

MINUTES
Clark County Land Conservation Committee
Tuesday, October 16th, 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: Dewayne Snobl – Wildlife Specialist, Jane Reigel - NRCS, Jim Arch – County Conservationist, Shirley Iwanski - Program Assistant, Sheri Denowski – Conservation Engineer (joined the meeting at 10:17 a.m.)

Fritz G. called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Review of the minutes of previous LCC meetings.

- a. Don K. noted that page 3 of the September 19th minutes should show 3 to 4 inch fingerlings, not ¾ inch. Don K. made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2018 meeting. Seconded by Marty N. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Review of June vouchers.

- a) Committee reviewed the vouchers for September. Bryce L. made the motion to approve the September vouchers as presented. Seconded by Don K. All ayes. Motion carried.

1. USDA Agency Reports

- a. **NRCS** - Jane Reigel reported the NRCS now has an office coordinator. Last week the CSP funds were released so they are busy making payments. The EQIP deadline is coming in November. This year wetland determination requests have been lower.
- b. **FSA** - Marty N. provided a written report for the committee. There are still crops out in the field – harvest affected by the wet weather conditions. The Emerald Ach Borer has been found in Synder Park. Emerald Ash Borer is now in 51 out of the 72 counties in Wisconsin.

2. Wildlife Services – DeWayne Snobl, WDACP Report

- i. – DeWayne reported 2017 WDACP crop prices as follows:

Crop	Price/Unit
Corn	\$3.12/bu.
Soybeans	\$8.87/bu.

Alfalfa	\$143.21/ton
Mixed hay	\$103.25/ton

Crop prices are monitored from October 2017 to September 2018. The committee discussed price of soybeans, which could increase depending on harvest conditions. Don K. made the motion to approve crop prices as reported, seconded by Marty N. All ayes. Motion carried.

- ii. Harvest cutoff date – DeWayne reported the harvest cutoff date was December 15th last year. Lacrosse County has set the cutoff date this year as December 1st. Marty N. motioned to set the cutoff date as December 15th for this year, Don K. seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.
- iii. 2019 Budget proposal – The proposed 2018 Clark County WDACP Budget as presented by DeWayne is as follows:

WDNR Allocated Funds	
County Administration	\$450.00
Office Overhead	\$4,681.67
Abatement Materials	\$2,937.40
Permanent Fences	N/A
Salaries/Benefits	\$23,486.38
Mileage/Travel	\$5,753.64
Deer Donation Administration	N/A
Deer Donation Processing	N/A
Total WDNR Funding Requested	\$37,309.09
WS Cooperative Funds Allocated	\$6,243.21
Total Proposed Clark County WDACP Budget	\$43,552.30

DeWayne reported the budget request is up this year by about 15%. Deer donations has been removed from the budget as Clark County has not had a deer

processor for the last five years. The budget can be amended at a later date if a processor is found. Marty N. motioned that the WDNR funding request of \$37,309.09 be approved, seconded by Dan C. All ayes. Motion carried.

iv. Cooperative Services Agreement

1. The five-year (2019 to 2023) Cooperative Services Agreement between Clark County and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wildlife Services (WS) was reviewed by the committee. Jim reported Corporate Counsel Jake Burnette has reviewed and approved the agreement. Don K. made the motion to approve the Cooperative Services Agreement. Seconded by Bryce L. All ayes. Motion carried. Chairman Fritz G. signed the agreement.

v. Wildlife issues

1. Dewayne reported a moose near Fairchild has been relocated to county forestland in Clark County. The moose is being monitored, as it is suspected that it might have brain worm.
2. Marty asked if it is legal to hunt white deer. Dewayne said albino deer are protected. There is another mutation in which the deer are mostly white but have some brown patches and brown eyes. It is permissible to harvest white deer as long as they have some brown.
3. Jim asked Dewayne about the pheasant population. Dewayne said he is not aware of a wild pheasant population but there are pheasant farms which release farm-raised pheasants.

3. Sportsman Lake

a. Pier repair

- i. Jim stated the pier repair was going to be attempted last week but the water level was too high. It is now scheduled for repair on October 30th with help from Forestry and Parks as well as Jackson County inmates. They will be replacing aluminum hinges with steel hinges and straightening out the sections that are crooked. Jim invited the LCC members to come and assist/observe.

b. Wildlife Refuge

- i. Jim stated that the advantage of removing wildlife refuge status from the area at Sportsman Lake would be that the LCC retains ownership but the townships would receive funds as well. Also, in order to sell the land, it would require a 2/3 majority of the county board as opposed to a 51% vote of the county board. Jim said Fur, Fin & Feather (FFF) is opposed to removing wildlife refuge status. Bryce asked if the DNR thinks we are protecting a species. Jim said it is to protect waterfowl. Removing wildlife refuge status would also require it be open to the public and

hunting. Bryce L. made the motion to leave the wildlife refuge as a wildlife refuge. Seconded by Dan C. All ayes. Motion carried.

c. Fish Restocking

- i. Jim asked if the committee wanted to order the fish to restock Sportsman Lake. It will be 3- to 4-inch black crappie and blue gills at \$1 each. \$5,000 will come from FFF and another \$5,000 from the LCD, coming out of the \$56,400 transferred to the Sportsman Lake budget to be used for Sportsman Lake recreation improvements. Fish were last restocked in 2015. Dan C. made the motion to approve restocking Sportsman Lake with \$5,000 from the LCD and FFF with matching funds. Seconded by Marty N. All Ayes. Motion carried.

d. Walking trails

- i. Sheri has submitted her report to the DNR. Some of the trail will go through wetlands. Wood chips cannot be put in wetlands. The committee will revisit the issue after receiving concurrence from the DNR.

4. Land Conservation Department Reports and Updates

a. Farmland Preservation Plan

- i. Amanda is in the process of doing farm inspections. There are approximately 80 inspections needed this year. Amanda has completed 20 with 60 left to go.
- ii. There will be a public hearing next month for the amendment to the Farmland Preservation Plan. Bryce L. asked if it could be held in conjunction with the regular LCC meeting. He reminded the committee a notice of public hearing must be published twice in the local newspaper prior to the hearing. Jim will check.

b. LCC Meetings

- i. The WLWCA Winter Conference will be held December 6th and 7th in Wisconsin Rapids. Bryce will most likely attend. Jim will provide an agenda when he receives it so others can decide if they want to attend.
- ii. The regional Poster and Speaking Contest is hosted this year by Dunn County and will be held at 29 Pines in Eau Claire mid-February.
- iii. Engineers Report
 1. Sheri D. reported on current projects.
 2. There is another pit closure violation on Romadka Avenue - above ground storage. It will require a test pit.
 3. Rubble has been removed from the illegal pit closure on Granton Road and it will be left piled until spring.
 4. Sheri has met with the owners of the hog nursery and finishing barns regarding the failure to follow specifications. She is

watching them closely, taking pictures, etc. They may add another nursery barn and will need seven more finishing barns.

5. SWRM funds have been allocated for this year. There are six more well closings in the works.
6. Sheri said since the LWRM plan has cost share amounts listed in the back, this would be a good time to look at those limits again. Well closings are limited to \$1,000 (recently increased) and pit closures are limited to \$5,000. The well closing increase has helped with getting more people to close abandoned wells. Pit closures however can easily cost well over the \$5,000 limit. Marty felt that abandoned well closing should be the LCC number one priority and closing abandoned pits should be number two. Fritz thought maybe the Cost Share limit should be 50% for grassed waterways. Fritz suggested Sheri present a proposal to the committee with what she thinks the cost share percentages and amounts should be.
7. Sheri pointed out that she did not deny repairs to a steel slurry storage as reported in last month's LCC meeting. Repairs to steel slurry storage are done by the installers, not the LCD engineers. The farmer needs to contact the steel slurry storage company for repair options. Marty reported that that farmer is considering replacing the steel storage structure with an earthen storage instead.

iv. Animal Manure Management Ordinance

1. Bryce L. mentioned that Eau Claire County is working on a CAFO ordinance. We should be watching them closely to see the outcome. Jim stated that Eau Claire only has one registered CAFO. Clark County has ten CAFOs and several others that are close to CAFO size. Bryce said the state does not allow counties to deny CAFO permits. Jackson County has a livestock siting ordinance.
2. Bryce suggested we need to take a look at our own Animal Manure Management Ordinance. We should start by looking at the AMMOs from nearby counties. Bryce L. made a motion to begin looking at our AMMO by having Shirley get other adjoining counties AMMOs, seconded by Marty N. All ayes. Motion carried.

5. Public Comments – No public comment.

6. Next Meeting Date

- a. Next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 27th at 9:30 a.m. at the Clark County Courthouse auditorium.

7. Adjourn

- a. Dan C. made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:13 a.m. Seconded by Marty N. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared and submitted to the committee by Shirley Iwanski.