

WAUPACA COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes — September 11th, 2017

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

Roll Call: Chair DuWayne Federwitz, Supervisors David Johnson, Lee Much, James Nygaard and FSA Rep. Walter Strebe present. Others present: Brian Haase, Lisa Neuenfeldt, Marcia Timmel. Supv. Bob Ellis excused. Supv. Mike Whitman resigned.

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, August 7th, 2017: Motion by Johnson, seconded by Nygaard to approve the August 7th, 2017 minutes. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Public Comment: None.

Agency Reports:

NRCS Report — Lisa Neuenfeldt:

NRCS continues to check completed practices and make payments for EQIP. Again this month, there have also been many new requests for site visits to gather conservation planning data and document what the resource concerns are. There is a lot of interest in rotational grazing projects, manure storage and comprehensive nutrient management plans. Staff finished up the 3 new Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) applications for FY17. We have one expiring contract that will be renewed that we are working through. Haase, Sarah Francart and I met with NRCS State Office staff meeting on 8/15 to discuss the status of the Bear Lake watershed plan. Good progress has been made on the plan, which should be done by the end of the year. We were informed that we can accept applications for projects in this watershed for possible 2018 funding. EQIP will offer payments for deer exclosure fence for natural regeneration this year. The payments rates were adjusted, which should encourage applications for the practice.

FSA Report — Marcia Timmel: Fall crop reporting is due by November 15th. ARC/PLC payments are being processed for 2016. Rates came out in October. The 2018 signup will occur later in 2017. Margin Protection Program (MPP) signup is occurring until December 15th. Producers will have the option to opt out for 2018. Cheap feed may restrict payments due to the formula for the program. The FSA Loan Officer from Shawano is in Waupaca on Tuesdays.

Meeting Reports:

Upper Fox-Wolf TMDL Meeting - Haase and other staff attended the DNR meeting on the UFW TMDL. Most of the information was repeated from the last DNR meeting regarding the TMDL. Completion date is set for mid 2018.

NWQI Projects with NRCS— Haase, Neuenfeldt and Francart met with NRCS staff from Madison. The Pigeon TMDL will be closed again for 2018. The Bear Lake project will likely be open for funding in the current EQIP application period for 2018 since NRCS was satisfied with our draft watershed plan progress.

Public Property Committee – Haase attended the PP committee meeting regarding county policies on farmland rental and the recommendations for water quality improvements at the Transfer Facility.

County Well Testing Program — Haase presented some data from the 2nd round of sampling that occurred in Scandinavia, St Lawrence and Iola. An informational session is scheduled for Sept 12th at 6:30 for participants to attend and ask questions. Kevin Maserik from UWSP will be the speaker.

2018 LWCD Budget — Haase stated that he had made one \$3000 change in the budget from contracting to office supplies to accommodate the AutoCAD renewal license prior to submitting the budget to Finance. No Levy impact has occurred.

CH 47 Waupaca County Donated Easement Ordinance — Work was not completed and will be moved to the October Agenda.

Cost Share Agreements/Grants: Haase presented DNR/DATCP contracts for Bakake Acres (Auer), Scott Reetz, Sandy Valley and Jeff Henschel.

Motion by Nygaard, seconded by Johnson to approve the contracts. Motion carried without a negative vote.

County Conservationist Report - Brian Haase: Several large manure related projects are again underway. Haase reported that DNR has offered funding to Waupaca for additional Nine Key Element Watershed Plans. Haase will pursue that. DNR will be doing additional water quality testing around Waupaca in response to some violations. The 5th grade field day will be September 29th. LWLWCA will also meet that day for the summer tour in Fond du Lac. Management team has been involved with the Dimension IV courthouse space needs study.

Upcoming Meetings:

The next LWCC will be October 10th at 11:00 PM and a tour of Conservation work will follow.

Adjourn: Motion by Much, seconded by Strebe to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 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.