

**MINUTES**

**Clark County Land Conservation Committee**

**Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 9:30 am**

**Clark County Courthouse, Auditorium**

Committee Members Present: Don Koerner, Bryce Luchterhand, Martin Nigon – FSA, Chairman Fritz Grabisch, Dan Clough. A quorum of the Committee was present.

Committee Members Absent:

Others Present: Jane Reigel – NRCS, Jim Arch – County Conservationist, Sheri Denowski - Conservation Engineer, Shirley Iwanski - Program Assistant

Fritz G. called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m. Fritz welcomed Dan Clough to the committee.

1. Review of December minutes. Don K. made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Bryce L. All Ayes. Motion carried.
2. Review of December vouchers. Bryce L. made the motion to approve December vouchers as presented. Seconded by Don K. All ayes. Motion carried.

**3. USDA Agency Reports**

a. **NRCS**

Jane Reigel reported that the NRCS is now in the process of approving 2018 EQIP contracts. They are gearing up for CSP in March. NRCS is still looking for a part time office admin position.

b. **FSA**

- i. Martin has a meeting scheduled with Mitch Malm and will have more to report to the committee after that meeting.

**4. Land and Water Resource Management Plan**

- a. Jim reported he is currently looking at forming the Citizen Advisory and Technical Advisory boards for the LWRM and is looking for volunteers. The board would meet for the first time in March and meet probably three times. The board would go over the current plan, then determine a vision and ideas for a draft of a new plan. The update to the plan is required every ten years. Dan C. volunteered for the advisory board.

**5. Water Testing Program**

- a. Jim reported he has found a lab who would do a “homeowners” package for well water testing at a cost of \$70. There could be a discount if there are more than 100 tests. When testing was offered in the past, Matt just put a notice in the UW-Extension newsletter. Bryce L. suggested that the committee wait until 2019 to offering the testing.

## **6. Sportsmans Lake**

### **a. Emergency Dialer**

- i. Jim has learned that we are required to have an emergency dialer for Sportsmans Lake. The bid from Energenics is \$2,761 for a wireless setup and then \$22.95 per month. A land line would be \$1,675 for setup, then \$53 per month. Either setup would also need to include \$115 per hour for installation and a \$250 travel charge. Bryce L. questioned the reliability of wireless reception at the lake. He stated wireless would be a better choice as long as we can get a guarantee of good reception. Marty N. suggested Jim check into the warranty period.

### **b. Wave berm repair**

- i. Jim reported that the geotextile has been approved. They are waiting for the rock to be made so it can be inspected.

### **c. Boat Landing signs**

- i. Jim has contacted Brian Duell of the Highway Department to determine where the boat landing signs will be placed. Brian said if LCD buys the signs they will install them on Cty Hwy D. The signs on Center it would be up to the LCS to install.

## **7. DATCP Staff Grant**

- a. Nothing to report yet regarding the staff budget, as the Finance Committee will not meet until January 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss those funds.

## **8. Wis Land & Water Consercatiionn Association**

### **a. Annual Conference**

- i. Registration information was provided to the committee for the annual conference to be held in Lake Geneva on March 14<sup>th</sup> to March 16<sup>th</sup>. Jim said he would probably not be attending this year. Don, Sheri and Amanda will be going. Others will look at the information and decide if they will attend. Report back as soon as possible for those attending as room availability is often limited.

### **b. Speaking/Poster Contest**

- i. Local Speaking/Poster Contest will be on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Thorp is the only school with a definite response. Greenwood and Owen are looking into it. Jim is still looking for judges.

## **9. Land Conservation Department Reports and Updates**

- a. Working Lands Initiative
  - i. Amanda is currently working in CREP program signup.
  
- b. Engineers Report
  - i. Sheri reported NRCS has updated the Waste Storage Facility standards as of October. Any engineer submitting plans for an AMMO permit by December 2<sup>nd</sup> was permitted to follow the old standards. Sheri said the engineers are following up-to-date standards.
  - ii. Much discussion followed regarding following standards, violations, Notice of Discharge and enforcement. Sheri mentioned As-Built documentation is required before a landowner is allowed to put manure into a pit. There is however no way to enforce those rules.
  - iii. Sheri suggested that cropland practices be added to the LWRM plan, such as cover crops, no-till, etc.
  
- c. Nutrient Management Plans
  - i. Information has been sent to farmers regarding the Nutrient Management Plan training available thru UW-Extension.
  
- d. NOD Application
  - i. Jim reported a landowner is seeking cost share funds for a Notice of Discharge (NOD). Bryce questioned the NOD process. Jim explained the DNR issues a Notice of Discharge and then the landowner is responsible for fixing the issues – cost share funds can be used. Fritz stated he felt landowners should present requests for cost share funds to the LCC. Jim will hold off on granting cost share funds until the landowner can come to an LCC meeting.

## **10. Transfer of SEG Funds**

- a. Jim reported on SEG funds transferred to other counties. LaCrosse County used the funds for new Nutrient Management Plans. As with NMPs in Clark County, funds can only be used for new plans. The primary reason we haven't been using the funds to write new plans in Clark County is because the majority of farmers who are going to have a NMP already have one. Many farmers who don't have a
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NMP are not interested in having one, such as the Amish. They do not want a NMP and are not interested in receiving cost share funds.

- b.** Bryce suggested cost share funds should be used for cover crops, soil testing, etc. and not be restricted to only being used for new NMPs.

11. Public Comments – No public comment.

12. Next Meeting Date

- a. Next regular committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at the Clark County Courthouse in the auditorium.

13. Adjourn

- a. Don K. made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:23 a.m. Seconded by Bryce L. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared and submitted to the committee by Shirley Iwanski.