

**WAUPACA COUNTY  
LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

July 13, 2015  
Courthouse, Waupaca

Chair Federwitz called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Patricia Craig, Bob Ellis, Dick Rohan, Walter Strebe, DuWayne Federwitz and Donald Peterson.

Also Present: Brian Haase, Roger Holman, Dave Heideman and Lisa Neuenfeldt.

Federwitz gave the open meeting statement.

Motion by Craig, seconded by Ellis to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Peterson, seconded by Rohan to approve the June 1, 2015 minutes. Motion carried.

Federwitz opened the meeting for public comment. There was none.

Neuenfeldt reported Waupaca County had 2 cover crop applications which were both funded, one application for the Honeybee/Pollination was funded, staff is working on FY15 Conservation Stewardship programs, contracts for 4 landowners and 3 FY16 renewed contracts, 50 plus contract reviews have been completed, and 16 conservation practices have been field checked and processed for payment. Derrick will be working on the Conservation Reserve Program this summer. Waupaca has 44 applications that are expiring on Sept. 30 and many can be renewed or extended (field checks required on all renewals). Many of these will involve the CREP Program, so Haase will be involved to handle the State's part of the program. In addition, there will be a general CRP signup in December and we have a large number of people who have expressed interest. Those sites will also need to be field checked for eligibility. There are also 9 sites that need contract reviews.

A request was submitted for NWQI funding for the North Branch of the Pigeon River for FY 16 and to extend the current Pigeon Lake NWQI through FY16. Neuenfeldt and Haase did some preliminary comparisons between the North and South Branches of the Pigeon prior to making the request. While more of the South Branch lies within Waupaca County it was determined that more of an immediate impact to water quality could be made within the North Branch. Shawano County has expressed interest in participating should funding be granted.

Heideman reported that FSA has contacted all CRP participants with contracts expiring in 2015 and 2016 to determine their interest in continuing in CRP. Those who are interested, NRCS will be doing field visits to verify the practice. Participants have until Aug. 28 to sign up for a one year extension and then a general CRP signup will be Dec. 1-28. Most of our activity right now is taking crop reports. The deadline for completing crop reports for spring planted crops is July 15.

Federwitz thanked Neuenfeldt and Heideman for their reports.

Haase reported he and Ryan Brown participated in a DATCP webinar on Farmland Preservation explaining how Waupaca County completed its planning work using the zoning overlay method. This is the first time DATCP has allowed a county to use this method for Farmland Preservation. Approximately 50 people participated.

Haase handed out and reviewed a proposed Wolf Management Resolution which now has language supporting Federal legislative action.

Motion by Craig, seconded by Peterson to recommend the adoption of the Wolf Management Resolution. Motion carried.

Federwitz thanked Haase for his work.

Haase reported that Sue Porter, DATCP, was here last week for the yearly review of the County's Farmland Preservation Program. The FP Zoning overlay has been approved by county board and over 900 letters are being sent out to landowners in FP townships providing information on the FP program. The letter was sent to landowners with 35 or more acres that qualify for FP.

Holman provided the Committee with a review of the County budget process. The process being followed includes CIP review, automation requests, new employees, expenditure and revenue projects, and recommendations for process improvements. Holman noted that the Committee will be reviewing the proposed budget at the August meeting.

Haase reviewed LWRM contracts for Pete Kirchner and Scott Reetz. Kirchner is a cattle crossing, clean water diversion and gutters. Reetz is a manure storage, barnyard runoff control, gutters and underground outlets.

Motion by Craig, seconded by Ellis to approve the Kirchner and Reetz contracts. Motion carried.

Haase reported that fieldwork is busy with 7 large agricultural waste/runoff projects underway and several smaller projects being built too. The Russ Ferg NOD grant application was not successful. DNR had concerns about the animal units approaching 1000 despite DNR staff categorizing Ferg as a medium sized facility. Haase also reported on a manure management dispute in the Town of Lebanon. Manure from the Tank farm is being legally stacked in a location where the odor is an issue to an adjacent residence. Haase is working with Tank on alternatives.

Holman reported the Management Team is working on Supervisor Training, safety audit, evaluations, and website design. Discussion followed on the Department Head evaluation process.

The NRCS Local Work Group Meeting for Waupaca & Winnebago Counties is August 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 Pm in the Town of Fremont Town Hall.

The next LWCC meeting was set for August 10th at 10 a.m.

Motion by Craig, seconded by Peterson to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Submitted by,

Roger G. Holman  
Recording Secretary