

	AGENDA Land Conservation Committee Wednesday May 22, 2024 at 1:00 PM HHS Building, Community Room 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533 Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89730003205 Meeting ID: 897 3000 3205 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799	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	Election of Chair		
4	Election of Vice Chair		
5	Election of Secretary		
6	Approve the agenda for this May 22, 2024 meeting		
7	Approve the minutes of the March 27, 2024 meeting		
8	Report from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the Committee. No action will be taken.		
9	USDA update		
10	Blackhawk Lake Commission update		
11	FPP Noncompliance Appeal- William Dolan		
12	FPP Notice of Noncompliance		
13	Project approvals		
14	Choose Farmer Appreciation Day award winners		
15	Southern Area Association LCC representation		
16	Land Conservation Department updates: A) Birch Lake repairs B) Bloomfield Property		
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 March 27, 2024 at 1:00 PM HHS Building, Community Room 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533 Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84500962773 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 845 0096 2773	Iowa County Wisconsin
Meeting was called to order by Chair Gollon at 1:00 pm		
Roll Call. Members present: Bob Bunker, Kevin Butteris, Roger Geisking, Dave Gollon, Darrell Kreul, Don Leix. Excused: Peter Vanderloo. Others present: Katie Abbott, Monica Yates-Olsen, Sara Wilhelm, Tom Michek		
Approve the agenda for this March 27, 2024 meeting: Sup. Leix made a motion to approve this March 27, 2024 agenda. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Approve the minutes of the February 28, 2024 meeting: Sup. Butteris made a motion to approve the February 28, 2024 minutes. Sup. Kreul 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. Sup. Kreul mentioned a field day at Pioneer Farm regarding cover crops, soil loss, and water quality.		
Introduction of Monica Yates-Olsen, new Farm Service Agency County Executive Director: Ms. Yates-Olsen introduced herself and provided an FSA update.		
NRCS update: None provided.		
Blackhawk Lake Commission update: Mr. Michek provided an update: the beach wall was completed with funding from Iowa County's tourism grant. Shower house project is moving forward; they are working to bring it up to ADA standards.		
Cost-share project approvals: Ms. Abbott provided information on upcoming cost-share projects. Sup. Leix made a motion to approve the projects. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried. Sup. Leix made a motion to require an invoice or statement before paying on projects (including cover crops and NMPs). Sup. Kreul seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Farmland Preservation Program Notices of Noncompliance: Mr. Bunker made a motion to issue the NON for William Dolan. Sup. Leix seconded the motion. Motion carried. Sup. Leix made a motion to issue the NON for Rick Jones and Susan Bottum-Jones. Sup. Kreul seconded the motion. Sup. Geisking abstained. Motion carried. Sup. Butteris made a motion to issue the NON for Anna Radtke. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried. Sup. Butteris made a motion to issue the NON for Krals Trust if not in compliance by the end of April. Sup. Leix seconded the motion. Motion carried. Sup. Kreul made a motion to issue an immediate NON for Jerry Zander. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Sup. Leix moved to amend the motion to issue a NON if a 10ft buffer is not installed in two months. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion to amend carried. Amended motion carried.		

Farmer Appreciation Day award nominations: Ms. Abbott provided the nomination forms and requested nominations by May 13.

Land Conservation Department updates:

- A) **Work Plan:** Ms. Abbott provided a summary plan and mentioned some highlights
- B) **Birch Lake repairs:** Ms. Abbott reported they are moving forward with a bidding timeline variance request to DNR.
- C) **Bloomfield planning:** Ms. Abbott reported she is moving forward arranging meetings with partner organizations to explore options for the Bloomfield property's future.
- D) **SWIGG Continuing research:** The SWIGG study researchers received grant funding to continue research based on the previous well water samples, related to health risk, factors correlated to pathogen contamination, and presence of antibiotic resistant genes.

Motion to set the next meeting and adjourn. The next meeting date was set for Wednesday May 22, 2024 at 1:00 PM. Mr. Bunker made a motion to adjourn. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:03pm.

FPP Notices of Noncompliance: May 2024				
Name	Violation	Due date	Amount of tax credit	Notes
Glen and Jo Ann Tomas	Outdated Soil Samples	3/1/2024	\$1,897.50	They rent farmland to two different operators; one of them missed taking soil samples on their land so those samples are still from Fall 2017.

Land Conservation Cost-share Projects for Approval 5-22-24

Landowner name	Grant recipient	Township	Practice	Estimated cost-share amount
KRALS trust	same	Brigham	No-till	\$499.50
Nadia Alber	same	Arena	Livestock watering	\$11,544.00
RRDRM Trust	Russ Moyer	Brigham	Well decommission	\$1,876.14

Cost-share funding summary

	Starting	Committed	Remaining
Bond (structural practices)	\$45,000.00	\$32,103.90	\$12,896.10
SEG (NMP, cover crops, no-till)	\$45,000.00	\$9,663.96	\$35,336.04

Conservation Farmer of the Year Award Nomination

Return by **Monday May 22, 2023** to Katie Abbott:

Katherine.abbott@iowacounty.org or 303 W Chapel Street Suite 2100 Dodgeville WI 53533

Your name Landon Baumgartner

Phone number

Email landonrb172gmail.com

Nominee Name Jim and Sheila Campbell

Mailing Address

Property Address (Fire Number, etc) if available 1520 County Rd E Rewey

Phone Number

Email

What conservation practices does this farmer use? Provide specific examples.

