

MINUTES

Clark County Land Conservation Committee

Tuesday, June 26th, 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: Jim Arch – County Conservationist, Shirley Iwanski - Program Assistant

Fritz G. called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m.

Review of the minutes of previous LCC meetings.

- a. Bryce L. made the motion to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2018 meeting as presented. Seconded by Dan C. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Review of April vouchers.

- a) Jim A. reviewed the vouchers for May. Marty N. made the motion to approve the May vouchers as presented. Seconded by Don K. All ayes. Motion carried.

- b) Review of vouchers requiring LCC approval.

1. Jim reported the storm water basin project is complete and we are just waiting for the bills to come in. It is anticipated the cost will be around \$2,000, which could come out of the conservation excess fund. This would essentially zero out that fund. Fritz said the committee will wait to receive the bills before approving the expense.

1. USDA Agency Reports

a. **NRCS**

- i. No report from NRCS.

b. **FSA**

- i. Marty N. reported on the FSA programs available. There was one retirement in Neillsville. The hire freeze is still in place. The crops are looking excellent everywhere in the county.

2. Nutrient Management Plans

- a. Amanda has submitted the current required annual report to DATCP. There are still issues with some landowners who have not submitted their Nutrient Management Plan updates.

3. Land and Water Resource Management Plan

- a. Jim reported there was no advisory committee meeting this month. The Clark County Natural Resources Opinion Survey was sent out last week. The committees will meet again sometime in late July or early August to review the results of the survey.

4. Sportsman Lake

a. Wildlife Refuge Status

- i. The DNR has asked Jim if LCD wants to keep approximately 300 acres in Sportsman Lake to remain a wildlife refuge. Currently that area has no public access and if the wildlife refuge status is removed it would be open to the public. No funding is received because it is a wildlife refuge. Fur, Fin and Feather (FFF) has stated they would like to see it remain as a wildlife refuge.
- ii. Rick from Parks and Forestry said his department could take over the 300 acres which is now considered wildlife refuge, which would make it county forestry land and would thus protect it from being sold. The committee asked if Rick could come to the next meeting to provide more information regarding this transfer.

b. Emergency Dialer

- i. Jim reported wiring has been connected and the new dialer is scheduled to be installed tomorrow. Jim has installed a new aerator pipe so it is no longer buried and will be easier to access if repairs are needed in the future.

c. Piers

- i. Jim reported that FFF has asked about moving a section of the pier to the berm, running it parallel to the lake, not into the lake. As mentioned in a previous LCC meeting, Rick from Parks and Forestry has stated it would not be a good idea to have a pier at the berm, because all the foot traffic would cause soil erosion, etc. in that area. Jim said it could also be difficult to anchor the pier if it were running parallel to the lake. At any rate, the broken section of the pier should be repaired. FFF would help with moving the pier. Jim will check with the DNR if we need to get permission to move the pier.

d. Sportsman Lake Fund

- i. Jim reported the department has received approximately \$56,400 into the Sportsman Lake Fund from the sale of a county park. These funds could be used to build the walking trails discussed at previous meetings. Rick said Parks and Forestry would be able to help build the trails. Marty suggested the committee look at Anderson Bridge for a bridge on the trail.

FFF would probably be interested in helping with funds to restock the fish in the lake.

e. Lake level

Jim reported the lake level should be at 1261 feet and it is now at 1259.5. Jim checked the lake level after the heavy rains earlier this month and the lake level did not go up as a result of the rain.

5. Land Conservation Department Reports and Updates

a. LCC Meetings

- i. A No-Till Cover Crop field day was held on June 19th near Thorp with about 50 people attending. Topics covered included corn development, soil demonstration and rainfall simulator.
- ii. West Central WLWCA Summer tour was hosted by Dunn County this year on June 21st and was attended by Jim, Sheri, Amanda, Marty N. and Don K. The tour included land in a flood plain which Dunn County now owns and is restoring back to a prairie, and toured Anderson Bridge factory and a kidney bean factory. A training for new LCC members was discussed at the district meeting. Please see Jim if interested in the training.
- iii. The WLWCA County Conservation Meeting will be held on July 19 & 20 in Wisconsin Rapid. Please let Shirley know by July 2nd if you plan to attend.

b. Working Lands Initiative

- i. DATCP is requiring an amendment to the Farmland Preservation Plan (FPP). The map for the town of Colby has had some changes, with some land annexed and taken out of the FPP. If the LCC approves the changes, it would then need to go to the county board. Bryce L. motioned to approve the state revisions to the FPP, seconded by Marty N. All Ayes. Motion carried.

c. Engineers Report

- i. Jim provided the committee with a written engineer report from Sheri D.
- ii. AMMO Permits
 1. There are currently 14 applications in process or waiting for re-submittal. Three pit closures are in progress.
 2. Sheri has completed seven grass waterways (GWW) and one rock crossing. Six GWWs, one rock crossing and two rock plunge pools are staked and ready for construction. Cost share funds have been used up for 2018.
 3. Jim said Sheri would like clarification on what size storage the ordinance covers. Fritz said that should depend on how close the

manure storage is to water, streams, etc. Also, separation from bedrock. Fritz said the committee would need to look at the language in the ordinance to answer that question. Bryce said if the ordinance states that two months of storage needs a permit, then there are lots of violations of the ordinance. It should also be made clear that it depends on how many animals – two months of storage for 20 cows is different than 200 cows. The committee wants to review the ordinance before the next meeting to look at this issue.

- iii. Jim reported the truck, which was set for delivery by the middle of June, has not been received. Urban Sales was purchased by Gross Motors so Jim called Gross regarding the delivery time. Gross reported the truck has not been manufactured yet and may not be available until October. It might end up being a 2019, but Gross has assured Jim it would be for the same price as the contract originally with Urbans.

6. Public Comments – No public comment.

7. Next Meeting Date

- a. Next regular committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 23rd at 9:30 a.m. at the Clark County Courthouse in the auditorium.

8. Adjourn

- a. Marty N. made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:08 a.m. Seconded by Don K. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared and submitted to the committee by Shirley Iwanski.