

Minutes of Land Conservation/Solid Waste Committee Meeting

Date of Meeting: April 3, 2017
Members Present: Dave Solin, Carol Feller-Gottard, Samuel Hardin, Jim Jansen, Joe Novak, and Dave Wilson
Members Absent: None
Others Present: Molly McKay, Duane Haakenson, Janet Brehm, and Beth Stanley
Location: Wolf River Room, Resource Center, 837 Clermont St., Antigo

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, David Solin, at 8:30 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Cell phones were asked to be silenced.

Minutes of Last Meeting: Jansen made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Feller-Gottard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public comment on agenda items and consideration of request for items to be added to future meeting agenda: None

Old business/report of events attended: McKay and Solin attended the WI Land+Water Conference in Elkhart Lake. Five resolutions were passed at the board meeting regarding: Groundwater protection, NACD representatives, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding, the Forestry Mill Tax, and managed grazing. Legislative sessions regarding these topics will be coming up. Changes to ATCP 50 and the SEG fund cost share rate was announced at the conference. Cost share rate for nutrient management will go up in 2018 to \$10/acre/year over four years (\$40/acre) from \$7/acre/year.

Hardin attended the Antigo Lake District meeting. The District plans to study Spring Brook downstream from the dam and upstream in the watershed. They have plans to treat the wild parsnip population in 2017.

Status of Conservation Technician Position: Chris Arrowood was hired as Land Conservation Technician/Assistant Code Administrator. Chris has previously worked with the department as the Invasive Species Technician under a Lumberjack RC&D grant and is currently employed as the Timberland Invasives Partnership Coordinator. He will start on Monday, April 17.

Conservation Camp Scholarship: McKay suggested offering a scholarship for WI Land+Water Camp for 2017. WI Land+Water Youth Conservation Camp will be held June 19-23, 2017 for students entering grades 9-12 for the 2017/2018 school year. Camp will be held at North Lakeland Discovery Center in Manitowish Waters, WI. Students should submit a one-page letter of interest explaining why they would like to attend camp. Letters will be reviewed at the May LCC meeting. McKay will draft a letter explaining the program to teachers and youth leaders. McKay will send information to Solin to share with his Elcho contact and send information to contacts at Antigo High School, 4-H leaders, and Scouting groups. Additional funding may be sought from area conservation groups if there are many applicants.

Novak made a motion to offer one, \$250 scholarship to a student located in each school district (total of three scholarships) in Langlade County based on letters of interest submitted by students. Feller-Gottard seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Agency Reports: NRCS – Beth Stanley, Soil Conservationist from NRCS attended. Peggy Winter is still on maternity until May 1. Amy Neigum is the acting District Conservationist while Peggy is out and is

available to help if Beth is unable to answer our questions. Maggie Rhodes is the interim State Conservationist until the permanent State Conservationist, Angela Biggs, takes her place. Beth reported on upcoming deadlines for NRCS sign-ups. The Headwaters Local Workgroup Meeting will be held on June 19 at the US Forest Service Building, Oneida Room, in Rhinelander. A rainfall simulator is now available for use on soil health field days. Ty Larson is the contact. NRCS staff will be able to help with set-up and running the simulator. McKay took a packet of information about the device.

DNR – Janet Brehm, Wildlife Biologist for Lincoln & Langlade Counties, shared DNR updates. The public comment period for the deer quotas proposed by the CDAC is now open. Go to dnr.wi.gov and enter keyword: CDAC into the search bar to get leave a comment. There will also be a comment period at the upcoming CDAC meeting on April 19, from 6-8pm in the Wolf River Room. She also shared that the Spring Hearings will be held statewide on April 10 at 7pm. Antigo's meeting will be held in the Volm Auditorium.

Department Update: McKay reported on her department activities: hiring for the technician position, recruiting for the Shoreland Protection Specialist, issuing corrections to certificates of compliance, AEA applications, staffing grant, annual work plan, designing cost-share projects, presenting to the Antigo High School Environmental Science students on soil health, preparing for the shoreland plant sale, reviewing nutrient management plans, and getting information together for farmers on nutrient management and farmland preservation. A written report was submitted to the committee. Molly will be out of the office from April 12-18 and will hang a sign in advance so people know to come in before that date if they need anything and will prepare Duane to fill in where needed.

Upcoming events: WI Lakes Convention, Stevens Point, WI April 5-7. County Deer Advisory Committee, Wolf River Room, April 19. Lumberjack RC&D, Florence County, WI April 27.

Next meeting: The next LCC meeting was set for Monday, May 1 at 8:30 AM.

Adjourn: Hardin made the motion to adjourn at 9:30 AM. Jansen seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Submitted by,
Molly McKay