

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

August 10, 2015 – 1:00 P.M.

Courthouse Conference Room: A231

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chair Stuchlak at 1:00pm. Pledge of Allegiance was conducted. Roll call was made.

Present: Committee Members: Joe Stuchlak, Onie Karch, Paul Pisellini, Heidi Roekle, Barb Morgan, Kevin Bork, and Dan Wysocky. Wally Sedlar and Reesa Evans of LWCD were also present. *Concerned citizens:* Bob Berry, Pat Kiersten, Richard Matzke, Linda Moonan, Frances Schmidt, Larry Zwaziek, Dave Skala, Betsy Vannettie. *Technical advisors:* Ken Cleveland, UW-Extension; Barry Benson, APHIS.

Motion by Roekle/Morgan to approve the agenda. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Motion by Roekle/Pisellini to approve the minutes of July 13, 2015 was written. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public participation as we go. People wishing to speak on a topic should identify themselves by name and address.

Report on Wildlife Abatement- Barry Benson passed out a sheet explaining the cost of a deer fence for Prairie Vista Cranberries. Two fence applications were made to the WDNR, but only one (Project #2), the smaller project, was approved. Paying for this fence will require a \$31,000 budget increase for this year's APHIS budget. This will be pass-through money. The request for bids should go out within a couple of weeks and the fence should be up by fall. Motion by Wysocky/Roekle to approve the budget amendment. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Stuchlak signed both copies authorizing the amendment.

Report on NRCS- None.

Report on WDNR- None.

Discuss and/or act on the Friendship Dam-Sedlar asked the committee for direction about how involved the Adams County LWCD should be in the ongoing Friendship Dam issues. There have been at least three inspections. One estimate for needed repairs, from Ayres, is \$150,000. After discussion, motion by Pisellini/Morgan to have Sedlar go to meeting in the dam and report back to the committee. Motion withdrawn to allow for public participation. Larry Swaziek, acting chair of the Friendship Lake District, 1083 Czech Lane, indicated that the District wants to work with the county in obtaining an independent appraisal of the dam and has voted to put \$3000 towards the cost of the appraisal. Frances Schmidt of 1124 Czech Pass asked about the most recent repairs on the dam. Sedlar indicated that was a WDNR issue. Bob Berry, 404 Hillwood Lake, appearing on behalf of the Village of Friendship, reported that he has been talking to Meg Galloway of the WDNR. It appears that although Charles Pheiffer owns the dam, the Village of Friendship holds the operating permit. It is unclear at this time who is responsible for repairs and maintenance, as is who owns the land under the water. However, the Village believes costs should be shared by the several parties involved. The Village has also voted to put \$3000 towards the cost of an

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appraisal. Rich Matzke, 1343 Chicago Drive, appearing for the Town of Preston said that Preston had also voted to put up to \$3000 towards the appraisal cost and that his information is that the Town of Adams will shortly be considering the same issue. Betsy Vannettie, 1085 Czech Lane, proposed that the appraisal for the first thing that should occur before any other decisions could be made. Swaziek expressed concern that if the issues are not addressed, the WDNR may take the dam out of operation. All agree that the lake is important to the Adams County Community. Morgan suggested that regular meetings of the interested parties should be held. After further discussion, motion by Roekle/Morgan to have Sedlar get an appraisal cost within 60 days and report to the committee. The issue should be placed on the September 2015 Committee agenda.

Report on L&WC department activities- report in packet. Sedlar noted that although the dam repairs in the Tri-Lakes have been made, there are still some adjustments needed for the gates before he will approve payment. Currently, the lakes are in their operating ranges.

Report on Central Wisconsin Windshed Partners- Wysocky reported on the meeting held July 6, 2015. 21.4 miles will be installed compared to 15 last year. However, this is still under the 30 miles installed 10 years ago.

Report on Golden Sands Resource Conservation and Development- Sedlar passed out a letter about the proposed raise in dues to \$1900 per county. Stuchlak announced that he was appointed to the Personnel/Finance Committee and intends to suggest that members-at-large have no votes, only the counties.

Report on USDA Farm Services Agency- Bork had nothing to report.

Report on Duck Creek Activities- Skala stated that a recent brat fry went well. The watershed group is waiting for their non-profit status to be approved. There will be a speaker on nutrient management at the next meeting.

Discuss and/or act on the LWRMP plan – Sedlar indicated that there were several questions from DATCP, which also wanted input from the WDNR. The schedule for presentation to the state natural resource board has been pushed back to October 2015. Sedlar will check into getting copies of the changes to the committee.

Discuss and/or act on the proposed 2016 budget –Sedlar passed out the proposed 2016 budget. The cost for the Cottonville Dam slope may be \$78,000. The inlet pipe and riser on Fawn also needs to be done, but could be costly, so he delayed putting it in the 2016 budget. There is difficulty using up nutrient management money. Further discussion was delayed until full copies were obtained for the committee members.

Financial report- Not available yet.

Communications: Sedlar made a short powerpoint presentation about the recent dam repairs and the fish farm located on Big Spring Creek. Water is running into the creek from the fish farm at 60 gal/min. The last report filed by Atkinson was 1/30/15. The numbers Atkinson is reporting are far lower than the recent test the LWCD had done. It is clear that he is not complying with the conditional use permit. The committee suggested that Sedlar report to P & Z the lack of compliance. Evans suggested that Atkinson should be required to have scientific testing done by

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a qualified lab, since currently it is unknown as to what testing protocol is being used. Sedlar reported also that no one had bid on the prairie seeding project for the fairgrounds.

Return to discuss and/or act on the proposed 2016 budget – all committee members have full copies of the proposal. Sedlar noted that 5 dam inspections are due in 2016. He intends to apply for a grant to assist in covering the Fawn project. The Golden Sands dues are not included in the proposed budget. Motion by Bork/Karch to accept the budget as proposed. Motion carried unanimously.

Items for next month's Land and Water Conservation Committee meeting: Friendship Dam, LWRMP, June/July financial report.

Next meeting date: September 14, 2015 at 1:00pm in room A231

Adjourn to parking lot for GPS demonstration: The committee adjourned to the south parking lot to observe a demonstration of the new GPS unit made by Chuck Sibilsky. Morgan, with Sibilsky's assistance, was able to navigate to a penny in the parking lot. This unit does much more than the prior unit and in much less time.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Reesa Evans
Substitute Recording Secretary

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