

WAUPACA COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes – November 7th, 2016

Chair Federwitz called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and gave the open meeting statement.

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

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

Minutes of the Previous Meeting October 10th, 2016: Motion by Much, seconded by Johnson to approve the October 10th, 2016 minutes. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Public Comment: None

Agency Reports:

NRCS Report – Derek Raspor:

USDA fiscal year ended on 9/30/16. This year, the Waupaca Field office, with the assistance of the LWCD, installed the following through EQIP: Payments of \$1,126,873.00 for 106 individual practices on approximately 3,519 acres. We are continuing to inspect practices and make payments for late fall installations.

NRCS focus has been on preparing conservation plans & designs for the applications received for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Only applications that have all planning completed by Dec. 2nd will be ranked. It looks like 6 or 7 of the 13 applications that included engineering practices will be going ahead for this first round of funding consideration. There may be a possible second round of funding in March. No news received yet on the request to reactivate the Pigeon Lake watershed for special funding through the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI).

No news received yet on our application for a NWQI pilot project for a portion of the Lower Little Wolf River.

We have started to receive training for the newly rebuilt Conservation Stewardship Program. Signup will begin on Nov. 14, although all training will not be received by that date, so we probably won't be evaluating applications until December/January or later.

FSA Report - Dave Heideman:

Crop reporting to FSA ends November 15th. Dave will be retiring November 9th. FSA will have an open house with snacks that afternoon for those that wish to stop by. Zak Werner, Outagamie/Brown County CED, will be acting CED for Waupaca County. Winnebago County will be covered by another CED. FSA Committee elections will be upcoming for Eastern Waupaca County (LAA3). Tim Schultz and Gary Buss are candidates. Al Tank has reached his term limit.

Meeting Reports: None

2017 LWCD Fee Schedule:

Haase presented an updated fee schedule that now includes a fee for TRM grants. Previously Haase applied for Force Account reimbursement which came out of the landowner grant award. This is time consuming paperwork. It will be equivalent to charge a 7.5% fee similar to the 5% fees for other grants. This aligns well with the larger workload for TRM grants than other fund sources and includes the application fee which was removed from the schedule.

Motion by Nygaard seconded by Johnson to approve the fee schedule. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Cost Share Agreements:

Haase presented Land & Water Resource Management cost share agreements for Nutrient Management for Cathy Nickel (VN Farms) and Alvin Petit.

Motion by Much seconded by Strebe to approve the cost share agreements. Motion carried without a negative vote.

County Conservationist Report - Brian Haase:

Haase distributed the Final DNR/DATCP Joint Allocation Plan and discussed the highlights. Waupaca is the 2nd highest recipient of combined cost share funds for 2017. Waupaca is still mid ranked with respect to staffing grant funds. Haase explained why this occurs due to the specific formulas used. Haase stated that he has started an official complaint log for all manure and runoff complaints received and will update the LWCC regularly. Haase updated the LWCC on the Schertz WDACP claim. Schertz has refused the recommended fence for now and will not be eligible for future damage payments. Haase reported that he facilitated a new NMP for the city well head project as it is required for future funding applications.

County Baseline Well Testing Program: Haase and Parks Director Francis are waiting for Finance Director Dombrowski to have time to commit to re-allocating ATC funds for the project. The County Board Chair will need to re-appoint the ATC committee. Haase has had contact with ECWRPC and UWSP to assist with the well testing program.

County Farmer/Landowner Steering Committee: No discussion.

Upcoming Meetings:

The next LWCC will be Dec 5th at 9:00 AM

Adjourn: Motion by Much, seconded by Johnson to adjourn. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 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.