

**Land Conservation Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2021**

The January 11th, 2021 Land Conservation meeting was called to order via WebEx at 4:05 p.m. by Chair Steve Williamson. Present were Steve Williamson, Melissa Luck, Bob Frank, Shaun Murphy-Lopez, Kent Marshall, Cathy Cooper, Tammy Cannoy-Bender and Barb Scott was on web-ex monitoring, Lee Van Landuyt was late.

Shaun Murphy-Lopez moved to approve the agenda and proof of notification. Seconded by Bob Frank. Motion carried.

Steve asked for any corrections or amendments to the December 14th, 2020 minutes. Motion made by Melissa Luck to approve the December minutes as sent out, second made by Shaun Murphy-Lopez. Motion carried.

#4 Ash Creek Community Forest. Cathy reported that we currently have \$8,951.49. There is enough in the fund to do both the parking lot and the trail marking. Cathy spoke with Dakota about the signs, he is suggesting purchasing 500 signs, this would cover the trails both coming and going, the cost would be \$610 + shipping. He would like for the committee to get the signs ordered so he can get started. Steve will speak with Jim about the post Cathy will verify the number for Steve. Motion made by Bob Frank to go ahead with ordering the signs for the marking of the trails, second made by Shaun Murphy-Lopez. Motion carried. Cathy informed the committee that Ken has put together a plan for the parking lot on the upper end of the property that we have received the grant for. This will need to be put out for bids. Steve needs to check with Ken regarding the size of the proposed parking lot. Melissa Luck suggested that another set of eyes needs to look at the plans just to make sure things are good. Back to the marking of the trails. Motion made by Melissa Luck to allow for the use of an ATV/UTV for the placement of the trail signs only to be driven by a legal adult who will be supervising the work. Second made by Bob Frank. Motion carried.

#5 Mill Creek - Cathy reported – Ken is working with Mike Dreschmeier to develop a plan to replace the inlet pipe on the Dam off of Cty Hwy G, the funding for this project is from the \$100,000 set aside from the borrowing, for the PLe90 dams in the county. This project will need a bid then will need to take it back to finance. Ken is also working with Mike regarding the cracks that will be filled in on the Huth & Ewers dams this will also need to go to finance as the pay for the epoxy for filling the cracks is also part of the \$100,000. Shaun's internet access began to cut in and out 22 minutes into the meeting.

#6 Conservation Technician Report - Ken is not at the meeting. Cathy reported that Ken has been out surveying projects for the up coming season. There is a manure storage abandonment that needs to get done first thing. We will not sign contracts until we get final approval from the state.

#7 Working Lands Initiative/Farmland Preservation - Kent farmers are coming in with the self-compliance forms to get filed. There is a cancellation of voluntary noncompliance that needs to be approved. Motioned by Shaun Murphy-Lopez to approve the cancellation of the non-compliance for Gary Bulin, second made by Bob Frank. Motion made.

#8 County Conservationist report – Cathy (Lee Van Landuyt joined the meeting) reported that she has added a few events to the Facebook page for nutrient management planning classes. Also added Shop talk for farmers. Cathy & Kent are working with farmers one on one for Nutrient Management. We have been informed that we will need a dealer license for the selling of trees in the spring.

#9 Well Water Report – Cathy shared a few graphs with the committee, she showed graphs regarding the water report. Twenty-five of the wells tested positive for coliform and bacteria, with one of them testing positive for E.coli. Eleven of the wells tested above 100mg/L of nitrate-nitrogen. She also shared a graph with the three counties that were involved with the testing. Bob asked about maps with the locations of the well testing done. Melissa stated that for the next round of testing in the spring we need to do some targeting in some areas of the county. WRCO would like to give a follow up report regarding the testing, Melissa Luck asked that the information needs to be done in a systematic way. At this point the internet dropped out for approximately 5 minutes when the committee members started to get on the phone to complete the meeting.

#10 Wildlife – nothing to report.

#11 DNR report – nothing to report.

#12 FSA (Farm Service Agency) – Cathy reported. CRP signup is currently going on. There were issues with the election in Greg Kinney's area, so it will not be complete until May.

#13 NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service) – nothing to report.

14 Committee Member Reports - Melissa Luck reported that she has a Land & Water committee meeting coming up later in the week.

#15 Bills. The following bills were presented: CK Norman Development, \$1,876.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,089.01; WL&WCA, \$1,362.00; Premier Co-Op, \$61.58. Lee VanLanduyt moved to approve the bills, seconded by Shaun Murphy-Lopez. Motion carried

Next meeting was set for February 8th at 4:00 pm via Web Ex.

Shaun Murphy-Lopez moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Bob Frank. Motion carried. The committee adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Cooper

Cathy Cooper
Secretary pro temp
County Conservationist