

**Land Conservation Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Land Conservation meeting was called to order in person and via WebEx at 4:00 p.m. by Chair Steve Williamson. Present were Steve Williamson, Lee Van Landuyt, Ken Anderson, Kent Marshall and Cathy Cooper in person. Shaun Murphy-Lopez, Melissa Luck and Tammy Cannoy-Bender via web-ex. John Couey and Jason Marshall were monitoring the web-ex at the meeting. Bob Frank joined by web-ex during the Ash Creek report.

Shaun Murphy-Lopez moved to approve the agenda and proof of notification. Seconded by Lee Van Landuyt. Motion carried.

Steve asked for any corrections or amendments to the April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 minutes. Lee VanLanduyt pointed out a typo at #10 ... him should be *he*. Motion made by Lee VanLanduyt to approve the minutes with the corrections, second made by Melissa Luck. Motion carried.

#4 Ash Creek Community Forest – Upper Parking lot resolution, Cathy has forward on the draft copy of the resolution on to the County’s new corporation counsel, after reviewing the draft there are a few typos that Cathy will correct the draft for corporation counsel. Motion made by Shaun Murphy-Lopez to refer to County Board, second made by Melissa Luck. Motion carried.

#5 Mill Creek – Dam repairs using fund 75 “borrowed money” Cathy & Ken reported on the project for repairing of the Robbson, Huth and Ewers dams report at an approximate cost of \$3800.00 attached to master minutes, these repairs will last for another 30+ years. Cathy and Ken also presented the committee with a potential project that would cost approximately an additional \$51,300.00 leaving a balance of \$45,000.00 of the borrowed money available. Shaun Murphy-Lopez reported that there is a policy County Board passed regarding how the borrowed money will be spent, this policy needs to be located for clarification. Discussion followed regarding some other options to help control some of the waters from flood events. The removing of the willows in the pool area of the 3 dams that are part of the conversation. It was suggested to put together all of the projects that are needed to be done outside of the scope of the original project for the borrowed money.

#6 Conservation Technician Report – Ken reported that the Bechtel manure storage abandonment has started. DNR is doing a big riprap project on the Phil Grimm property south of Loyd.

#7 Working Lands Initiative/Farmland Preservation – Kent reported that he is working with farmers on updating the nutrient management plans with new soil test. Have to landowners who were in the program that had opted out originally and now are wanting to get back into the program. Shaun Murphy-Lopez asked about the workload for the position and suggested that the job description may need to be changed. Cathy stated that the workload has not really changed, it is different but still within the actual job description. Shaun was thinking of adding duties to the position.

#8 County Conservationist report – Cathy gave the tree sales report for Tammy, she sold 1,150 trees with 50 of them on backorder to the 2022 season, the next profit was \$383.00. We went with a new Nursery this year and was very pleased. The Southern Area Association is having a zoom meeting on May 27<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Planning on meeting with Mathew Wallrath, we are meeting with him at the Port Andrews boat landing at 1pm on Tuesday May 25<sup>th</sup>, he will be giving us some training on clean boats clean water early detection. We are still looking for some people that would be willing to spend a couple hours at either the kayak landings or boat landings. Part of the grant that we are using for this also included the purchase of a couple of I-Pads to document locations found with invasive species.

#9 Building Lease – Cathy reported that Cary Norman, Landlord has offered the amount of \$946.00 per month for 3 years. Cathy has contacted Clinton, County Administrator regarding this. We are currently paying \$938.00 per month.

#10 Well Water Report – Cathy reported that we had 68 samples returned for testing. The results should be done by the end of May. The zoom meeting is the 8<sup>th</sup> of June to go over the results with the participants.

#11 Wildlife – Cathy reported that there was a sighting of a bear in the Keysville area quarry attacking the beehive boxes. APHIS, USDA came in to hopefully trap the bear. The trap was placed for a week, the bear apparently has moved on. The bill for the trap and travel will be on this month's bills. This will be reimbursed to us by the wildlife damage fund.

#12 DNR (Department of Natural Resources) report – nothing.

#13 FSA (Farm Service Agency) – Cathy spoke with JoAnn, the representative for them will be back probably in June on the committee.

#14 NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service) – nothing

Both FSA & NRSC are still working thru closed doors.

#15 Committee Member Reports - nothing

#16 Bills. The following bills were presented: CK Norman Development, \$938.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,165.18 Premier Co-op, \$79.72; USDA, \$800.00; Walsh's ACE Hardware, \$9.95; Schumacher's Nursery, \$1,194.66; Kent Marshall, \$25.09; Richland Observer, \$44.10. Melissa Luck moved to approve the bills, seconded by Bob Frank. Motion carried.

Next meeting was set for June 14<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 pm in person with masks at the County Board room and via Web Ex.

Lee VanLanduyt moved to adjourn the meeting. Second made by Melissa Luck. Motion carried.

The committee adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cathy Cooper*

Cathy Cooper  
Secretary pro temp  
County Conservationist