

	APPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday February 26, 2025 at 1:00 PM HHS Building, Community Room 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533 Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84949784361 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 849 4978 4361	Iowa County Wisconsin
Meeting was called to order by Chair Gollon at 1:00 p.m.		
Roll Call. Members present: Bob Bunker, Kevin Butteris, Dave Gollon, Darrell Kreul, Dan Nankee, and Peter Vanderloo. Excused: Don Leix. Others present: Katie Abbott, Sara Wilhelm, Tony Pillow, Zac Venchus		
Approve the agenda for this February 26, 2025 meeting: Sup. Kruel made a motion to approve the, February 26, 2025 agenda. Sup. Nankee seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Approve the minutes of the December 18, 2024 meeting: Mr. Bunker made a motion to approve the December 18, 2024 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. Nankee shared the Wisconsin County Association magazine groundwater-focused issue, including an article written by Iowa County staff.		
USDA update: the update was included in the packet		
Blackhawk Lake Commission update: no update; the last meeting was cancelled		
Wildlife Damage Abatement program (Zac Venchus): Approve 2024 Wildlife Damage Claims: Mr. Venchus provided information on two claims for 2024. Sup. Nankee made a motion to approve the claims. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Discussion of amount of claims and decrease in participation. Motion carried.		
Birch Lake dam bid approval: Ms. Abbott presented the three bids received. Discussion of bids, timing of repairs, funding, and water bypass. Sup. Kruel made a motion to award both the base bid and alternate bid to IEI General Contractors. Mr. Vanderloo seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Cost-share project approvals: Ms. Abbott provided a list of cost-share projects. Sup. Nankee made a motion to approve the projects. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Cost-share policy update: Ms. Abbott presented the policy changes, based on previous committee guidance. Sup. Kruel made a motion to approve the policy. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Annual review of Nutrient Management Plan cost-share rate: Sup. Butteris made a motion to keep the NMP cost-share rate at \$8/ac/year (\$32/ac total). Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried.		

Discussion of dam issues and liability: Discussion of long-term plans for dams, including liability and cost; committee provided guidance to talk to Highway Commission and NRCS engineer to try to have recommendation in a year. Discussion of fish barrier and safety issues; Corporate Counsel should decide which ordinance to update related to restricting public entry into dam structures, and create a maintenance agreement for fish barrier.

Recommendation for fees in 2026: Discussion of budget, program costs, and fee levels. Fee increase will depend on what is needed for budget, to be approved through the regular budget process. Four committee members were in favor of increasing the FPP rate to a maximum of \$0.50/acre, two were in favor of a maximum of \$0.35/acre.

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

- a) **2024 Annual report and 2025 work plan:** Ms. Abbott mentioned highlights of each document
- b) **Land and Water Management Plan citizen advisory committee:** discussed schedule and need for at least one LCC member to attend the meeting
- c) **Youth poster contest results:** Ms. Abbott presented the winning poster
- d) **Land & Water Conference: raffle & silent auction:** Ms. Abbott discussed these fundraising activities.

Motion to set the next meeting and adjourn. The next meeting date was set for Wednesday March 26, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Bunker made a motion to adjourn. Sup. Nankee seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.