

	APPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday April 21, 2021 at 1:00 PM HHS Building, Community Room 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533 Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86561110386 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 865 6111 0386	Iowa County Wisconsin
Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Don Leix at 1:02pm		
Roll Call. Members present: Rod Anding, Ron Benish, Bob Bunker, Kevin Butteris, Jason James (via Zoom), Don Leix, and Dan Nankee. Excused: Dave Gollon Others present: Katie Abbott, Dave Morzenti		
Approve the agenda for this April 21, 2021 meeting: Sup. Benish made a motion to approve this April 21, 2021 agenda. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Approve the minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting: Sup. Nankee made a motion to approve the March 17, 2021 minutes. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Sup. Leix abstained. 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 Grant County's annual report, an article from Successful Farming about cover crops, an article about CRP expansion, Southern Area Association minutes, and a Badger Bounce Back listening session announcement. Discussion of CRP; the Committee asked staff to create a resolution requesting an adjustment to the CRP rates.		
NRCS update: Ms. Abbott shared an update provided by Andy Walsh: a second Environmental Quality Incentives Batch date was set for May 21; landowners are encouraged to contact NRCS as soon as they are thinking about a project. NRCS reorganizational plans have changed and Mr. Walsh is no longer covering Lafayette County starting April 26.		
Blackhawk Lake Commission: update, operations agreement, and dam fund resolution draft: Sup. Leix relayed updates from the last Commission meeting; they had a great year in 2020 and are re-investing funds into several park improvements. Mr. Morzenti presented that changes made to the draft operations agreement and dam fund resolution. Sup. Benish moved to approve the agreement and resolution and send them to the Commission. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Farmer Award nomination form: Ms. Abbott presented the award nomination forms that staff created. The Committee asked her to send them the list of past winners and the deadline for nominations.		
Conservation Reserve Program update- Jason James: Mr. James shared statistics about CRP in Iowa County, barriers to enrollment, and possible LCD actions to encourage more enrollment. Discussion of CRP enrollment now vs. 10 or 20 years ago. The LCC encouraged the FSA county committee to give recommendations for program improvements to their federal representatives.		

Land Conservation Department updates:

- a) **DATCP grant applications:** Ms. Abbott provided an update on amounts requested from the annual DATCP grant for staff and cost-sharing. She also applied for a SEG Innovation Grant for a precision ag incentive pilot project.
- b) **Dam repairs:** Ms. Abbott reported that the Twin Parks 6 repair has a permit and signed contract and is likely to be completed in May; the Twin Parks 7 repairs have a permit; she will release a request for bids soon.

Agenda items for future meetings: FPP fee for extensions/late compliance, Blackhawk Lake operations agreement and resolution, CRP resolution, carbon credits

Motion to set the next meeting date and adjourn. The next meeting date was set for Wednesday May 19, 2021 at 1:00pm. Sup. Benish made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:11pm.