

	APPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday October 25, 2023 at 1:00 PM HHS Building, Community Room 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533 Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87024787817 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 870 2478 7817	Iowa County Wisconsin
Meeting was called to order by Chair Gollon at 1:00 pm		
Roll Call. Members present: Bob Bunker, Dave Gollon, Tim Harrington, Darrell Kreul, and Don Leix. Excused: Roger Geisking, Peter Vanderloo. Absent: Kevin Butteris Others present: Katie Abbott, Zac Venchus, Dave Terrall, Ross Dewitt		
Approve the agenda for this October 25, 2023 meeting: Sup. Kreul made a motion to approve this October 25, 2023 agenda. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Approve the minutes of the August 23, 2023 meeting: Sup. Leix made a motion to approve the August 23, 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. Harrington had a question about the amount of emails coming from the Land & Water list.		
NRCS update: None provided		
Blackhawk Lake Commission update: Sup. Kreul and Sup. Leix reported on the bids for the shower house and retaining wall.		
Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program: Dave Terrall and Zac Venchus from USDA Wildlife Services presented crop price proposal, budget, and 5 year agreement; Zac introduced himself as the new specialist. A) Approval of 2023 crop prices and 90% harvest date: discussion of prices, funding source, and number of claims. Mr. Harrington made a motion to change the alfalfa rate to \$225/ton, corn to \$5.20/bushel, and soybeans to \$12.50/bushel, and keep other rates as proposed. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried. Sup. Leix mad a motion to set the 90% crop date as December 15. Sup. Kreul seconded the motion. Motion carried. B) Approval of 2024 budget: budget is down from last year due to fewer enrollees. Sup. Leix made a motion to approve the 2024 budget as presented. Sup. Kreul seconded the motion. Motion carried. C) Approval of 5-year Cooperative Service Agreement: discussion of changes from previous agreement. Mr. Bunker made a motion to approve the agreement. Sup. Leix seconded the motion. Motion carried. D) Consider participation in Venison Donation Program: there is not a participating processor in Iowa County so we can't have a program; hunters wishing to donate venison could take deer to another county.		
Cost-share project approvals: Ms. Abbott presented the list of projects. Sup. Leix made a motion to approve the projects. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried.		

Discussion of cost-sharing and compliance: discussion of cost-sharing one practice if others are out of compliance, severity and intention, and contractor payment. Staff will look into existing policy and bring back for discussion at a future meeting.

Land Conservation Department updates:

- A) Staffing update:** Ms. Abbott provided an update on the hiring process
- B) Potential transfer of cost-share funds:** we may have extra funds to transfer to another county, but we are still following up with landowners
- C) 2024 budget update:** 2024 tax levy increase is due to wage and insurance cost increases
- D) Birch Lake repair updates:** bids will be advertised in mid-November with a Dec 1 deadline

Motion to set the next meeting and adjourn. The next meeting date was set for Wednesday November 15, 2023 at 1:00 PM. The December meeting date was set for Wednesday December 20, 2023 at 1pm. Mr. Harrington made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:01 pm.