

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

**July 14, 2014 – 1:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM A-231**

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chair Stuchlak at 1:00pm.

Evans stated that the meeting was properly announced.

Present: Joe Stuchlak; Heidi Roekle (arrived 1:25pm); Barb Morgan; Dan Wysocky; Onie Karch; Paul Pisellini; Kevin Bork (arrived 1:05pm) Wally Sedlar; Reesa Evans were all present.

Concerned citizens present: Bill Euclide, Richard Matzke, Kay Olson-Martz, Carl Dostal, Sarah Babcock, John Endrizzi, Jim Kocinski, David and Robin Skala.

Motion by Morgan/Wysocky to approve the agenda. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Karch/Pisellini to approve the minutes of June 9, 2014 and June 17, 2014. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public participation as we go.

Wildlife Abatement and Claims- None

Report on NRCS – Michelle Komiskey of the NRCS reported that applications for EQUIP & CSP funding has been made; several EQUIP contracts have been awarded, although some are still out. No extra funding for CSP was obtained. Applications for the Wetland Reserve program have come in; one large restoration will occur in Adams County. The end result will be a permanent conservation easement for the wetland owned by the federal government. This site is within 5 miles of the Adams County airport. Signup for the Cover Crop program closed last Friday. A multi-county workshop for the surrounding counties workgroup will be held on July 30 at the Hancock Research Station from 1 to 4 p.m. New equipment for checking uniform application rates for irrigation pivots is now available for free through the NRCS. It is hoped the new equipment will be more useful to farmers than the older clunky one.

Report on WNDR- none

Report on L&WC department activities- Reesa reported that the Americorps crew will only be in the county for 2 weeks, starting August 1, 2014. 20 hours for county work are available the first week; 30 are available the second. There will be a welcome dinner on August 1 at Petenwell Park; committee members will be notified later of the time. Wally reported that recent rain events have caused levels for the county-owned dams to “fluctuate significantly”. A question regarding Easton Lake’s operating range was brought up, it is still within its operating range as per on site inspections.

Report on Central Wisconsin Windshed Partners- Wally reported that the next meeting is 8/21/2014 at 9 a.m. at the Hancock Research Station.

Report on Golden Sands Resource Conservation and Development- Joe Stuchlak will be attending the meeting on Thursday of this week at the Boston School Forest.

Report on USDA Farm Services Agency- Kevin Bork reported there was a meeting last Tuesday. Most of the meeting involved discussing the new Farm Program and its likely effects. Cost-sharing for dried-up pasture

THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN APPROVED

caused by the drought in 2012 has started; signup will continue until later this year. Adams County had the highest number of acres that dried up; Marquette and Waushara also had high numbers.

Report on Duck Creek Activities- Bill Euclide indicated that the group is looking into gaining non-profit 501(c)(3) status, which will make them eligible for some grants. They are interested in enhancing the wetlands along the creek, hoping to gain continuous flow in the creek. They are also interested in well-testing. They are hoping that a recent contact with the director of the Wisconsin Wetlands Association will gain them more information on wetland restoration and enhancement.

Financial report- Wally explained some of the items in the financial report; especially those connected to the dams and needed repairs. There is also a negative for unemployment being claimed. He has to turn in some information about next year's budget by this Friday. Motion made by Morgan, seconded by Pisellini, to approve the financial report. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss with Mr. Endrizzi the environmental concerns about the Enbridge pipeline expansion.

John Endrizzi, a resident of Rome, provided written and oral information to the committee about the Enbridge Pipeline, which carries tar sands through Adams County from Canada. There is a proposal to triple the amount of tar sands moving through the pipe. He is concerned about possible negative effects in Adams County (which contains one of the pumping stations scheduled to be remodeled to handle the higher amounts). Several chemicals are used to make the tar sands move through the pipes, including some known carcinogens. There have been numerous spills costing billions of dollars already. Dane and Jefferson Counties have passed resolutions asking for a procedure where the public can present its concerns. Wood County Board will be voting on a similar resolution tomorrow.

Discuss and/or act on amending resolution 89-2000 Adams County high capacity commercial or industrial water wells. Motion made by Roekle, seconded by Wysocky, to amend this resolution. Motion carried unanimously. As it stands, it is very general and also contradictory. Considerable discussion was had by committee members and others present at the meeting. It was determined that more facts were needed, especially some scientific facts, before recommendations about re-wording the resolution could be made. This matter will be placed on the agenda for August.

Discuss and/or act on resignation of Animal Waste Advisory Committee member and replacement with recommended replacement. Richard Matzke has resigned from the Animal Waste Advisory Group and has recommended that Norm Erickson of the Town of Jackson take his place. Norm attended the most recent meeting of the advisory group. Motion made by Pisellini, seconded by Bork, to appoint Norm Erickson to the Animal Waste Advisory Group. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss and/or act on pursuing cooperation with other agencies for water quality related issues. Wally asked for the Committee's support in working with other agencies, departments, and groups in water quality issues. It is hoped that a more collaborative effort would result in achievements and consensus on such issues. Motion made by Morgan, seconded by Pisellini, to encourage Wally to pursue connections with other agencies and groups in working on water quality issues. Motion carried unanimously. Consideration will be given for a resolution before the County Board in August to encourage county-wide cooperation.

Discuss and/or act on out of state travel for Reesa Evans to attend the Midwest Invasive Species Conference in Minnesota in October 2014. A resolution allowing Reesa Evans to attend the Midwest Invasive Species Conference in October 2014 in Duluth, Minnesota, was presented to the Committee. Motion made by Roekle, seconded by Pisellini, to approve the resolution and forward it to the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

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Communications: Wally reported that soil borings on the Cottonville Dam are occurring to prepare for the needed repairs on the earthen structure for next year. Borings on other dams may also occur. The Animal Waste Advisory Group nominated Wally to review the current Animal Waste Ordinance for needed updates.

Enbridge resolution: Among the materials Mr. Endrizzi provided to Joe Stuchlak were copies of the resolutions passed in Dane and Jefferson counties about the tar sands pipe. Joe will provide copies to other Committee members, so that a resolution for Adams County can be considered at next month's meeting.

Items for next meeting: Discuss and/or act on amending the 89-2000 resolution, Adams County high capacity commercial or industrial water wells. Expansion of the Enbridge pipeline.

The next meeting is August 11, 2014 at 1pm

Motion by Bork/Karch to adjourn at 2:23pm. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Reesa Evans
Temporary Recording Secretary

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