

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

October 10, 2011

Regular Meeting

Present: Stuchlak, Morgan, James, Licitar. Absent and excused: Bork, England.

Call to Order: Chair Stuchlak called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM in Adams County Courthouse Conference Room, A231.

Was the meeting properly announced? Yes.

Agenda: Motion, by Morgan/Licitar, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Previous Minutes: Motion by Licitar/Morgan to approve the minutes for September 12, 2011, (regular) meeting, and September 20, 2011, (resolution) meeting. Motion passed unanimously, with needed correction to Chair Stuchlak's name in L&WCD section. (Correction so made in electronic record and paper copy records.)

Public Participation: Chair Stuchlak stated that he would take public participation as the meeting went along.

Wildlife Abatement Claims Report: None.

WDNR Report: None.

NRCS Report: None.

LWCD Report: There were no questions or discussion.

Comments from Mr. Paul Armson regarding Big Spring Project: Mr. Armson addressed the committee and expressed concerns and impacts surrounding the removal of the Big Spring Dam and Pond in the Town of New Haven, as well as certain problems and unknown costs associated with considering restoring it. He also solicited committee action/ involvement on two unresolved matters: 1.) continuing sediment erosion and its flow/deposit into Mason Lake; and, 2.) uncompensated denial of landowners' riparian rights. Members asked Mr. Armson a number of questions which Mr. Armson answered, and the committee agreed to give further attention to his remarks.

Cost-sharing Contracts: Staff member Sibilsky presented three current project cost-sharing bills: the Friedel project, the Kuel project, and the Ginter Tree Farm project. Motion to approve, Terry/Licitar, carried unanimously. Discussion continued on three still-in-bidding-process projects presented by Technician Bremer on Roche-a-Cri Lake; chair is permitted/able to give initial go-ahead to proceed with submitted low bidders after the bids are received, with full committee to approve at next meeting. Murphy and Sibilsky introduced, presented/explained a project-ranking form for the purpose of handling and determining priorities in future fiscal years' projects. Questions and discussion followed, with consensus of committee to approve of the project-ranking plan.

Travel and Training Requests: None.

Department Position Change – Conservation Engineering Technician: James asked three affected persons (P&Z department head, L&WC department head, and engineering technician position-holder) for their views on the matter. All three affirmed contentment with the change. Motion to approve, Terry/Morgan, carried unanimously. Audience member gave input praising needed help that would be happening as a result at Roche-a-Cri Lake. Questions/discussion on intricacies and actual procedural details revealed additional time necessary to make ready for County Board/Executive Committee approval, which will then provide a better idea of how/when to proceed.

Transfer of Stormwater Runoff Ordinance from LWC to P&Z: No action taken, for now, except to leave it on the back burner (i.e.: continuing attention), to continue considering various pros and cons of transferring/keeping as is, until such time in the future that a more-informed decision will be able to be made. Motion to table, Terry/Licitar, carried unanimously.

Motion to Recess: At 10:13 AM, motion to take short recess, Terry/Morgan, carried unanimously.

Re-convene the Meeting: At 10:22 AM, Chair Stuchlak called the meeting back to order.

Discussion regarding Tri-Lakes Water Levels: Discussion/questions covered a number of issues, policies, problems and priorities surrounding achieving the most-beneficial regulation of the Tri-Lakes water levels. Costs, competing desires/interests, weather, large and diverse service populations all appear as factors to be reconciled in keeping or revising the appropriate lake levels and in meeting the widest array of needs. Murphy suggested committee members, lake associations, property owners, and all parties with (an) interest(s) to come together and help guide the L&WCD in how to proceed. Consensus emerged that education/information/survey campaigns be implemented to begin to help prepare the public and landowners for the impact of the Adams County Shoreland Protection Ordinance scheduled to take effect in 2015.

Central Wisconsin Windshed Partners Report: None. Next meeting: December 19, 2011.

North Central Land and Water Conservation Association Report: 2011 Annual Meeting at Chula Vista Resort, December 8 & 9, 2011, in Wisconsin Dells.

Golden Sands Resource, Conservation and Development Report: None.

USDA Farm Services Agency report: None

Review Communications: Two items were reviewed: 1.) A letter from three landowners in the Big Springs Restoration Project, Town of New Haven; and, 2.) A letter from

DATCP indicating that forthcoming allocations for 2012 will not be completed by the end of December, 2011.

Review September, 2011, Financial report: After committee review, Morgan asked Murphy if there were any areas that might need to be pointed out for the committee. Murphy stated that there are two expense areas that are at this time subject to increasing negative accumulations: 1.) gas and vehicles account; and 2.) maintenance of vehicles account.

Items for November, 2011, L&WCC Meeting: None.

Next Meeting Date: November 14, 2011, 9AM.

Motion to Adjourn: Made at 11:20 AM, James/Morgan; carried unanimously.

Minutes recorded by Ron Pufall, L&WCD Clerk//Secretary

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE.