

MINUTES

Clark County Land Conservation Committee

Tuesday, July 30th, 2019, 9:30 am

Clark County Courthouse, Auditorium

517 Court Street – Neillsville, WI 54456

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

Committee Members Absent: None

Others Present: DeWayne Snobl – Wildlife Specialist. Jim Arch – County Conservationist, Sheri Denowski - Conservation Engineer (arrived at 10:20), Amanda Kasperek - Conservation Agronomist, (arrived at 9:36) Fred Subke - LCD Intern (arrived at 9:45), Shirley Iwanski - Program Assistant.

Fritz G. called the meeting to order at 9:28 a.m.

Review of the minutes of previous LCC meetings.

- a. Bryce L. made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 25th, 2019 meeting as presented. Seconded by Don K. All Ayes. Motion carried.
- b. Discussion followed on the type of minutes taken. The department learned from the Wisconsin Counties Association and Jake Brunette that the minutes have too much detail. Minutes should be what a committee does, not what a committee says and should not include discussion and individual opinions, only motions and results of motions. The committee felt the minutes should remain the same.

Review of vouchers.

- a) Committee reviewed the vouchers for June 2019. Bryce L. made the motion to approve the June vouchers as presented. Seconded by Marty N. All ayes. Motion carried.

1. USDA Agency Reports

- a. **FSA** - Marty N. provided a written FSA report to the committee.
 - i. The Dairy Margin Coverage Program enrollment continues until September 20th.
 - ii. Reminder that producers should report any losses from recent storm damage to FSA.
 - iii. The Market Facilitation Program signup started July 29.
- b. **NRCS** - Jim provided a report from Jesse Haen, Acting District Conservationist for NRCS.
 - i. Clark County has 13 newly funded CSP applications totaling \$376,051.

- ii. During the third EQIP signup, the Neillsville office had five applications for a total of \$59,140.

2. USDA Wildlife Services

- a. Dewayne Snobl provided the USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services WDACP 2018 Summary Report and the 2019 WDACP Activity in Clark County update. In 2018, there was a total of \$731,793 in crop loss across the state and of that, \$647,408 was damage caused by deer. Current activity so far this year is mostly deer damage and for fencing to protect beehives from bears.
- b. Deer population is increasing in Clark County but there has been no confirmed cases of CWD.

3. Land and Water Resource Management Plan

- a. Jim reported he received a couple of minor changes to the LWRM plan from DATCP.
- b. Fritz G. said that on page 44, it refers to stream bank pasturing as a cause of pollution, but large fields with no cover crops cause more damage. Jim will change it to read, “to a lesser extent streambank pasturing.”
- c. Jim is still waiting for additional feedback from DATCP and the DNR before he can present the final draft to the committee. The committee must approve the plan before it can go to public hearing.
- d. The public hearing is scheduled for August 15th at 6:30 p.m. The committee will meet at 6:15 p.m. on August 15th to approve the plan.

4. Sportsman Lake

- a. Pier repair
 - i. Jim provided a picture of repairs to the pier. They have added chains but it is still crooked. It will still need to have four posts added to the section that broke away.
- b. Refuge Designation
 - i. Jim has been notified by the DNR that refuges in the state not owned by the DNR are going to be removed from refuge status. In order for the portion of Sportsman Lake currently designated as a refuge to remain designated as a refuge, there must be a county ordinance. It should go to county board this winter.

5. Land Conservation Department Reports/Updates

- a. Department trucks
 - i. Jim reported the new truck was delivered last week. We can now sell the 2003 Chevy. Blue book value is \$4,000, but it is doubtful it can be sold

for that much. The 2005 Chevy was sold for \$2,000. Fritz reminded Jim it needs to be sold “as is”. Sale will be done with sealed bids.

- b. Farmland Preservation Plan (FPP)
 - i. Amanda reported that by the end of this week, she will have completed approximately half of the 40 FPP inspections in Colby Township. She plans to do the required inspections in the Township of Mayville this year as well.
 - ii. DATCP committee has approved the amendment to the FPP to include Reseburg and Mead townships. It now must go to the DATCP secretary for approval. There also needs to be a public hearing after the secretary approval.

- c. WLWCA
 - i. The county conservation meeting was July 18th and 19th in Stevens Point.
 - 1. Jim went only on Friday, Bryce and Amanda attended both days. Bryce reported all counties are short staffed and do not have sufficient time for manure pit inspections.
 - 2. Bryce was appointed as liaison with the DNR for wetland preservation.

- d. Engineers Report
 - i. Sheri D. provided a written Engineer report to the committee.
 - 1. Remaining SWRM funds will be used for grassed waterways to be done in August.
 - 2. Sheri asked if possibly NRCS could help with the costs to abandon wells and manure pits so costs would then be fully covered (with the exception of the cost of emptying pits). It was suggested we wait until there is a permanent NRCS director and then approach him/her.
 - 3. Jim Johnson is currently looking to NRCS for additional funding on closing his pit.
 - 4. Sheri believes all current pit closures in process now will be completed by the end of the year.

6. Animal Manure Management Ordinance (AMMO)

- i. The committee was provided copies of the final ordinance with coversheet which will go to public hearing and the county board for approval on August 15th.
- ii. Violations

1. Jim reported a manure runoff event occurred on July 22nd at the property of Urs Grossenbacher. Liquid manure was applied and ran off into Rock Creek. This is the third time there has been a runoff event at this site. Amanda suggested the site needs to be designated as a CAFO which would require him to get a permit and also as a CAFO he would then be more closely monitored.
2. Jim reported there was an incident with cattle in the Yellow River causing stream bank erosion at the property of Randy Ress in the town of Sherman. Jim gave Ress notice that he must construct a fence by August 10th.

7. Parks and Forestry Ordinance

- a. The committee was presented a copy of the update to the Parks and Forestry Ordinance.
 - i. This ordinance basically only affects the portion of Sportsman Lake enrolled in the County Forest Program with regard to timber harvest, hunting etc. Dan C. made a motion to approve the ordinance as presented, seconded by Marty N. All Ayes. Motion carried.

8. Public Comment

- a. No public comment.

9. Next Meeting Date

- a. Next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 20th at 9:00 a.m. in the auditorium.

10. Adjourn

- a. Dan C. made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:18 a.m. Seconded by Don K. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared and submitted to the committee by Shirley Iwanski.