

Minutes of Land Conservation Committee

Date of Meeting: October 17, 2011
Members Present: Mike Klimoski, Rick Bina, William Bostwick, Glenn Remington, Eugene Kamps
Members Absent: Tom Schultz
Others Present: Marie Graupner, Sally Hull, Tom Lazars, Matt Peplinski, Peggy Lane, Jeremy Irish, Becky Frisch
Location: Wolf River Room, Resource Center, 837 Clermont Street, Antigo

The meeting was called to order by Kamps at 10 a.m.

Approve Minutes and Agenda:

Bina made a motion to approve the minutes of the last Land Conservation meeting. Bostwick seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried. Bostwick made a motion to excuse Schultz from the meeting as he is attending an economic development conference. Kamps seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Old Business/Report of Events Attended:

Graupner attended an Ag Enterprise Forum in Wisconsin Dells along with Dave Solin, Alex Crockford, and Chris Berry. They learned what services DATCP offers to the agricultural community and economics of agriculture in the state. Graupner attended a session on what works and what hasn't worked AEA's.

Agency Reports:

Matt Peplinski reported for FSA. He said their agency is facing budget cuts and is restricting travel and the number of meetings held. Matt discussed DCP and CRP sign ups. New rules went into effect in April for the biomass program. Fourteen applicants were paid for the 2009 SARE crop disaster program. October 1 is the start of the new fiscal year. Matt is now the CED for Marathon, Lincoln and Langlade Counties. The 2010 SURE program starts November 14. Sign up for DCP will be starting January 23, 2012. BCAP is practically non-existent because of the new rules. Committee meetings will be quarterly, not monthly.

Peggy Lane handed out copies of the NRCS "Acknowledgment of Section 1619 Compliance" and "Operational Agreement between Langlade County and NRCS." Both of these documents need updates to the signatures as they were last signed when LCC had a different chairman. Bostwick made a motion to approve the Section 1619 Compliance and Operation Agreement and have the current chairman sign the documents. Kamps seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Lane gave an update to the EQIP program. She discussed how area fund pools are used to rank the applications for the state and county fund pools rank them for the county. Questions used for ranking are set by local work groups. October 1 is the beginning of the new fiscal year. Some travel and trainings have been cut back but no staffing has been lost yet. CSP paperwork needed to be completed by September 30. Applications and surveys for EQIP are being checked over. Pam Denzine is checking out a new type of concrete that is water permeable.

2012 Wildlife Damage Budget:

Jeremy Irish presented the 2012 Wildlife Damage Budget which is a 25% federal cost share / 75% state cost share program. Amount of the 2012 budget is \$24,929 and is expected to assist 20 growers with damage that may result in wildlife damage requests. Jeremy said he is seeing bear damage in different farms this year and some deer damage. Bostwick made a motion to approve the 2012 Wildlife Damage budget. Kamps seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Lumberjack RC&D Projects:

RC&D has funding available to counties for projects. The Arboretum at Jack Lake needs restoration and will qualify for the funding if approved. Tom Lazars presented the proposal. The grant would be used to label species for identification, put up educational signage, print a visitors' guide, and plant trees and shrubs. Bina made a motion to approve the grant application and send it on to RC&D. Bostwick seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Farmland Preservation Program:

Graupner handed out an updated list of FPP agreements within the AEA area. There are 72 agreements that have been mailed to DATCP with a total of 22,054 acres which amounts to approximately \$220,000 in possible tax credits.

A voluntary withdrawal was submitted by Roy & Julie Mitchem for two parcels. A motion to approve this withdrawal was made by Bostwick with a second by Bina. All ayes. Motion carried.

SWRM:

Three projects for animal trails and walkways were bid out. Bid for the Jim Gooch project was awarded to Terry Prueser. The bid for the Andy Bures project went to Stibbe Excavating. The Jeff Smith project went to Heinzen Plumbing.

Graupner handed out a running balance sheet of current projects. The balance is negative but Forest County has some funds left and Graupner will apply for some of those funds to finish up projects. If enough funds could be transferred, there is also a possibility of doing a shoreland project on Rollingstone Lake.

The Steckbauer, Nagel and Rau projects are completed. Bures, Gooch, and Smith projects are ready to go.

Silver Birch is waiting on change order #2 to re-slope the parking lot. Bina made a motion to approve the change order. Kamps seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Possible Contract with Lincoln County for Services:

Becky Frisch attended the meeting to discuss the possibility of contracting with Lincoln County for technical services. Since the Lincoln County conservationist has also been given the zoning administrator duties they need a person to help and we need someone with technical skills. The position would be for 600 hours a year (3 days per pay period). We also have the shoreland

specialist position to fill here. The committee agreed with the concept of working with Lincoln County on sharing a technician.

Department Update:

A department update was mailed out. The “Thursday Note” was handed out.

Bills:

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

Upcoming Events:

October 19 is RC&D in Vilas County. Graupner and Kamps will be attending. Duane & Janet Olson and Kretz Lumber will be receiving awards.

NCLWCA is October 27 in Wausau. The poster contest will be held at the meeting. Klimoski and Graupner will attend.

WLWCA will be December 7-9 in Wisconsin Dells. Graupner will be attending. She will check with Schultz about attending.

Next Meeting:

The next LCC meeting will be Monday, November 7, at 10 a.m.

Adjournment:

Kamps made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:59 a.m. Bina seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Submitted by,
Sally Hull