

APPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday September 20, 2018 at 3:30 PM HHS Building, Room 1001 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533

Iowa County Wisconsin

Meeting was called to order by vice chair Dan Nankee at 3:30 P.M.

Roll Call. Members present: Rod Anding, Ron Benish, Kevin Butteris, Don Leix, Thomas McGraw, and Dan Nankee Members absent: Roger Dax Members excused: Dave Gollon Others present: Katie Abbott, Landon Baumgartner, Andy Walsh

Approve the agenda for this September 20, 2018 meeting. Sup. Leix made a motion to approve the September 20, 2018 agenda. Sup. Benish seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approve the minutes of the August 15, 2018 meeting. Sup. Butteris made a motion to approve the August 15, 2018 minutes. Sup. Leix 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. Benish provided an update on Blackhawk Lake: they installed 50Amp power; a wet Labor Day weekend dropped their revenue compared to 2017. Discussion re: dams and large rains. Sup. Nankee passed around articles from AgriView re: grants and a pasture walk schedule

NRCS update: Andy Walsh gave an update that the Environmental Quality Incentives Program deadline was moved to November 16; there is a sign-up for storm damage; tariff payment to farmers is through the Farm Service Agency

2019 budget updates: Ms. Abbott reported that there have been no changes to the Department's proposed 2019 budget. Discussion re: additional funding from DATCP and phosphorus Multi-Discharger Variance program.

2018 Project approvals: Ms. Abbott provided a list of 13 Nutrient Management Planning cost-share projects totaling \$30,000 and 10 Soil and Water cost-share projects totaling \$22,108.37. The Department still has \$12,891.63 to allocate but has several projects in process and needs to see where some other project costs come in. Sup. Leix made a motion to approve the projects. Seconded by Mr. McGraw. Motion carried.

Groundwater study update: Ms. Abbott provided an update that an event for the public to learn more about the study will be held Wednesday October 17, 6-8pm in Mineral Point. A press release and letter will go out within two weeks. Water samples will be collected Nov 9 & 10 (Friday and Saturday). The Iowa County sample drop-off locations will be in Dodgeville, Barneveld, and Town of Wyoming.

Land + **Water Conservation Association handbook and LCC involvement:** Ms. Abbott had provided the handbook and discussed LCC representation at quarterly Southern Area Association meetings. The annual conference will be March 13-15, 2019 and County Conservationist meeting is Dec 6 & 7. Don Leix agreed to be the primary LCC representative. Discussion re: conservation issues, loss of CRP, and Farm Bill status.

Land Conservation Department update:

- a) Farmer contact efforts: the newsletter is in progress and will include farmer stories and program information
- b) Farmland Preservation Program update: Landon Baumgartner provided an update that about 20 site visits remain. The annual self-certification mailing will go out soon.
- c) Cost-share project updates: Sarah Hovis took cricket frog training so she will be able to help landowners comply with streambank permits

Agenda items for future meetings: any budget updates; DATCP discussion re: County ordinance powers; Wildlife Abatement budget and claims approvals

Motion to set the next meeting date and adjourn.

The next meeting date was set for Thursday October 18 at 3:30pm. Sup. Benish moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Anding. Motion carried.