

**Land Conservation Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
February 14, 2022**

The February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Land Conservation meeting was called to order 3:33 p.m. by Chair Steve Williamson. Present were Steve Williamson, Melissa Luck, Lee Van Landuyt, Shaun Murphy-Lopez, Kent Marshall, Ken Anderson, Cathy Cooper, Greg Cerven and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. Bob Frank was absent.

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

Steve asked for any corrections or amendments to the January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022, minutes. Motion made by Lee Van Landuyt to approve the January minutes as sent out, second made by Steve Williamson. Motion carried.

#4 Ash Creek Community Forest. Nothing much to report. The upper parking lot is first on the contractors list this spring. The marking of the trails has been a great hit with the public.

#9 Wildlife – Greg Cerven had a report for the committee, there were only 2 claims for wildlife damages. Tom Clary for 5,851.88 paying out \$5,281.50 and Mike White 8,572.84 paying out \$7,458.27. Motion made by Lee Van Landuyt to approve both, second make by Melissa Luck. Discussion followed regarding how the DNR pays the claims. Melissa Luck suggested to have a link on the Land Conservation face book page to the DNR for those who would like more information on how the wildlife damage program works. Motion carried. This payment comes directly from the DNR. There would still be cost sharing money available for other projects not using fund 75 money. Ken has spoken with contractors; they would be interested on bidding if there would be 5 or 6 projects lumped together. This fund 75 money will need to be used by the end of this year.

#5 Mill Creek – Cathy reported that Ken spoke with the state about using their contract for cost sharing and they said yes. The state would pay 10% and the county would pay 80% out of fund 75 and then the property owner would be responsible for the final 10%. Cathy showed the contract to corporation counsel, Mike Windle and he said that would be good. Motion made by Melissa Luck to move forward with the use of the state contract with the 10,10,80%. Second made by Steve Williamson. Motion carried.

#6 Conservation Technician Report – Ken has been working with 2 landowners with NOD's (notice of discharge) both are milk house waste. One just needed to be replumbed and needs to cover some holes. This runoff is running into DNR land. The other is off of highway 60. This one has a few more issues that will need some work done with a covered barnyard that the state will cost share 70% of the charges. Cathy will keep track of cost. Ken also is working with the Hub-Rock sanitation group to reduce phosphorus; the plan has been won but Hub-Rock is still looking for money. He has also been working with the village of Cazenovia for the same as Hub-Rock for Phosphorus exchange. He has also been working with the city of Richland Center at the footbridge for riprapping. Projects should be ready at the April meeting to have them out for bids and ready to be opened at the May meeting.

#7 Working Lands Initiative/Farmland Preservation – Kent working on Nutrient Management Program, Dan Smith from the state was here to assist us. Melissa asked about recruiting property owners to enter into the program. She suggested to come up with ideas on ways to recruit landowners to entire into the program. Steve suggested on ways to include carbon credit. Kent brought up an ag enterprise area for the 2 townships that are not zoned but it mat be difficult to get township approval. Shaun Murphy-Lopez wants a list of ideas at the next meeting.

County Conservationist report – Bob Simpson would like to amend the CREP plan from trees to grass cover. Motioned by Steve Williamson to amend the perpetual CREP contract that is now owned by Bob Simpson from trees to grass cover, second made by Shaun Murphy-Lopez. Lee Van Landuyt asked a few questions. Motion carried. Cathy had 1 more item. She met with Clinton, Cheryl and Mike Bindl. Taking a tour of the office space in the basement of the courthouse. The plan is for the ambulance department to be moved from the courthouse in September.

#10 Land & Water Plan – Cathy reported. She took the original work plan and presented it to the committee. She has met with a group of people, and they had a great meeting. The next step is getting the plan drafted with the updates that the group of people came up with. Then it will be presented to the County Board in October and then to the state in December.

#11 DNR report – nothing to report.

#12 FSA (Farm Service Agency) – Cathy reported that CRP sign up has begun. However, the staff has no rules yet. They can now have more staff in the room and a customer in the room.

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

# 14 Committee Member Reports . Shaun reported that the rules committee is looking at restructuring the committees by combining several committees into a natural resources committee – this committee would include land conservation, parks, property lister, register of deeds, uw-extension and zoning just to give an idea.

#15 Future agenda items.

#16 Bills. The following bills were presented: CK Norman Development, \$946.00; Greg Cerven, \$1,110.43; Premier Co-Op, \$95.02; Walsh's Ace Hardware, \$6.99; Rhyme Office Supply, \$41.30. Melissa Luck moved to approve the bills, seconded by Steve Williamson. Motion carried

Next meeting was set for March 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m.

Melissa Luck moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Shaun Murphy-Lopez. Motion carried. The committee adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cathy Cooper*

Cathy Cooper  
Secretary pro temp  
County Conservationist