad Cosgrove to approve Greg Cerven's 2020 contract, second made by Melissa Luck. Motion carried. Discussion of the EHD virus in the deer was talked about. The commodity prices were discussed. Motion was made by John Turgasen to set the prices as follow; Corn at 3.65/bushel, Soybeans at 8.96/bushel, Alfalfa Hay at 240/ton and Mixed Hay at 200/ton.

#14 DNR report, Juli did her report with Ash Creek.

#15 FSA report. John Turgasen gave an update.

#16 NRCS report. There wasn't anyone from the NRCS office to give a report.

#17 Committee member reports

#16 The following bills were presented for December; Wanless Excavating, \$7,435.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,178.77; Ken Anderson, \$435.60; Kent Marshall, \$168.81. Motion made by Shaun Murphy Lopez to pay the December bills as presented, second made by John Turgasen. Motion carried.

Back to #8 Cathy's report. The office needs to fix the copy machine the cost will be approximately \$1,300. Motion made by Melissa Luck to go forward with having the copy machine fixed, second made by Chad Cosgrove. Motion carried.

#15 The next meeting will be January 13th, 2020 at 3pm.

#16 Motion made by Shaun Murphy-Lopez to adjourn the meeting, second made by Steve Williamson. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:13 pm.

Secretary Pro-Temp

Cathy Cooper

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