Jim Campbell runs a diversified organic dairy operation in Rewey, WI and ships milk to Organic Valley Coop. Jim participates in a specific program through Organic Valley which nearly eliminates row crops in his feed rations. Jim's farm is almost entirely in perennial cover of some sort and he has embraced rotational grazing and silvopasture with some recent investments in access roads along with paddock fencing.

How has this farmer promoted healthier soil, groundwater, and/or surface water to other farmers or the community? Please provide some concrete examples.

Although I am not aware of specific local organizations he works through to promote agriculture to others in Iowa County, he is a willing speaker, as displayed by the youtube video below put together by a partner of the USDA Organic label.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VWru6lusF_A

Jim has the next generation helping out on the farm last I checked, and has passed on some land to his son and daughter in law so they are able to gain equity in the farm and keep their mission going. Even as an organic operator, Jim's rotational soil loss can stand up to any no-tiller out there and is always curious and seeking new ways to improve, it seems no matter how long he is farming.

Conservation Farmer of the Year Award Nomination

Return by **Monday May 13, 2024** to Katie Abbott:

katherine.abbott@iowacounty.org or 303 W Chapel Street Suite 2100 Dodgeville WI 53533

Your name **Kelli Neitzel**

Phone number **(608) 963-0547**

Email **kelli.neitzel@wisconsin.gov**

Nominee Name **Laxey Creek Sheep Ranch, Jeremie Favre and family**

Mailing Address **2178 Bloomfield Rd, Mineral Point, WI 53565**

Property Address (Fire Number, etc) if available

Phone Number **(608) 425-0928**

Email **laxeycreekranch@gmail.com**

What conservation practices does this farmer use? Provide specific examples.

Rotational Grazing, stream crossing, roofed barnyard, no-till, nutrient management plan

How has this farmer promoted healthier soil, groundwater, and/or surface water to other farmers or the community? Please provide some concrete examples.

This family converted many acres of previously tilled ground to rotational grazing. This allows much more water infiltration and less erosion. They have abandoned barnyard(s) that used to drain directly to the stream. They moved the barnyard to higher ground and created a roofed area for winter confined feeding so that there would be much less potential for nutrient runoff to the stream on the property. They are always open to telling their story or hosting field days, and have a sheep grazing field day planned for June.

Water and Wildlife Steward Award Nomination

Return by **Monday May 13, 2024** to Katie Abbott:

katherine.abbott@iowacounty.org or 303 W Chapel Street Suite 2100 Dodgeville WI 53533

Your name **Tony Pillow**

Phone number

Email **tony.pillow@iowacounty.org**

Nominee Name **John Walte/ Pamela Callahan**

Mailing Address **4568 Co Rd Q Highland WI 53543**

Property Address (Fire Number, etc) if available
(Same)

Phone Number **608-935-5740**

Email **jfw@ottercreekarts.com**

What project(s) has this person or group implemented or assisted with in Iowa County to improve water quality and/or wildlife habitat? Provide details about the project(s) and water or wildlife benefits.

John and Pam actively participate in stream bank erosion control work through NRCS EQIP program to lesson downstream sedimentation in Otter Creek watershed. They also included habitat structures to increase food for trout and other fish species, rock structures to increase riffles and dissolved oxygen levels, and backwater refuges to provide wetland habitat.

They also maintain a mesic prairie with unique plants and a woodlot using forestry best management practices. They are enrolled in the Managed Forrest Law program.

In what ways has this person or group promoted water and/or wildlife conservation through education, civic engagement, landowner assistance, or other activities?

They promote their conservation practices on their website for their art work.

Friend of Conservation Award Nomination

Return by **Monday May 13, 2024** to Katie Abbott:
katherine.abbott@iowacounty.org or 303 W Chapel Street Suite 2100 Dodgeville WI 53533

Your name **Katie Abbott**

Phone number

Email

Nominee Name **Jan Ketelle**

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email **jlk.moen@hotmail..com**

How has this person actively advanced conservation in Iowa County and in what role? Please provide examples.

Jan, who lives near Mineral Point, has been volunteering with conservation groups in WI for decades. She has been a steadfast volunteer for The Nature Conservancy, Ice Age Trail Foundation, and has been volunteering with The Prairie Enthusiasts for nearly 30 years. For The Prairie Enthusiasts alone she volunteers around 500 hours year with activities like prescribed burns, weed pulling, collecting and cleaning prairie seed, and monitoring frogs, regal fritillary butterflies, and streams. She often takes the initiative and just gets things done. When there is a work party, interns in need of guidance in the field, or something else that needs to get done, Jan is there. Jan also inspires many others to get involved.

How has this person advanced policy, education, appreciation, or other aspects of conservation in Iowa County?