

	APPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday August 18, 2021 at 2:00 PM Conference Room 2401, Iowa County Courthouse 222 N Iowa St, Dodgeville, WI 53533 Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89900762055 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 899 0076 2055	Iowa County Wisconsin
Meeting was called to order by Chair Dave Gollon at 1:00pm		
Roll Call. Members present: Rod Anding, Ron Benish, Bob Bunker, Kevin Butteris, Dave Gollon, Don Leix, and Dan Nankee. Absent: Jason James Others present: Katie Abbott, Andy Walsh, Landon Baumgartner (via zoom)		
Approve the agenda for this August 18, 2021 meeting: Mr. Bunker made a motion to approve this August 18, 2021 agenda. Sup. Nankee seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Approve the minutes of the July 21, 2021 meeting: Sup. Butteris made a motion to approve the July 21, 2021 minutes. Sup. Benish 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 an article about Bob Bunker's farm from the Dodgeville Chronicle's farming feature; an article about ag labor shortages; and information in the Agriculture Letter about labor and penalties in China related to solar panels.		
NRCS update: Mr. Walsh provided the update: they are near the end of their fiscal year; they still have work to finish CRP sign-ups; working on streambank projects now and surveying for next year's projects. Discussion re: CRP rental rates, brush clearing assistance		
Blackhawk Lake Commission update: Sups. Leix and Benish reported that Blackhawk Lake had to cancel their last meeting to view the park due to weather. They are doing well financially and making many improvements. The LCC will likely receive an annual report at the September meeting. The Operations Agreement has been signed by Iowa County and needs a signature from Blackhawk Lake Commission.		
Farmland Preservation Program Notices of Non-compliance: Ms. Abbott and Mr. Baumgartner presented an updated list of non-compliance landowners. Sup. Leix made a motion to issue the Notices of Non-compliance. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Proposed 2022 Budget: Ms. Abbott presented the proposed 2022 Land Conservation Department budget. a) New items: Two potential new programs include a SEG Innovation Grant for precision cropping incentives, and an Outdoor Recreation Plan with SW WI Regional Planning Commission. b) DATCP grant and staffing: The State budget increased staffing grants to Counties for the biennium. With this funding Land Con. would like to increase the Department Assistant hours to full time, which can be accomplished without increasing the tax levy request. c) MDV funding: Land Con. does not plan to apply for MDV funds in 2022, to provide time to catch up on the previous years' funding.		

Land Conservation Department update:

- a) Dam engineering support from NRCS: Ms. Abbott reported that NRCS and County Conservationists had a discussion recently about NRCS ending their support for engineering inspections and repair designs on County PL-566 dams. This is to align with the original intent of the dam agreements and with NRCS policy. Other states do not provide engineer services for these tasks. NRCS was open to continuing with assistance through 2022 to provide time for Counties to work on collaborations for hiring private consultants, get cost estimates, and include the extra costs in their budgets.

Agenda items for future meetings: USRWA Invasive species update- Matt Wallrath; Blackhawk Lake annual report-Tom Michek, budget updates if needed

Motion to set the next meeting date and adjourn. The next meeting date was set for Wednesday September 22, 2021 at 1:00pm. Sup. Leix made a motion to adjourn. Sup. Nankee seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:38 pm.