

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

The October 11th, 2021 Land Conservation meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chair Steve Williamson. Present were Steve Williamson, Melissa Luck, Greg Kinney, Lee Van Landuyt, Shaun Murphy-Lopez, Cathy Cooper, Ken Anderson, Kent Marshall, Juli VanCleve, Greg Cerven and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. Bob Frank was absent.

Melissa Luck moved to approve the agenda and proof of notification. Seconded by Lee Van Landuyt. Motion carried.

Steve Williamson asked for any corrections or amendments to the September 13th, 2021 minutes. Motion made by Greg Kinney to approve the minutes as sent out, second made by Steve Williamson. Motion carried.

Chair Williamson dropped down to DNR report as Juli needs to leave.

#12 DNR report – Juli VanCleve gave a report, she reintroduced herself to the committee as she hasn't been at a meeting for a while. Rebecca Vasquez took Todd Kenefeck's position as Ranger. The WFLPG program has awarded property owners to cover over 560 acres of forestry improvement practices. This is between 50,000 and 100,000 dollars or about 10% of the state's entire funds that are awarded each year. Juli also asked the committee if they had been thinking about conservation awards this year as she has a few ideas. Cathy was concerned with how we will be able to actually do one yet this fall. Shaun suggested the campus again or to wait until this spring, Cathy will check with Angi at the campus. This will stay on the agenda.

#4 Ash Creek Community Forest – Ken is trying to find a company that would be willing to cut every other row of the pine trees out so the good hard woods can grow. The cost for this if we had to hire someone to come out and take pines would be about \$200.00 an acre. This plantation is about 20 acres, this would be cost prohibitive for us to do. Juli will check into seeing if we would be eligible for cost sharing. We would be better off giving the pine to someone just to cut them out as this would be an investment to save the hardwoods for a future harvest.

Chair Williamson now went to Wildlife for Greg Cerven.

#11 Wildlife – Went to deer donation while copies of the budget for the committee are being made.

B. Deer donation program, Greg reported that Craig Huth will not be participating in the program this year, he is booked out for 2 years with processing and he has lost some help. That being said there will not be a deer donation program this year.

A. 2022 Budget – Greg Cerven reviewed the 2022 proposed budget with the committee, motion was made by Shaun Murphy Lopez to approve the proposed budget as presented, second made by Lee Van Landuyt. Motion carried.

#5 Mill Creek –

A. High Hazard Dams, Cathy reported that Mike Dreschmeier was at a conference and met a representative of the DNR (Mr. Stone) and he will be looking into the dams in Richland County and the hazard ratings that should have been lowered. The Popp Dam behind the Sylvan Town Shed has been inspected, Cathy should have the report at the next meeting.

#6 Conservation Technician Report – Ken reported on the completed projects for the season, still have 2 well abandonments and a riprap project to do. Once done he will be going out to survey projects for the 2022 season. He has been working with Hub Rock Sanitation to help the phosphorus reduction. Then we can show in our reports to the state that we have reduced that many pounds of phosphorus on our Land & Water report. Back to Ash Creek, Steve asked about the parking lot. Ken sent a text to Rob Wanless and Ken reminded the committee that this will be one of the last things that will get done. Shaun will check in to see if we can use fund 75 money for cost sharing of dry dams above mill creek.

#7 Working Lands Initiative/Farmland Preservation – Kent reported that SW Tech will be doing the nutrient management classes again, so if you know of any landowners that are interested please let us know.

Daytona stopped in for Cathy to sign off on his Eagle Scott paperwork while the meeting was going on.

#8 Manure Storage animal count – The Zoning office is looking at amending the ordinance to include animal counts on small acreage. The location is something that the County Conservationist will need to review on a case-by-case instance. This is something that will require a fee to the land conservation office for the site visit.

#9 County Conservationist report – We have \$20,000 in SEG money (nutrient management money) that is available thru the state. Iowa county is looking for \$2,000 for planning in his county. Motion made by Melissa Luck to approve transferring \$2,000 to Iowa county for nutrient management planning, second made by Greg Kinney. Motion carried. The lake monitoring protection grant, Cathy needs send in the grant for what the office is thinking about doing in the future. The final application needs to send into the state by November. The total amount for the grant that is being requested is \$9,578.37, this is money that will be spent in 2022, the resolution needs to go to County Board for approving Cathy to make application for the grant. Motion made by Shaun Murphy Lopez to recommend having a resolution presented to the County Board for applying for and accepting the grant, second made by Lee Van Landuyt. Motion carried. This will be at the October County Board meeting.

A. Wild Parsnip Demonstration left on agenda incorrectly. There is no funding available.

#10 Building Lease – The landlord may have been in contact with County Administrator Clinton Langreck. Cathy will check with Clinton regarding the lease.

#13 FSA (Farm Service Agency) – Office closed

#14 NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Services) – Office closed

#15 Committee Member Reports – Melissa reported in the Wisconsin Land and Water Association, she is on the board of directors.

#16 Future agenda items. Melissa would like to state discussing the 2012 Land and Water plan as it will need to be updated this Winter. The committee members should look at the current plan and bring ideas to the next committee meeting as to what should be done in 2022. Shaun asked about budget status.

#17 Bills. The following bills were presented: CK Norman Development, \$938.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,138.48; Premier Co-op, \$163.48; Jason Campbell. \$917.45; Maramon Keehn, \$389.30; Kenneth Buroker & Advance Dairy Solutions, \$1,272.25. Shaun Murphy-Lopez moved to approve the bills, seconded by Melissa Luck. Motion carried.

Next meeting was set for November 8th, at 3:30 pm.

Melissa Luck moved to adjourn the meeting. second made by Greg Kinney. Motion carried. The committee adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Cooper

Cathy Cooper
Secretary pro temp
County Conservationist