

Minutes of Land Conservation Committee

Date of Meeting: March 2, 2015
Members Present: Dave Solin, William Bostwick, Joe Novak, Angela Schreiber, Sam Hardin, Dale Fronek
Members Absent: None
Others Present: Sally Hull, Marie Graupner, Molly McKay, Duane Haakenson, Jeremy Irish
Location: Wolf River Room, Resource Center, 837 Clermont Street, Antigo

The meeting was called to order by Solin at 3:15 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of Last Meeting:

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

Old Business/Reports of Events Attended:

Duane Haakenson attended a TIP meeting in Keshena in February. Chris Arrowood was here last week for a meeting to set up his job duties and work out techniques for eradication of the top ten invasive species in our area.

Molly McKay presented at a county code administrator's meeting on shoreland and erosion control. She has been attending trainings and technician meetings. Molly also attended NCLWCA with Dave Solin and Joe Novak on February 20.

Solin said our grant to eradicate invasive species was approved in the second approval round of Lumberjack. Dave is on the board of the Land and Water Conservation Association.

Wildlife Damage Claims:

Jeremy Irish presented the 2014 wildlife damage claims. There was one claim for bear damage in the amount of \$768.86 with a deductible of \$500. Bostwick made a motion to send the claim to Madison for payment. Schreiber seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Agency Reports:

None

The committee suggested asking the DNR to resume reporting like they did in the past. Dave will talk to some of the DNR people to see if they would like to start reporting at LCC meetings.

Discuss Department Reorganization Concept:

Duane handed out flow charts of 2013 and 2015 preliminary reorganization concepts. There are 8 FTE's included in both flow charts. They are not adding more employees. Duane said his department is looking and planning ahead to address concerns like GIS mapping, CAD conversions, and the possibility of hiring an intern to initially work on GIS. He would like to educate the county board about GIS.

Discuss Resolution Opposing Staffing Grant Reduction:

The Governor's budget proposal includes a reduction in staffing grants by 9.2% for county LCC offices. Graupner's position is fully grant funded, McKay is 50% grant funded, and Duane is 15%. Hardin made a motion to support a resolution opposing staffing grant reductions for LCC offices. Fronек seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Department Update:

With tax time here, the department has been working with landowners and tax preparers on FPP information. The wildlife damage reimbursement claim was paid and sent in for reimbursement. McKay is working with the US Army Corp on a stream crossing project as part of a grazing plan with NRCS.

Upcoming Events:

The WLWCA conference will be in Appleton on March 9-11. McKay, Solin, and possibly Graupner will be attending.

A Stockbridge Munsee Wetland Partners meeting is set for March 16.

A Wisconsin River Water Quality Improvement Symposium will be held in Stevens Point on March 19. Solin will attend.

TIP Steering Committee meets in Keshena on March 24. McKay and Graupner will attend.

A sustainable forestry meeting will be held in Florence on April 15 or 16.

Next Meeting:

The next LCC meeting will be April 6, 2015, 3:15 p.m.

Adjourn:

Novak made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:32 p.m. Bostwick seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Submitted by,
Sally Hull