

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

**August 11, 2014 – 1:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM A-231**

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chair Stuchlak at 1:00pm. Pledge of Allegiance was conducted. Harrison stated that the meeting was properly announced.

Present: Joe Stuchlak; Heidi Roekle; Barb Morgan; Dan Wysocky; Onie Karch; Paul Pisellini; Kevin Bork Wally Sedlar; Michelle Harrison, Reesa Evans (arrived 2:30pm) were all present.

Concerned citizens present: Tom Feller, Virgil Miller, Don Fornasier, Richard Matzke, John Endrizzi, Jim Kocinski, Dave Skala and Sarah Grosshuesch

Motion by Pisellini/Karch to approve the agenda.

Motion made by Roekle/Pisellini to amend the agenda by moving item 15 to item 1. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Motion by Wysocky/Morgan to approve the minutes of July 14, 2014. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public participation as we go.

Sarah Grosshuesch to report on Wisconsin State Manure Advisory Updates. Sarah gave a brief explanation of what the advisory group is concentrating on, explaining that this group meets about public health concerns due to the transmission of microbes through spray irrigation. Items that are being discussed are setbacks, best practices, and times of the day for application. Their goal is to have recommendations and best practices to present to the DNR in the spring of 2015. Sarah also touched on private well testing. She explained that a test could be purchased at the UW Ext for \$4 to test for nitrates/bacteria. The HHS tests water in the homes of pregnant women and small children. All results get reported to the state yearly. There is new information stating that long term exposure to nitrates is harmful.

Wildlife Abatement and Claims- Sedlar reported that there have been claims for deer, bear and wolf damage.

Report on NRCS – None

Report on WNDR- none

Report on L&WC department activities- report was in committee packet.

Report on Central Wisconsin Windshed Partners- next meeting is August 23, 2014.

Report on Golden Sands Resource Conservation and Development- Joe Stuchlak attended the meeting at the Boston School Forest. There are new members on the board. There was a presentation on Emerald Ash Borer. It has been confirmed that Emerald Ash is now in Adams County. Golden Sands is willing to write an Urban Forestry grant for the county.

Report on USDA Farm Services Agency- None

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Report on Duck Creek Activities- Dave Skala reported that the group has submitted an application to become non-profit 501(c)(3), which will make them eligible for some grants. Their next meeting is on August 21st at 5:30pm at the Castle Rock Dam bait shop, all are welcome.

Financial report- Report was given by Sedlar. He stated that the cost for dewatering Arrowhead and Sherwood would be substantially more due to the fact that we could only find one company willing to do it. Discussion took place. Motion made by Bork/Roekle to approve the financial report. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss and/or act on Easton pond concerns. Stuchlak explained the pond water looks like chocolate milk. It used to be very green/weedy on top of the water but the water under that was clear. He stated that is not the case anymore. Tom Feller asked if a containment pond would help. Stuchlak stated it would not because the issue is not due to a sediment problem. There is concern that there is a carp issue. Sedlar stated that he would check with the Fish Biologist, Jennifer. It was also brought up that maybe the dam gates could be opened up slightly more to allow more flow. Sedlar would get with Tom to see if this is a possibility.

Discuss and/or act on private well testing. Sarah touched on this topic in item 1. Tom Feller asked if there is a way to check the elevation of groundwater yearly due to the concerns that our groundwater is depleting. Stuchlak mentioned that the department is monitoring lake levels and tracking this information. Onie stated that Goose Lake has been monitoring the lake level for two summers and the information is downloaded into the SWIMS database. He said when it rains it really makes a difference.

Discuss and/or act on the Big Roche a Cri Lake Association request. The Lake Association has requested that the County raise the maximum lake level by 2 inches for Big Roche a Cri. However this past weekend the water accidentally rose over the maximum and it was over the top of the gates. It was decided that was too high. So the request is if we can run the lake level closer to the top of the range rather than having it at the minimum. Sedlar stated that we would operate it at a higher level as a test. This item will be placed on the agenda for next month.

Discuss and/or act on a draw down for Lake Sherwood requested by the Tri-Lakes Association. The Tri-Lakes Association is requesting Lake Sherwood to be drawn down by 18 inches from September 15-October 15, 2014 for shoreline protection work to be completed. The WI DNR charges a \$500 fee for the permitting process. This fee was paid by Tri-Lakes. The money and permit was sent out today. The downfall to allowing this draw down is the possibility of the water not returning to the “normal” level. Sedlar reported that we are going to try and run Lake Camelot at the maximum to “save” some of the water to help with refilling after October 15th – but there are no guarantees’.

Discuss and/or act on resolution rewording for Enbridge pipeline expansion. Stuchlak states that he likes the wording of Dane County’s resolution due to the fact that it states to send copies to the senators and representatives of Wisconsin. Motion made by Pisellini/Morgan to draft the environmental assessment resolution for the Enbridge pipeline expansion using Dane County’s. Motion carried unanimously. This resolution will be put on next month’s agenda.

Discuss and/or act on amending resolution 89-2000 Adams County high capacity commercial or industrial water wells. Discussion took place. It was stated that more data was needed in order to amend the resolution. Roekle explained that we are not looking to amend the resolution for a particular company, that the resolution is “in general” and that is how we need to consider this when rewording the resolution. The committee stated that Sedlar needs to take the resolution to Corporation Counsel and work with him in

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rewording it. Motion made by Roekle/Morgan to take the current resolution to draft it so it does what it is supposed to do and not relate it to a specific company. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss and/or act on proposed 2015 Land and Water Budget. Sedlar went through the proposed budget. Discussion took place. Motion made by Pisellini/Roekle to accept the proposed budget but to increase it by \$26,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Communications: Pontoon& Politics is coming up – Stuchlak and Pisellini are attending. Emerald Ash Borer has been identified in Adams County. Letter from Rome and their stance against the CAFO. Americorp update given by Reesa Evans. Water Hyacinth was identified on Arkdale Pond – a very invasive aquatic plant. Evans reported that she and others removed 60 plants, believed to have gathered all of it. Tim Meyers (lake property owner) and others will be watching for any other plants. The DNR was notified and was pleased with the fast reaction from the department for removing the plants.

Items for next meeting: Discuss and/or act on the Big Roche a Cri Lake Association request
Resolutions needed for September's meeting: Enbridge Pipeline, donation allocation, High Capacity commercial or industrial water wells,
The next meeting is September 8, 2014 at 1pm

Motion by Roekle/Morgan to adjourn at 2:45pm. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Harrison
Recording Secretary

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