

WAUPACA COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes – August 8th, 2016

Chair Federwitz called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. and gave the open meeting statement.

Roll Call: Chair DuWayne Federwitz; Supervisors Bob Ellis, Lee Much, David Johnson, James Nygaard, Michael Whitman and FSA Rep. Walter Strebe present. Others present: Brian Haase, Lisa Neuenfeldt (NRCS), Dave Heideman (FSA).

Review and Approve Agenda: Motion by Much, seconded by Ellis to approve the agenda. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting – July 11th, 2016: Motion by Much, seconded by Whitman to approve the July 11th, 2016 minutes. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Public Comment: None

WDACP Deer Damage Claim – Mike Schertz: Haase presented the 2016 damage claim for Mike Schertz.

Motion by Ellis, seconded by Nygaard to approve the \$18,492.00 claim contingent upon Mr. Schertz fulfilling his deer harvest objectives and hunting access requirements for 2016. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Meeting Reports:

WI L+W County Conservationists Meeting: Federwitz discussed the session regarding the Des Moines lawsuits against the upriver counties. Haase discussed the Bayfield County Manure Storage Ordinance and the challenges that are being mounted against it.

Clerk/Program Asst. Position:

Haase stated that the collaboration with UWEX using Sherry Weise to fill the LWCD position seems to be working out. Haase will further discuss the scheduling situation with Penny Tank and try to plan for 2017. Haase is also working with Finance Director Heidi Dombrowski on the budget impact of the position.

2017 Budget:

Haase presented the current version of the LWCD 2017 Budget. Items of note are the new lines for the seeder rental program and the tree sale program which were previously part of a separate budget fund. Staff revenue from NRCS will increase due to the new contribution agreement. Other revenue increases are due to larger amounts of landowner cost share for 2017. Expenses only increased in the personnel services line related to the restructuring of DERM. Those increases are offset in the Parks & Solid Waste budgets. Haase will be submitting a reclassification request for Stefan Stults due to his increased technical workload and his professional certification in 2017.

Motion by Much, seconded by Nygaard to approve the 2017 Budget as presented. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Cost Share Agreements:

Haase presented Land & Water Resource Management cost share agreements for David Steenbach for barnyard/manure storage and field sediment basins totaling approximately \$23,000.

Motion by Ellis seconded by Whitman to approve the cost share agreement. Motion carried without a negative vote.

County Conservationist Report - Brian Haase:

Haase reported that construction has been busy with the first set of jobs finishing and the second round beginning. Haase is still waiting to address the Gierach manure runoff complaint with DNR. Haase is working with DNR on the Charlind Farms and Russ Ferg NOD grant application. It appears likely that DNR will fund at least one and possibly both grants. Haase stated that the TRM rankings are out and Waupaca ranks #1, #6 and #13. The funding cutoff has not yet been announced by DNR for TRM. Staff has been able to begin work on a yearly newsletter, when in the office, now that Sherry Weise is working in LWCD.

Agency Reports:

NRCS Report - Lisa Neuenfeldt:

July was a busy month for construction, inspection and processing payments for completed conservation practices in various programs. Derrick has been working on 14 Continuous and CREP CRP plans/contracts. NRCS just completed the application process for 6 C.S.P. contracts that are renewing for another 5 years. NRCS will host a soil health field day on August 10th, 9 a.m. – noon in Omro. A new contribution agreement between NRCS and LWCD was approved last

week. This agreement will reimburse the county for not only conservation work that is needed for existing NRCS contracts, but for the first time includes reimbursement for work spent planning future projects. The next EQIP signup deadline is Sept. 2nd. Thanks to the LWCD committee members for attending the Local Work Group meeting last week.

FSA Report - Dave Heideman:

Crop reporting deadline was July 15th. ARC deadline is August 1st. FSA is assisting with the CREP sign ups. The Margin Protection program now has a \$100 fee which has caught some producers by surprise. The program was previously free. Last month producers with a margin above \$6 received payment. The margin is the difference between feed price and milk prices.

County Farmer/Landowner Steering Committee: Federwitz explained his idea to create a committee to be proactive about the types of issues that Kewaunee County is facing recently. Federwitz defined the advisory role as 3-4 meetings per year to advise the LWCD. Haase stated that he would discuss the idea with Greg Blonde, UWEX, for input.

Upcoming Meetings:

Haase announced that the WI L+W Food, Land and Water meetings would start August 23rd. The next LWCC meeting was set for Sept. 12th at 9:00 a.m.

Adjourn: Motion by Ellis, seconded by Nygaard to adjourn. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Submitted by,

Brian Haase
Recording Secretary

These minutes will be posted to the website prior to approval from the Committee and are considered to be in draft form until approved at the next scheduled meeting.