

Minutes of Land Conservation Committee

Date of Meeting: June 6, 2011
Members Present: Mike Klimoski, Eugene Kamps, Rick Bina, Tom Schultz, William Bostwick, Glenn Remington
Members Absent: None
Others Present: Marie Graupner, Sally Hull, Matt Peplinski, Tim Rusch, Pam Denzine, Ben Niffenegger, Becky Frisch
Location: Wolf River Room, Resource Center, 837 Clermont Street, Antigo

The meeting was called to order by Kamps at 8 a.m.

Approve Minutes and Agenda:

Bina made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Remington seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Old Business/Report of Events Attended:

Bostwick attended the Rolling Stone Lake meeting. Election for chairman was held at the meeting.

Graupner asked Tim Rusch to attend the meeting as he may possibly be hired into a county position. Due to outside work policy the county has in place, if he is hired, he may not be able to do engineering for Land Conservation. Rusch is hoping he can finish up the Schmidt project before he takes the county position. Pam Denzine will check with her supervisor to see if she could work on some of the projects. Rusch will get a listing of other engineers from around the area.

Remington said FSA will be meeting in late June.

Agency Reports:

NRCS – Pam Denzine said there are 20 contracts this year for the CSP program, with 15 from Langlade County. Contracts are for a five-year period. Payout will be \$275,000 annually. FSA compliance reviews are being completed. Construction projects include a silage leachate containment system, trails, gutters and barnyard, grazing, and a vegetative treatment area.

FSA – Matt Peplinski said he has not been able to do much traveling due to lack of funds in the federal budget. He just recently added Marathon County to his coverage area in addition to Langlade and Lincoln counties. There was no interest in the CRP sign up which ended in March. There is good interest in the DCP farm payment. Crop reporting deadline is July 15. There was no money in the budget for mailings so Matt said producers have been stopping in for paperwork or he has been emailing the forms out. There is an expected decrease of 15% for the 2012 budget so there may be staff reductions or office closings. The county committee meeting is set for June 21 in Marathon County.

Farmland Preservation Program:

Graupner presented four farmland preservation applications for approval. She said there are more that will be ready once they are reviewed by Land Records. Schultz made a motion that Klimoski has the authority to sign the additional applications after they are reviewed by Land Records if found to be complete. Bina seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

An application from Andy and Stephanie Bures was presented for 149.6 acres in the Town of Peck. They are dairy farmers and grow oats, hay, and woodlands. Schultz made a motion to approve the application for Andy and Stephanie Bures. Kamps seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Gary and Pat Foreman have 163 acres in the Town of Neva. They are dairy farmers and grow oats, corn, and alfalfa. Bina made a motion to approve the application for Gary and Pat Foreman. Bostwick seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Dan and Connie Wild have 57 acres in the Town of Antigo for potato production. Bina made a motion to approve the application for Dan and Connie Wild. Kamps seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Ed and Mary Ann Strandell have 340 acres that they rent out for agriculture/forestry uses. Bina made a motion to approve the application for Ed and Mary Ann Strandell. Kamps seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

SWRM:

Graupner said she had to redo a table in the grant application for the 2012 SWRM grant and re-submit it. The application asks for \$85,000 for staffing; \$75,000 for implementation; and \$21,000 for SEG funds. There is \$3500 in 2011 SEG funds that Tony Koss has requested. Schultz made a motion to approve the 2012 contract for SEG funds. Kamps seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Bids were received for putting in trails, a walkway, culverts, and planting at Nagel's. A meeting was held with contractors on May 6 at the Nagel farm and bids were due May 20. Bids submitted were:

Krueger-Steinfest - \$21,805

Stibbe - \$17,762

Heinzen - \$17,402 – low bid

Nagel - \$2755 for seeding

Schultz made a motion to approve the bid of \$17,402 from Heinzen. Kamps seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried. NRCS cost sharing is based on 2008 dollars and they are also asking for additional funding for the project.

Ben Niffenegger presented pictures of a project at Post Lake creating vegetative retaining walls on a steep sandy slope. Three bids were received with Integrity out of Hazelhurst as low bidder at \$10,524. Other bids were Dr. Thomas at \$12,634 and Outdoor Rooms (ineligible). Construction will be this week.

Youth Camp:

Travis Guy has sent a letter indicating interest in attending youth camp in 2011. Bina made a motion to approve sending Travis Guy to youth camp. Schultz seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Program Ranking:

Graupner handed out copies of the program ranking results. The main program areas were ranked individually instead of combined as submitted.

Department Update:

The "Thursday Note" was handed out. Graupner said she has spent a great deal of time reviewing the Working Lands Initiative and meeting with landowners. There are two possible projects for SWRM funds. NCLWCA will be held June 10 at the VFW in Antigo. Graupner registered everyone on the committee but Bostwick to attend. Flyers for Clean Sweep are ready to be handed out. Graupner sent a letter to schools about youth camp. Spot checks for 2011 will be started soon. A copy of the "Shop Local Map" was handed out. The tree planter was used four times and brought in \$350.

Bills:

Bina made a motion to approve the bills submitted. Kamps seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Upcoming Events:

NCLWCA will be held June 10 at the VFW in Antigo. Farm Technology Days is July 12-14 in Marathon County. RC&D will be held July 21 in Shawano County. Kamps and Schultz will be attending.

Next Meeting Date:

The next LCC meeting will be July 8 at 8 a.m.

Adjournment:

Bina made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 a.m. Schultz seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Submitted by,
Sally Hull