

**WAUPACA COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes – December 5th, 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, Lisa Neuenfeldt, Derrick Raspor.

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

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting November 7th, 2016:** Motion by Johnson, seconded by Whitman to approve the November 7th, 2016 minutes. Motion carried without a negative vote.

**Public Comment:** Supv. Nygaard asked if anyone had information regarding wolf damage in the Ogdensburg area. Haase stated that he would ask the DNR biologist about it before next LWCC meeting.

**Agency Reports:**

**NRCS Report – Lisa Neuenfeldt:**

Our fiscal year ended on 9/30/16. This year, the Waupaca Field office, with the assistance of the Waupaca County LWCD, installed the following through **EQIP**: Payments: \$1,126,873.00, Practices: 106 individual practices, on approximately 3,519 acres.

NRCS is continuing to inspect practices and make payments for late fall installations. The primary focus lately 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> will be ranked. It looks like 6 to 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 our 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 NRCS probably will not be evaluating applications until December/January.

**FSA Report – Zak Werner**

Haase read the e-mailed report from Zak Werner. Producers have completed their 2017 fall crop reports. Dairy producers still have until December 16<sup>th</sup> to enroll in our Margin Protection Program, a revenue based insurance like program aimed to protect dairy producers. A CRP Grasslands signup also ends on December 16<sup>th</sup>. If accepted, CRP Grasslands could pay Waupaca County producers \$15 an acre on their eligible grazed acreage. 2017 ARC/PLC signup has begun, the FSA office will be contacting producers throughout the winter to complete this paperwork ahead of the August 1, 2017 deadline. The Waupaca County FSA Committee should be interviewing for a new CED likely in the next few weeks.

**Meeting Reports:**

**Golden Sands RC&D-** Haase and Ellis attended the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. GSRC&D has combined all 8 counties into one AIS Grant application. It will be for \$150,000 for one year only. DNR has recommended this approach.

**WI L&W County Conservationists meeting-**Haase, Ellis, Federwitz and Much attended various sessions on Dec 1<sup>st</sup> & 2nd. Of particular interest was the session on Legacy Phosphorous in the Yahara Watershed. Dane County has committed 12 million dollars to dredging out the phosphorous loaded sediment in 33 miles of stream that is accounting for the water quality limit of phosphorous (.075ppm) by itself without any upstream runoff considerations. In other sessions DATCP presented on ATCP 50 rule revisions and Annual Work Plan requirements. Dan Bahr (WCA) and Shawn Pfaff (WI L+W Lobbyist) reported on the potential upcoming state budget impacts to Land & Water.

**Lake Leaders Program – Dan McFarlane:** McFarlane presented information about his attendance in Crew 10 of Lake Leaders in 2014. Lake Leaders was composed of 3 sessions that focused on Human Dimensions, Lake Science and Lake Policy & Politics. Lake Leader attendees must be nominated by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party to attend.

**Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) Proposal –** Haase and Planning & Zoning Director Brown presented a proposal to submit an AEA proposal to DATCP by the 2017 deadline for the Lind/Weyauwega area. This would be the first and smaller of 2 proposed AEA's in Waupaca County with the other to be applied for at a later application round. Haase and Brown discussed the time commitment and cost of an application and how they proposed to recover those costs. They also stated that hiring a consultant planner may be needed and would be accounted for in the budget.

**LWRM Bonding Transfer:** Haase presented a transfer of \$11,500 in unused LWRM Bonding funds from Adams County to Waupaca County for 2016.

Motion by Nygaard seconded by Much to approve the transfer. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Haase presented a transfer of \$49,000 of LWRM Bonding funds from the DATCP NOD fund to Waupaca County for the Charlind Farms, Inc. erosion control project.

Motion by Ellis seconded by Much to approve the transfer. Motion carried without a negative vote.

**Cost Share Agreements:**

Haase presented Land & Water Resource Management cost share agreements for Nutrient Management for Wayne & Bonnie Gierach and Charlind Farms, Inc.

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

**County Baseline Well Testing Program:** Haase stated that he is still waiting on a date for the county American Transmission Company (ATC) Committee meeting to occur to establish funding for the well testing project. East Central Regional Planning Commission and UWEX are both committed to assisting with the project.

**County Conservationist Report - Brian Haase:** Haase stated that DNR Lake Grants were due December 10<sup>th</sup> and he had written support letters for grants for Lake Iola, Stratton Lake and the Golden Sands AIS Grant covering Waupaca County. Tree sales are doing well early with over 12,000 sold and 2 species out of stock already. Haase stated that a potential 2017 TRM Grant farm may go out of business which would affect the budgeted fees for that grant. Construction projects have wrapped up for 2016 and the staff engineering spot check was occurring later this week with NRCS and DATCP area engineers. Haase completed staff performance reviews last week. Manure related complaints in the past month occurred for a 2<sup>nd</sup> time at the Wayne & Bonnie Gierach farm regarding the stacking facility and Cathy Tank's lagoon regarding potential overtopping of the structure. Gierach's were issued a Notice of Non-Compliance (NON) by DNR on November 18<sup>th</sup> and have since signed a cost share agreement for Nutrient Management as required by the NON. The Department Head Management Team has not met since prior to the last LWCC meeting.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

The next LWCC will be Jan 9th at 9:00 AM

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 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.