

**MINUTES**

**Clark County Land Conservation Committee**

**Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 9:30 am**

**Clark County Courthouse, Auditorium**

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

Committee Members Absent: None

Others Present: Will Scholze, Guest - Dewayne Snobl – Wildlife Specialist, Jim Arch – County Conservationist, Shirley Iwanski - Program Assistant

Fritz G. called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

Review of January minutes. Bryce L. made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Don K. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Review of January vouchers.

- a. Fritz said the WLWCA membership dues, paid on voucher #8L0009 must be approved by the LCC since the amount is over \$600. Don K. made the motion to approve payment of WLWCA membership dues in the amount of \$1,394, Seconded by Dan C. All ayes. Motion carried
- b. Don K. made the motion to approve January vouchers with change presented. Seconded by Marty N. All ayes. Motion carried.

**1. NOD Application**

- a. A farmowner has applied for an EQIP grant through NRCS for manure storage. NRCS uses a flat rate and would provide \$350,000. Cost estimates for project total \$1.3 million. Farmowner is looking for additional funds through an NOD grant. Farmer currently does daily manure hauling. Plans are for 11 months of storage. Currently milking 510 cows. Young stock are sent off-site. He has no plans to expand. NOD would cover 70% (90% if determined to be a hardship) for a total grant of \$700,000 (\$900,000). Plans are to build lagoon this summer and complete leachate in summer 2019. Bryce L. made the motion to authorize Jim Arch to apply for the NOD grant, seconded by Don K. All ayes. Motion carried.

**2. Wildlife Damage Update**

**a. Shooting Permit Harvest Exemption**

- i. Dewayne Snobl presented one harvest exemption for a landowner within the city limits of Greenwood. While the landowner did not meet the 9/15/17 harvest deadline, he did harvest five deer after 9/16/17. Dewayne said WS and DNR recommends that Clark County grant a harvest

exemption. Dan C. made a motion to grant the harvest exemption, seconded by Don K. All ayes. Motion carried.

- ii. Dewayne presented three requests for 2017 WDACP claims for a total of \$6,076 payable loss. Marty N. made the motion to approve claims as presented, seconded by Bryce L. All ayes. Motion carried.
- iii. Clark County does not have a participating deer processor. Anyone in Clark County who wishes to donate a deer can take the deer to another county.
- iv. There is legislation which wants the DNR to start a turkey donation program. Dewayne stated it would be difficult to get enough turkeys donated to cover the administration costs of such a program. Dewayne recommends that Clark County not participate in the program. Bryce L. made a motion to not participate in a turkey donation program, seconded by Marty N., All ayes. Motion carried.
- v. Marty asked about the elk population. Dewayne said there are currently no known elk in Clark County. The one elk which had been in the Sherwood area has been moved back to Jackson County. Some elk are continuing to move into the Hixton area and Monroe County. A survey is planned to be sent to residents of Clark, Wood, and other neighboring counties to gather opinions regarding elk.
- vi. There is a known wolf pack between Hwy. 10 and 73 near County Hwy. K which occasionally causes problems. Bears are already coming out although not active.

### **3. USDA Agency Reports**

#### **a. NRCS**

Jim reported there has been a large stewardship program signing. Soil Health signup ends May 19<sup>th</sup>.

#### **b. FSA**

- i. Martin reported that the MPP and LGM programs might be changing. Lots of herds are being sold off. The FSA continues to improve security and the windows and doors are being changed at the FSA office.

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

- a. Jim reported the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will be having their first meeting on Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. Jim has 13 individuals to serve on the TAC and another 13 to serve on the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC meeting date has not been determined. Members of the CAC will include one Mennonite farmer, one Amish farmer, one CAFO farmer, a grain farmer and two from the Lake Arbutus Association.

## **5. Sportsmans Lake**

### **a. Emergency Dialer**

- i. Jim reported the warranty period for the wireless emergency dialer would be one year and two years for a land line. Jim has been informed the prices will be increasing soon and recommended the LCC make a decision. Jim mentioned that he does not have a problem with signal strength on his cell phone when at Sportsmans Lake and the wireless company could add an antenna if the emergency dialer was having an issue with signal strength. 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. Marty N. made a motion to accept bid for wireless emergency dialer, seconded by Don K. All ayes. Motioned carried.

