

	AGENDA Land Conservation Committee Wednesday May 24, 2023 at 1:00 PM HHS Building, Community Room 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533 Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84862446690 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 848 6244 6690	Iowa County Wisconsin
For information regarding access for the disabled please call 935-0399. <i>Any subject on this agenda may become an action item.</i>		
1	Call to Order	
2	Roll Call	
3	Approve the agenda for this May 24, 2023 meeting	
4	Approve the minutes of the April 26, 2023 meeting	
5	Report from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the Committee. No action will be taken.	
6	NRCS update	
7	Blackhawk Lake Commission update	
8	Birch lake repair bidding results and next steps	
9	Consider approval of update to policy 1201: Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Cost-share Prioritization	
10	Cost-share project approvals	
11	Consider acceptance of DATCP reserve funds and approval of barnyard relocation project	
12	Choose Farmer Appreciation Day award winners	
13	Discussion of enforcement of Manure Management Prohibitions in County Ordinance	
14	Other policy update proposals	
15	Land Conservation Department updates: A) Information on well water nitrate testing costs	
16	Agenda items for future meetings: Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan one-year review	
17	Motion to set the next meeting and adjourn	
Posting Verified by: your name or title Date: _____ Initials: _____		

	UNAPPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday April 26, 2023 at 1:00 PM HHS Building, Community Room 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533 Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83388387892 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 833 8838 7892	Iowa County Wisconsin
Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Don Leix at 1:03 pm		
Roll Call. Members present: Bob Bunker, Kevin Butteris, Tim Harrington, Darrell Kreul, and Don Leix. Excused: Dave Gollon, Peter Vanderloo. Absent: Roger Geisking Others present: Katie Abbott, Casey Michek, Andy Walsh, Dan Nankee, Sarah Hovis (zoom)		
Approve the agenda for this April 26, 2023 meeting: Mr. Bunker made a motion to approve this April 26, 2023 agenda. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Approve the minutes of the March 22, 2023 meeting: Sup. Butteris made a motion to approve the March 22, 2023 minutes. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Report from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee. No action will be taken. Mr. Nankee provided an update on the Ag-Extension Committee, including how they are handling shared ag educators and signage efforts. Sup. Kreul provided an example resolution from Outagamie County about foreign-owned land. Sup. Leix provided an example resolution about WI wind siting rules and gave an update on AB46 regarding renewable energy		
NRCS update: Mr. Walsh accepted a new position with NRCS in Richland Center but will stay in Iowa County until his replacement starts; another position is being added to the Dodgeville NRCS office; the Inflation Reduction Act will result in increased funding for conservation practices in the next 3-4 years		
Blackhawk Lake Commission update: The Commission is aware of the filing and audit issue and will take care of it. They sold some old equipment and held a school program at the park.		
Birch lake repair bidding results and next steps: Ms. Abbott reported on the latest bidding effort and that she asked DNR about extending the grant. Sup. Kreul made a motion to postpone this agenda item until we hear back from DNR; Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Cost-share project approvals: Land Conservation Staff presented the list of structural and cropland cost-share projects and answered questions. Sup. Butteris made a motion to approve the six structural projects (Rue, Hach, Farve/Geisler, Dodge Point Country Club, Zoha, and Jones). Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried. Discussion of interest in cropland practices exceeding current funding, and possible limit on payments to one entity. Staff will gather more information and bring projects back for approval at the next meeting. The Committee instructed staff to propose a policy change to establish a maximum payment.		

Consider approval to subordinate a recorded Wildlife Damage Abatement fence contract to a new mortgage: Committee approval not needed. Consensus to skip this agenda item.

Land Conservation Department updates: Ms. Abbott provided the following updates:

- A) Project and grant updates, including update to groundwater funding plan: two items changed from initial plan: 1) designate \$5,000 for equipment & training for Health Dept to establish well water bacteria testing service instead of discount for well water testing (partially due to lack of availability of water lab) and 2) add septic system cost-share eligibility for systems that used perc tests rather than soil evaluation. Mr. Harrington moved to approve the changes. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- B) Farmer award nominations: Farmers Appreciation Day is Sunday July 9. Nomination forms were provided and are due back by before the next meeting.
- C) Legislative updates: two bills being considered in the legislature include AB133 to update the Farmland Preservation Program and AB131 to remove LCC FSA representative appointment requirement. The Governor's budget included an increase to County staffing grants.

Agenda items for future meetings: CREP landowner management plan approval, choose Farmer Appreciation Day award winners, foreign land ownership resolution, wind siting resolution, NMP payment limit policy update

Motion to set the next meeting and adjourn. The next meeting date was set for Wednesday May 24, 2023 at 1:00 PM in the HHS Community Room. Sup. Kreul made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:44 pm.



SOIL AND WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GRANT COST-SHARE PRIORITIZATION

Date Originated: 09/18/2018

Date of Modifications: ~~04~~05/2023

Policy Number: 1201

1. PURPOSE:

To describe the process for prioritizing and administering cost-share projects funded by Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's Soil and Water Resource Management Grants.

2. ORGANIZATIONS AFFECTED:

Land Conservation Department

3. POLICY:

Cost-share administration shall follow guidelines set forth in Wisconsin Administrative Code ATCP 50.

