

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

Sept. 8, 2015
Courthouse, Waupaca

Chair Federwitz called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

Present: Don Peterson, Bob Ellis, Dick Rohan, Walter Strebe, DuWayne Federwitz and Lee Much. Pat Craig was excused due to another committee meeting.

Also Present: Brian Haase, Roger Holman, Karen Sakata (Golden Sands RC&D)

Federwitz gave the open meeting statement.

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

Motion by Ellis, seconded by Peterson to approve the August 10, 2015 minutes. Motion carried.

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

Federal Agency staff was not in attendance. Haase reported on behalf of Neuenfeldt that Waupaca did not appear to be in the final pool for an additional NWQI project in the North Branch of the Pigeon River Watershed. Haase also said that NRCS had received 49 EQIP applications to date and at least 12 of them required LWCD staff to prepare design work for them. Haase also stated that there were about eight joint CREP application appointments between FSA, NRCS and LWCD later in the week. Many were a result of expiring CRP contracts.

There were no meeting reports. Ellis Stated that Stratton Lake had held their first annual Lake District meeting this past Saturday and the current appointed officers were elected to the District.

Karen Sakata, Golden Sands RC&D Administrative Coordinator, updated the Committee on projects that have been on-going in Waupaca County. The projects included biological control of Spotted Knapweed, Flowering Rush on School Section Lake, groundwater presentations to 8 classes in Waupaca County schools, preparing an Emerald Ash Borer Plan for the City of Weyauwega, Eurasian Water Milfoil and Curly Leaf Pond Weed removal on Shadow Lake, Purple Loosestrife control throughout the County, training for removal and monitoring of Eurasian Water Milfoil on Brekke Lake, and installing boot brushes at various sites for preventing the spread of invasives by hikers. Discussion followed on Emerald Ash Borer, Spotted Knapweed, and Purple Loosestrife. Sakata also reported that RC&D would once again be coordinating the Waupaca County 5th Grade Field Day at Hartman's creek on October 2nd.

Federwitz thanked Sakata for the update.

Haase handed out and reviewed a proposed late fee for the submission of Nutrient Management plans for Farmland Preservation. Haase explained that the fee is being proposed to encourage Farmland Preservation participants to get their plans in on time and so staff will not have to issue unnecessary Notices of Non-Compliance for the program. Haase stated they are recommending a late fee of \$50.00 for Nutrient Management Plans received after April 15 of each year. Currently letters are sent out twice and then delinquent plans are pursued by phone calls. Discussion followed on the purpose of the fee, if the amount was enough of an incentive, and how the fee is implemented.

Motion by Much, seconded by Ellis to adopt a late fee of \$50 for Nutrient Management Plans received after April 15 of each year for Farmland Preservation compliance. Motion carried.

Haase reviewed a LWRM contract for Kendal Zemple for a water and sediment control basin.

Motion by Much, seconded by Strebe to approve a LWRM contract with Kendal Zemple for a water and sediment basin. Motion carried.

Haase reported that in 2014, Waupaca County received \$15,499 of state bonding funds in trade from Rusk County with the agreement that if Rusk County needed the funds back from Waupaca County in 2015 they would receive them. Rusk has now requested to complete the trade.

Motion by Ellis, seconded by Peterson to transfer \$15,499 of state bonding funds to Rusk County for 2015. Motion carried.

Haase reported that the EQIP signup deadline was October 2nd and that staff in both LWCD and NRCS were overwhelmed with work to bring applicants up to medium or high ranking status by the deadline. LWCD's around the area are hoping to address State Conservationist Bramblett on this issue in the future to allow for a better planning timeframe prior to signup. Haase reported receiving \$4150.00 in Contribution Agreement revenue from NRCS. Haase also reported that TRM grant 2014 project reimbursement in the amount of \$150,000 has been received and another approximately \$180,000 is on the way. This has been a particularly long reimbursement period from DNR this year.

Holman reported the County Fair went well. Discussion occurred on having UWEX relocate a conservation booth to the barn area to provide more interaction with farmers, who do not get over into the Education building where the conservation booths are currently located. Holman and Haase said they would address this.

Holman reported the Management Team is working on the 2016 budget and upcoming training.

The next meeting was set for Oct. 5, 9:00 a.m., with a tour as part of the meeting.

Haase requested that any committee members wishing to attend the Lake Winnebago Land & Water Conservation meeting let him know by Sept 16th to facilitate registration.

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Submitted by,

Roger G. Holman
Recording Secretary