

APPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday September 12, 2019 at 1:00 PM HHS Building, Room 2001 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533

Iowa County Wisconsin

Meeting was called to order by vice-chair Dan Nankee at 1:03 PM.

Roll Call. Members present: Rod Anding, Ron Benish, Kevin Butteris, Don Leix, and Dan Nankee. Members excused: Dave Gollon Members absent: Kallen Maxwell, Thomas McGraw

Others present: Katie Abbott, Larry Bierke

Approve the agenda for this September 12, 2019 meeting: Sup. Benish made a motion to approve the September 12, 2019 agenda. Sup. Sup. Leix seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approve the minutes of the August 14, 2019 and August 15, 2019 meetings: Mr. Anding made a motion to approve the August 14, 2019 and August 15, 2019 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 passed around the Iowa Farmer Today paper that featured water quality and well testing. Sup. Butteris thanked the LCD staff for demonstrating the rainfall simulator at the Antique Power Show. Sup. Nankee showed the new LCD newsletter and provided an overview of the recent Southern Area Association tour in Monroe, which feature Klondike Cheese factory, a beer facility, a hemp farm, and cheese grading.

NRCS update: Ms. Abbott read a written update sent from DC Andy Walsh. No formal application deadline has been set yet for 2020 EQIP funding but any interested landowners should begin the application process as soon as possible. There is no news on the Cooperative Agreement update between NRCS and LCD.

Blackhawk Lake Commission update: Sup. Benish reported that the park is in good financial shape. They need to purchase a snow plow to fit on their new truck. DNR stocked walleye in the lake. Their website has a lot of use. They are upgrading electric sites and bathrooms. They did not discuss representatives for a meeting with DNR and Iowa County.

FPP extension request approval: Ms. Abbott presented one extension request. Sup. Benish moved to extend Mary Jane Johnson's NMP deadline to June 2020. Seconded by Sup. Leix. Motion carried.

Cost-share project approvals: Ms. Abbott presented a list of 18 cost-share projects, including 5 stream crossings, 2 spring developments, 8 well decommissions, 1 access road, 1 streambank protection, and 1 embankment. Mr. Anding made a motion to approve the projects. Sup. Leix seconded. Motion carried.

Birch Lake Dam valve repair plan and Municipal Dam Grant process: Ms. Abbott discussed the results of the Birch Lake dam valve inspection. The valve will need to be replaced. An initial quote was over \$28,000. The Committee agreed that the Land Conservation Department should postpone the repair in order to apply for a municipal dam grant from DNR, which is due in February 2020.

LCD Budgets: 2020 proposal update: Ms. Abbott reported that she changed the requested Dept. Assistant hours increase from 40 to 35 hrs/week (2019 hours are 30/wk), which results in \$3,036 more in tax levy dollars than in 2019, which is a 1.8% increase. No other changes were made from the previous meeting's budget request summary.

At-large LCC member position: Mr. Bierke reported that due to job and schedule changes Tom McGraw has resigned as an at-large LCC member. Ms. Abbott reported that Roger Dax will return as Farm Service Agency representative, replacing Kallen Maxwell.

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

- a) UW-Platteville dam study: As their senior project three UW-Platteville students will be looking at the costs and benefits of four Iowa County dams. The Land Conservation Department will sign a partner agreement and will review any public materials.
- b) Outreach: The LCD recently sent another newsletter; the Youth Conservation Field Day is coming up on the 24th; the LCD hopes to re-engage Iowa County schools in the state youth poster and speaking contest.
- c) CREP: We had 19 contracts from the recent sign-up; a few landowners are considering the perpetual easement option.
- d) Upcoming events: Vernon County is hosting the Fall Tech Tour on October 3, which will include visiting one of their failed dams.

Agenda items for future meetings: Wildlife Abatement claims and budget approval, cost-share ranking sheet

Motion to set the next meeting date and adjourn. The next meeting date was set for Thursday October 17 at 1:00pm. Sup. Benish made a motion to adjourn. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:12 pm.