

WAUPACA COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes — July 3rd, 2017

Chair Federwitz called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and gave the open meeting statement.

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

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

Minutes of the Previous Meeting, June 13th, 2017: Motion by Johnson, seconded by Nygaard to approve the June 13th, 2017 minutes. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Public Comment: None.

Agency Reports: NRCS & FSA off due to holiday.

NRCS Report — Read by Haase: NRCS has been doing site visits and making payments for completed practices. There have also been new applications received that require site visits to gather conservation planning data and document the resource concerns. No additional funding has been received for the backlog of EQIP farmstead applications. Lisa has made a request for additional funds if they become available. Staff are still signing CRP contracts with landowners who applied prior to the freeze on new applications. “Women Caring for the Land” workshop, for women producers/landowners, will be held on July 25th at Brooks Farm. The meeting is sponsored by the WI Farmers Union, Pheasants Forever and USDA.

FSA Report — Read by Haase: The FSA office has been busy with crop reporting. The deadline for crop reporting is July 17th. Due to the very wet spring and beginning of summer, the office has seen an increase in prevent plant acreage. The 2018 MPP Program (Dairy Margin Protection Program) signup will begin and run from July 3rd to December 15th.

Meeting Reports:

WI L+W Food, Land & Water-Farmland Preservation - Haase attended the final Food Land + Water committee meeting. Progress was poor due to the lack of a diverse committee. A final report will be coming out for the October conference.

Save The Bay (Cong. Gallagher) – Haase attended the Upper Fox/Wolf Workgroup Meeting to develop priorities and goals for the basin. Congressman Gallagher’s office is interested in promoting those goals for the future TMDL and better water quality in the 8th District.

County Baseline Well Testing Program — Haase reported that the first sampling, consisting of the towns of Farmington, Dayton and Lind, occurred June 13 & 14th. Unfortunately the storm event of June 14th interfered with the ability of some samples to be returned due to power outages. Dan McFarlane will follow up with those folks. Preliminary results showed 14% high nitrates and about 9% bacteria. Individual results will be forthcoming. The second sample date is July 18 & 19 for the towns of Scandinavia, Iola and St Lawrence.

Nutrient Management Update — Haase presented the 2017 Nutrient Management Statistics for Waupaca and the DATCP statewide statistics since 2012. Waupaca had 46.5% (141,514 ac) of its acreage covered by NMP plans, up from 41% last year.

CH 47 Donated Easement Ordinance — Haase presented the current ordinance with some proposed eligibility changes that would reflect the changes that County Planning Director Ryan Brown has made to various town comprehensive plans. Haase also included some changes to reduce the amount of

monitoring needed and to modify the process of how an easement gets to the LWCC. Haase will work with corp. counsel on the language and bring the final changes back to LWCC in August or September.

Cost Share Agreements/Grants: None.

County Conservationist Report - Brian Haase: Haase reported that several very large, cost shared agricultural waste/leachate projects are under way at Egans, Russ Ferg's and Jeff Henschels. Haase reported that the failing manure storage at the Ivan Burmeister farm is still an issue. Burmeister was supposed to have emptied it for inspection in late May and has not yet done so. Haase reported that Larry Lang has withdrawn his interest in the roofed barnyard project (TRM funded) and has expressed his feelings that he is not the cause of the City's nitrate problems. Haase is unsure how DNR will eventually react since we have never had a TRM applicant withdraw interest before. Haase received manure runoff complaints on the Michael Wagner, Michael Besel and Steve Goli properties. Haase will notify the DNR Non-Point coordinator of those now that the position is filled. Haase has attended a meeting on the new facility study with other department heads. The study is proposed to be complete by Sept. 30 in time for budget considerations.

Upcoming Meetings:

The next LWCC will be August 7th at 8:00 AM. UWEX has a field day in Manawa on August 9th. Executive Committee meets July 11th about budgets. County Conservationists meeting will be July 13th/14th.

Adjourn: Motion by Much, seconded by Ellis to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 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.

