

APPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday September 22, 2021 at 1:00 PM HHS Building, Community Room 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533

Iowa County Wisconsin

Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87266733448 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 872 6673 3448

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Don Leix at 1:00pm

Roll Call. Members present: Ron Benish, Bob Bunker, Kevin Butteris, Jason James (via Zoom), Don Leix, and Dan Nankee. Excused: Rod Anding, Dave Gollon Others present: Katie Abbott, Landon Baumgartner (via zoom), Matt Wallrath, Troy Maggied, Jaclyn Essandoh, Tom Michek

Approve the agenda for this September 22, 2021 meeting: Sup. Benish made a motion to approve this September 22, 2021 agenda. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approve the minutes of the August 18, 2021 meeting: Mr. Bunker made a motion to approve the August 18, 2021 minutes. Sup. Nankee 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. Mr. Bunker shared an article about prairie strips; Sup. Nankee shared articles re: potty training cows, and methane-catching cow masks; discussion of an Extension project on 60"-row corn; Sup. Leix shared an article about converting livestock waste to methane for compressed natural gas; Ms. Abbott shared at-large member Rod Anding's resignation and appreciation for the Committee.

NRCS update: Ms. Abbott shared an update provided by Andy Walsh: NRCS staff are taking EQIP applications for 2022 projects, with a batching deadline expected in Novembe 2021r. EQIP priorities for cropland include cover crops, waterways, grade stabilization, and streambank stabilization. Landowners interested in cost-share should contact NRCS as soon as possible. FSA/NRCS received sixty-nine CRP & CREP applications; 54 were approved.

Invasive species update- Matt Wallrath, Upper Sugar River Watershed Association: Mr. Wallrath gave a presentation about aquatic invasive species work in Iowa County and the region. Discussion of invasive species in Iowa County and an upcoming guide.

Iowa County Outdoor Recreation Planning- Jaclyn Essandoh and Troy Maggied, Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission: Mr. Maggied described plan components, grant eligibility and match requirement, types of projects, and timeline.

Blackhawk Lake Commission annual report and updates- Tom Michek: Mr. Michek provided revenue reports, updates on their budgets, and 2022 projects and plans.

Farmland Preservation Program Notices of Non-compliance: Mr. Baumgartner described the compliance statuses of three landowners. Sup. Benish made a motion to issue a Notice of Non-compliance to Rodney and Mary Radtke. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried. Sup. Benish made a motion to issue a Notice of Non-compliance to Cory Palzkill. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried. Sup. Butteris made a motion to issue a Notice of Non-compliance to Jewel Revocable Trust. Sup. Benish seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolution establishing additional Manure Storage and Management Ordinance fee: Sup. Benish made motion to approve the resolution and send to Public Works. Sup. Nankee seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolution authorizing DNR Surface Water Grant application: Mr. Bunker made a motion to approve the resolution. Sup. Nankee seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

- a) Budget updates: no changes from last month
- b) Birch Lake update: Doug Carden sent an email reporting that 99% of the dredging was complete and they plan to work on a pier and boat ramp before the lake is refilled.
- c) Bloomfield Prairie ordinance and off-leash dog area proposal: A draft Bloomfield Prairie ordinance will be presented to the General Government Committee at their Oct. 7 meeting. At their last meeting the General Government Committee approved a staff proposal to create an off-leash dog area near the Bloomfield buildings. This project would be entirely grant and sponsor funded and will likely take a year or two before funding is obtained.
- d) SWIGG study timeline: the researchers email recently that they are working on finishing the analysis and creating the report, and hope to be finished sometime this fall.

Agenda items for future meetings: Wildlife Damage Program approvals budget and crop prices; USRWA agreement; Friends of Birch Lake presentation/photos

Motion to set the next meeting date and adjourn. The next meeting date was set for Wednesday October 27, 2021 at 1:00pm. Sup. Nankee made a motion to adjourn. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:03 pm.