

## APPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday March 23, 2022 at 1:00 PM HHS Building, Community Room 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533

Iowa County Wisconsin

Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88266525929 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 882 6652 5929

## Meeting was called to order by Chair Dave Gollon at 1:01 pm

**Roll Call.** Members present: Ron Benish, Bob Bunker, Kevin Butteris, Dave Gollon, Tim Harrington, Don Leix, Dan Nankee, Peter Vanderloo. Others present: Katie Abbott, Landon Baumgartner (via zoom), Susan Storti (via zoom)

**Approve the agenda for this March 23, 2022 meeting:** Sup. Benish made a motion to approve this March 23, 2022 agenda. Sup. Leix seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Approve the minutes of the February 23, 2022 meeting:** Sup. Nankee requested that policy titles be added to the policy numbers under "Consider Land Conservation Department proposed policy changes" item. Sup. Nankee made a motion to approve the February 23, 2022 minutes with the policy tile additions. Sup. Butteris 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. Nankee shared an AgriView article about communication with farmers; an article about farmers and food shortages in Ukraine; and an upcoming workshop on forage management;

**NRCS update:** Ms. Abbott shared an update emailed by Andy Walsh: Iowa and Grant Counties now operate with shared management with Mr. Walsh the District Conservationist for both. A second EQIP signup has started with a deadline of May 20. Interested parties should contact NRCS as soon as possible and not wait for deadlines.

**Blackhawk Lake Commission update:** Sup. Leix reported that the Commission approved a bid for the bath house renovation; they will also be sealing the parking lot and are adding concrete at the boat landing. Their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will be July 30 with fireworks on the lake. Finances this year continue to be strong.

Consider multi-county dam inspection RFP idea: Ms. Abbott provided background on the need to hire private engineers for dam inspections starting in 2023 due to NRCS no longer providing that support. The impacted Counties met to discuss the possibility of sharing an RFP and having the same contractor handle all inspections. Sup. Leix moved to not join the multi-County RFP. Sup. Nankee seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Cost-share project approvals:** Ms. Abbott presented the list of cost-share contracts for NMP, no-till, and cover crops. Discussion of numbers compared to last year, location, and funding availability. Sup. Leix made a motion to approve the list of projects. Sup. Benish seconded the motion. Mr. Harrington abstained from voting on the last two projects. Motion carried.

## **Land Conservation Department updates:**

- **A)** Land & Water Association conference recap: Ms. Abbott provided a summary of the virtual conference
- **B)** Groundwater study update (if available): Ms. Abbott reported that the researchers are starting the required peer review process for the final report, which can take 6-8 weeks. Once that is complete, the report will be released to the Counties.

**Agenda items for future meetings:** Officer elections, LCC background/handbook, Ludden Lake committee appointment

Motion to set the next meeting date and adjourn. The next meeting date was set for Wednesday April 20, 2022 at 1:00 PM. Sup. Benish made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.