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

- i. Jim provided photos and reported he has been to Sportsmans Lake several times recently to supervise the wave berm repairs, as well as Sheri and Matt Blohowiak and Austin from NRCS. They have done the GPS surveys and all looks good. A bit of additional rock was used to fill muskrat holes but overall amount of rock should come to approximately what was originally estimated. PVC conduit has been placed for the wires to emergency dialer.

## **6. Budget**

- a. Jim met with Finance Committee on January 22<sup>nd</sup> regarding the budget shortfall of \$43,245 due to less money coming from the DATCP staff reimbursement. If you take the new truck for \$29,000 out of the budget, that leaves a shortfall of \$13,245. Finance suggested using the excess conservation fund to pay for the staffing shortfall and the truck. Don K. made the motion to approve using the excess conservation fund to purchase a new truck and cover the DATCP staffing shortfall, seconded by Bryce L. All ayes, motion carried.
  - b. Jim will look into advertising for bids on a new truck. Bid should include specifications for ¾ ton crew cab with towing package and bed topper new 2017 or 2018 truck. Bid should also state the committee has the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Marty N. made the notion to obtain bids, seconded by Don K. All ayes, motion carried.
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## **7. Land Conversation meetings**

- a. There will be a DATCP meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup> in Eau Claire open to all LCC members. Topics covered will include manure storage standards, changes to the NMP standard, etc. Please let Jim know if you would like to attend.
- b. The ECRWC held a meeting in Thorp on February 8<sup>th</sup> and was well attended, including 14 or 15 Mennonite farmers. Richard H. of UW-Extension presented information about soil health and Jim talked about erosion.
- c. The ECRWC has an Excel Energy grant to be used for soil health training. They plan to hold another meeting in the northern part of the county in the fall. They are looking into getting a large scale TRM grant from the DNR. Funds would be used to rent land for educational purposes, field days and trials.

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

- a. Annual Conference
  - i. The WLWCA conference will be held in Lake Geneva March 14<sup>th</sup> to March 16<sup>th</sup>. Sheri and Amanda will be going. Don can no longer attend this year. Jim asked if anyone else would like to go in his place. Nobody else is available. Shirley will cancel Don's registration.
  - ii. Marty N. will donate maple syrup to the silent auction. Bryce L. will donate honey and maple syrup.
- b. West Central Area meeting and Speaking/Poster Contest
  - i. There were 45 attendees to the area business meeting and speaking/poster contest. Luke Schraufnagel from Clark County won 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the area contest in the elementary division. Registration fees collected did not cover the cost of the meeting but the West Central Association will make up the difference.

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

- a. Working Lands Initiative
  - i. Amanda has been receiving requests for Certificates of Compliance. She plans on conducting approximately 30 inspections this year.
- b. Engineers Report
  - i. AMMO Permits
    - 1. Three permits for new waste storage facilities are waiting for updates from the engineers. The department also has two applications for Waste storage facility closures.
    - 2. All As-Built Certifications have been received.
  - ii. SWRM Bond and DNR NOD Funds
    - 1. All 2016 SWRM contracts are complete and paid. Four 2017 contracts have been extended to 2018. Two 2018 contracts are in

place for streambank stabilization. There are an additional nine landowners waiting for 2018 project designs and cost share agreements.

2. One DNR NOD 2017 project is waiting for safety fencing and well decommissioning to be done in spring 2018.

iii. Sportsmans Lake

1. Don K. asked when the water level will be allowed to rise again at Sportsmans Lake. Jim said wave berm repairs should be done soon. It only needs to have the stop logs put back in place to raise the water level, hopefully May. The contractor will pick up any rocks which fell off trucks.

10. Public Comments – No public comment.

11. Next Meeting Date

- a. Next regular committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at the Clark County Courthouse in the auditorium.

12. Adjourn

- a. Marty N. made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:04 p.m. Seconded by Don K. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared and submitted to the committee by Shirley Iwanski.