

APPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday May 24, 2023 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/84862446690 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 848 6244 6690

Meeting was called to order by Chair Dave Gollon at 1:02 pm

Roll Call. Members present: Bob Bunker, Kevin Butteris, Roger Geisking, Dave Gollon, Tim Harrington, Darrell Kreul, Don Leix, and Peter Vanderloo. Others present: Katie Abbott, Casey Michek, Ross Dewitt, Matt Miller, Sarah Hovis (zoom)

Approve the agenda for this May 24, 2023 meeting: Mr. Vanderloo made a motion to approve this May 24, 2023 agenda. Sup. Geisking seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approve the minutes of the April 26, 2023 meeting: Sup. Geisking made a motion to approve the April 26, 2023 minutes. 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. Leix provided an updated resolution about WI wind and solar siting rules.

NRCS update: Mr. Miller introduced himself as the new NRCS District Conservationist for Iowa and Grant Counties, and discussed other staffing changes.

Blackhawk Lake Commission update: Sup. Kreul reported that the Park will be sealcoating some of the parking lots

Birch lake repair bidding results and next steps: Ms. Abbott reported that the DNR granted a bidding deadline extension until May 1, 2024. Sup. Leix made a motion to decline the Birch Lake repairs bid. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Discussion of dam repairs and maintenance. Motion carried.

Consider approval of update to policy 1201: Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Costshare Prioritization: Sup. Leix made a motion to approve the policy change as presented. Sup. Geisking seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Cost-share project approvals: Land Conservation staff presented the list of projects for approval. Discussion of adding grant recipient info and total remaining funds to future approval lists. Sup. Leix made a motion to approve the projects with the listed names as the funding recipients. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion. Sup. Geisking abstained from voting on the Liddicoat, Rock, Fingerson, and Kelly projects. Motion carried.

Consider acceptance of DATCP reserve funds and approval of barnyard relocation project: Ms. Hovis and Ms. Abbott provided details, maps, and photos of the Favre/Geisler roofed lot project. Discussion of phosphorus loads and animal units. Mr. Bunker made a motion to accept the funds and approve the project. Sup. Leix seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Choose Farmer Appreciation Day award winners: Ms. Abbott handed out the nomination forms she received. Consensus to save the Campbell nomination for 2024. Sup. Kreul made a motion to award Mike and Matt Mueller as Farmers of the Year, Cindy Becker as Friend of Conservation, and Linda Kane as Water and Wildlife Steward. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion of enforcement of Manure Management Prohibitions in County Ordinance: Ms. Abbott presented details and photos about a farm that has had multiple complaints, with the most recent in May 2023; the owner did not voluntarily fix the problem when offered cost-sharing after a 2019 complaint. The Department plans to work with Planning & Development to pursue enforcement through the Manure Storage and Management Ordinance. Consensus from the Committee that they were comfortable with staff moving forward according to the Ordinance procedures.

Other policy update proposals: Ms. Abbott and Mr. Michek discussed issues that have come up recently with gullies in pastures and NMPs not being planned through the life of the soil tests and not providing annual updates. Consensus for staff to bring a policy revision proposal to next meeting.

Land Conservation Department updates:

A) Information on well water nitrate testing costs: Per an information request at the last meeting, Ms. Abbott reported that starting a nitrate testing lab at the County would likely cost over \$16,000, and due to the cost and amount of vials needed per test there is a risk of losing money on each test.

Agenda items for future meetings: Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan one-year review; FPP policy revision

Motion to set the next meeting and adjourn. The next meeting date was set for Wednesday June 28, 2023 at 1:00 PM in the HHS Community Room. Mr. Harrington made a motion to adjourn. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:38 pm.