Cost-share amount shall not exceed \$14,000 without Land Conservation Committee (LCC) approval. Nutrient management planning, cover crop, and no-till payments shall not exceed \$10,000 for a single practice or \$15,000 for a combination of practices per year per entity. "Entity" includes a grant recipient or landowner. This amount may be exceeded with LCC approval provided there is sufficient funding. Stream crossing projects shall be ford crossings only; bridges and culverts will not receive technical or financial assistance.

The Land Conservation Department (LCD) staff shall rank structural cost-share projects prior to contracting to ensure funding is spent on priority projects that have a documented conservation benefit and prioritize land that is actively engaged in a farming operation.

Project ranking shall be based on:

- a. level of conservation benefit
- b. alignment with Iowa County's current Land and Water Resource Management Plan
- c. current geographic or resource priorities
- d. current practice priorities
- e. Farmland Preservation Program participation
- f. cost-effectiveness of the practice
- g. availability of other funding sources
- h. landowner's compliance and project completion history

4. REFERENCES:

Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter ATP 50

Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter NR 151

5. PROCEDURES:

- a. The LCD shall create a numerical ranking form based on the above criteria, including delineating high-, medium-, and low-priority practices and a minimum numerical value for eligibility.
- b. The LCC shall approve the ranking form and any future updates. The form shall be updated as needed, with a review no less than once every five years.
- c. The LCD shall create a “Request for Technical Assistance” form. A landowner and/or cost-share recipient must submit this form to the LCD before any site visit, cost-share, or other technical assistance will be provided.
- d. The LCD may, at their discretion, create one or more deadlines per year by which Request for Technical Assistance forms are due. Forms received after that date will be considered dependent on funding and staff availability, or will be saved for the following year. Due dates may vary by practice or funding source as needed, and shall be included on the Request for Technical Assistance form.
- e. Based on a site investigation, maps, and other information, LCD staff shall rank each project using the approved form before offering a cost-share contract.
- f. If funding is limited, projects with the highest ranking value shall be funded first.
- g. Lower-ranked projects may be cost-shared if there is adequate funding, provided they meet the established minimum value.

Land Conservation Cost-share Projects for Approval 5-24-23			
Landowner name	Township	Practice	Estimated cost-share amount
Keith Liddicoat	Mifflin	Grassed waterway	\$3,685.50
Wessels Family Trust	Highland	Cover crops- 38 ac	\$950.00
Tom Rock	Dodgeville/	NMP- 329.9 ac	\$9,237.76
Tom Rock	Dodgeville/	Cover crops- 52 ac	\$1,300.00
John Gates	Arena	Cover crops- 25.5 ac	\$637.50
Sam Draves	Highland	Cover crops- 15 ac	\$375.00
Dan Buening	Pulaski	NMP- 98.2 ac	\$2,749.60
Richard Swaziek	Pulaski	NMP- 44 ac	\$1,232.00
Rodney Michek	Pulaski	NMP- 26 ac	\$728.00
Rodney Michek & Richard Swaziek	Pulaski	NMP- 38.7 ac	\$1,083.60
Dennis Fingerson	Dodgeville	NMP- 31.9 ac	\$891.80
Kerry Kelly	Dodgeville	NMP- 125.4 ac	\$3,511.20
William Rock	Linden	NMP- 34.4 ac	\$964.04
Dennis & Kandy Putz	Pulaski	NMP- 144.5 ac	\$4,046.00



LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
303 W Chapel Street, Suite 2100
Dodgeville, WI 53533

TO: Land Conservation Committee

FROM: Katie Abbott, County Conservationist and Sarah Hovis, Conservation Technician

Date: 5-24-2023

RE: DATCP reserve funding and barnyard relocation project

The DATCP Reserve fund is a statewide competitive fund that is used to address sites with a manure discharge to water. A farm discharge project may qualify if the county applies for and receives a Notice of Discharge grant or a DATCP engineer selects the project for funding. Based on available funding and projects costs, grant awards may be less than the amounts requested, and grant recipients may need make adjustments in the project to complete the work.

Iowa County applied for the DATCP Reserve Fund for Jeremie Favre and Ellen Geisler's roofed lot project. This would move and abandon an existing barnyard lot that currently has a direct discharge to waters of the state. The existing lot is on top of a steep slope and signs of burnout and a channel to the wetlands and tributary below are evident. The new lot would be roofed, have a diversion (grassed waterway) to keep clean water off manure and has a gravel base for manure management below the roof. This was historically a dairy farm; it is now a sheep operation (sheep manure has comparable phosphorus values to beef manure).

We were chosen to receive the Reserve Fund for this project! We were not funded to the full 70% of estimated costs but we have MDV funds to supplement costs if needed. The landowner anticipates the cost will be less than what was used as an estimate for our application; we will get actual engineering bids after the project is approved by LCC and prior to accepting the award from DATCP. This project will not use any of our current cost-share funds from DATCP. Any additional funds that we accept but aren't used for this project will be pooled with our existing cost-share funds and can be used for other projects in the county. Photos and maps will be available during the meeting.

Estimated project budget (from 2022 neighboring county installation): \$228,811.00

DATCP Reserve Fund: \$140,809.00 (61.5% Cost Share)

MDV Funds: \$19,358.70 (8.5% Cost Share)

Landowner Cost: \$68,643.30 (30%)