

Land Conservation Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
February 10, 2020

#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, Shaun Murphy Lopez, Greg Kinney, Cathy Cooper, Kent Marshall Ken Anderson, Greg Cerven, Ray Schmitz and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. Marc Couey arrived later in the meeting.

#2 Chad Cosgrove motioned to approve the agenda and proof of publication, second made by Melissa Luck. Motion carried.

#3 Melissa Luck motioned to approve the January 13<sup>th</sup> & Adhoc minutes of the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes as sent out second made by Chad Cosgrove. Motion carried.

Chairman Steve Williamson welcomed Greg Kinney, FSA representative, to the committee and introduced him to the other committee members.

#4 Ash Creek Community Forest report. A. Brochure – Melissa showed the committee a draft copy of the brochure with the updated map from Juli, DNR forester. Melissa asked the committee how to deal with pets on a leash; it was suggested to have it noted that dogs must be under owner control. Melissa also reported that she was able to have Google Maps update their map on-line to read Ash Creek Community Forest with a link to both Parks and Land Conservation web pages. The parking lots were named by the road that they are off of Hwy 80, Mutch Ln and Hill View Dr. The grant will be on the March agenda. Future plans for the trails are cross country ski trails, foot bridges (flatbed trailer frames). We need cost numbers for the grant that will be applied for hopefully at the March county board meeting. Ken Anderson will check with DNR regarding permits.

#5 Cathy reported on Mill Creek Watershed; She & Ken met with Mike Dreschmeier, NRCS engineer, to go over the dams and review the grant that maybe available. Most of what needs to be done on the dams is considered repair and maintenance and are not acceptable for the grant. The little dam off of County Hwy G has a perforated pipe that needs to be replaced to a cost of approximately \$4,000, this could go thru the DNR grant that is a 50/50 grant however this needs to go to the County Board this month. Discussion at this point switched to the loan money that the county is getting and what will be used for the dam repairs. Chairman Steve Williamson suggested that Cathy apply for the grant that is available with DNR and present it to the county board this month. A. The Dam repair money will be on the March agenda and Cathy will have a list of repairs for the dams and have them prioritized.

#6 Ken, Conservation Technician gave a presentation to the committee of some of the projects that were completed in 2019. Ray Schmitz commented that it is even better when property owners on either side of water edges work together for Rip Rap projects.

#7 Kent gave the Working Lands (Farmland Preservation) report. He & Cathy have training set up with Sue Porter, DATCP for landowners to write their own NM plans in March. He told the committee that he continues to assist farmers with updating their nutrient management plans (NMP). Melissa asked what does that actually means? Kent informed her and the committee with what all is involved with updating the farmer's NMP from reviewing where nutrients are spread to what is being planted in their fields (strips). The enforcement is actually from the DNR, if a land owner who is collecting farmland preservation (Working Lands Initiative) credit through their income taxes has to have a NMP and have to follow it, if they do not have a plan or the aren't following it, then this committee can issue a notice of noncompliance and they will not be eligible to claim the credit on their income taxes.

#8 Cathy gave the County Conservationist report. A. Manure Storage Ordinance; the draft update has been sent to Lisa Trumble, DATCP for her review and any corrections that need to be done. Cathy reviewed the proposed changes with the committee. Once Lisa has reviewed the Draft, this will be given to committee and Ben Southwick for the County Board approval. C. Ballot for Land & Water – the committee selected Burnett County, Calumet County & Racine County representatives. B. Resolutions, these were sent to the committee, first resolution was to request to require a nutrient management plan for the spreading of all domestic sludge or industrial byproducts.

The committee members were all in agreement to this resolution. The other resolution was to request to require and allow enforcement of an annual 590 nutrient management plan on an existing crop land and pastures without the requirement of offering cost share to the landowner. This is not agreeable with the committee.

Cathy also reported on a class that she & Kent went to regarding cover crops workshops. The committee suggested to have a spring workshop. Cathy also gave the committee the 2018 annual work plan with what had been accomplished. She should have the 2019 report at the March meeting. Cathy also presented the committee with the 2020 staffing reimbursement (Grant) that is due. Motion made by Marc Couey to take the staffing grant to the County Board this month, second made by Chad Cosgrove. Motion carried.

#9 Drinking Water, Melissa reported that we have a sample letter that will be mailed out requesting people to join the study. Melissa has been asked to speak at the garden expo at the campus. Ray Schmitz did voice his concerns with this collection of water samples. Well water should be tested every year.

#10 Land and Water plan update; this was done during Cathy's conservationist report.

#11. Wildlife; Greg Cerven presented the committee with one wildlife damage claim for 2019. Mike White validated his claim of damage and he did meet all requirements to make the claim. His appraised loss was \$6,080.64 with a claim payment of \$5,464.51. Motion made by Chad Cosgrove to pay Mr. White, second made by Marc Couey. Motion carried. There is new legislation coming down with someone new requirements, along with the counties no longer being involved with the programs in 2022.

#11 DNR report; No one at the meeting.

#12 FSA report. Greg Kinney gave a brief update, ARCPLC deadline for 2019 sign up is March 15, 2020. CRP enrollment taking both new and reupping expiring contracts with a deadline of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020. A new program is coming up. Cathy also reported that with the CRP enrollment the are also opening CREP.

#13 NRCS report. No one at the meeting. EQIP sign up is open.

#14 Committee member reports.

#15 The following bills were presented for February; CK Norman Development, \$926.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,151.23; Wisconsin Land + Water Conservation Association, \$885.00; Stevens Signs, \$165.00; Greeley Signs & Graphics LLC, \$40.17; Woodstock Nursery, \$203.34; Cathy Cooper, \$131.58; Ken Anderson, \$257.55. Motion made by Melissa Luck to pay the February bills as presented, second made by Shaun Murphy Lopez. Motion carried.

#16 The next meeting will be March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 3pm.

#17 Motion made by Shaun Murphy Lopez to adjourn the meeting, second made by Melissa Luck. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Secretary Pro-Temp

*Cathy Cooper*

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