

Richland County Land Conservation
November 9th, 2020
Meeting Minutes

#1 The November 9th, 2020 meeting was called to order via WebEx by Vice-Chair Melissa Luck at 4:05pm. Those present were, Melissa Luck, Shaun Murphy-Lopez, Lee VanLanduyt, Melvin “Bob” Frank, Cathy Cooper, Kent Marshall, Greg Cerven, Daytona Birch, Barb Scott and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. Steve Williamson and Greg Kinney were both absent.

#2 The agenda was mailed out and it was posted at the Courthouse bulletin board. Shaun Murphy-Lopez moved to approve the agenda and proof of notification second made by Melvin “Bob” Frank. Motion carried.

#3 The October 12th minutes were reviewed; motion made by Shaun Murphy-Lopez to approve the October minutes, second made by Lee VanLanduyt. Motion carried.

#4 Ash Creek – A. Parking area mowing, this was discussed; the only area at this time would be the parking lot off of Hwy 80. The highway department has estimated \$1,255 for mowing and trimming the area weekly for the season (22 weeks). This is tabled to the December agenda. B. Trail markings – Eagle Scout Daytona Birch is looking at marking the trails; we need to purchase trail markers along with pipes for the signs and fasteners. We will need to purchase 500+ signs for coming & going on the trails. The cost of the marking of trails is approximately \$1610 not including self-tapping screws. The trails need to get marked before we worry about the mowing & trimming of the parking lot. “Bob” Frank suggested moving forward with getting actual dollar amounts for the posts, signs & screws then bring that back to the committee in December for final approval.

#5 Wildlife A. Setting commodity prices - Greg Cerven informed the committee of the prices for corn & soybeans that he has come up with. Motioned by Shaun Murphy-Lopez to go with corn at \$3.77 a bushel and soybeans at \$10.50 a bushel, second made by “Bob” Frank. Motion carried. B. Setting the 80% harvest date. After reviewing what has already been harvested motion was made by Melissa Luck to set the date of today November 9th, 2020, second made by Lee VanLanduyt. Motion carried.

#6 Mill Creek – A call was received by a property owner that is having some issues and was looking for some assistance. Ken will go out and look at the issue in December. He will take pictures and present them to the committee with any recommendations.

#7 Conservation Technician report – Cathy reported as Ken has been out working on a project for Dale Servais.

#8 Working Lands Initiative (Farmland Preservation) report – Kent told the committee that he is working on nutrient management plans and with farmers to get their plans in this winter. Have a farm that is under agreement both spouses have passed away and the property is in the process of being split up. Melissa Luck asked Kent about the number of acres in the program in Richland County, he will have an answer for her at the next meeting. This program may be something to promote in the future.

#9 County Conservationist report – First due to covid-19 the farmer training class that have been held in the past with assistance for DATCP will change this year without DATCP’s assistance. A. Water Bill resolution is a suggestion that had been sent on from Clinton for the local counties to all get together to help pressure the state into action. There will be a November County Board meeting so Cathy will speak with Ben, Corporation Counsel regarding this resolution. Motion made by Shaun Murphy-Lopez to forward this resolution on to County Board for approval and also forward this on to Wisconsin Counties Association, second made by Lee VanLanduyt. Motion carried.

#10 Office Space – nothing new to report, extension office has no space available. The rent is not part of the 2021 budget. Shaun Murphy-Lopez shed some light on this issue and informed the committee that even though the money is not in the budget the rent is covered.

#11 Well Water Testing – went well, Melissa Luck delivered the samples to Stevens Point, the property owners get a report regarding their sample in December, the land conservation office will get a summary report.

#12 Surface Water Grant – It was approved however we will not get the full amount. Cathy needs to make a few adjustments to the resolution.

#13 DNR report none.

#14 FSA report Kent gave the report for Joann Cooley; The CFAP 2 deadline is December 11th WHIP plus deadline was October 30th. approval and payments will happen by December 16th. Fall crop reporting deadline is November 15th. New employee began today, Sarah Cofer she comes to us from Montane. Have heard nothing on a December CRP sign up

#15 NRCS report -none.

#16 Committee members reports - none

#17 The following bills were presented; CK Norman Development, \$926.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,120.12; Premier Coop, \$56.67; R & K Tire & Auto LLC, \$44.95. Motion made by Shaun Lopez-Murphy to pay the November bills as presented, second made by Melvin “Bob” Frank. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be on Monday December 14th, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. via WebEx.

Motion made by Shaun Murphy-Lopez to adjourn the meeting, second made by Melvin “Bob” Frank. Motion carried.

Meeting ended at 5:20 p.m.

Cathy Cooper
Secretary Pro-temp