

Rushlow called to order the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee at 9:00 a.m., on April 14, 2010 in the Lower Level Conference Room #1, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

Present: The following persons were present: County Board members Kathleen Rushlow, Mary Platner, Ralph Sitzberger, and Erv Teichmiller; others Chuck Thier, Rollie Alger, Carolyn Scholl, Ted Ritter, and Rosemary Leveille
The following County Board member(s) were excused: Gene Ciszek
The following County Board member(s) were absent:
Media present: Ken Anderson

Approve Agenda: **Motion made by Platner, second by Sitzberger to approve the agenda in any order at the chairman's discretion. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Approve Minutes: **Motion by Sitzberger, second by Platner to approve the minutes from March 10, 2010 of this committee as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Agenda item #4: Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program – Nothing for this month.

Agenda item #6: Little Tamarack Flowage, project update – The committee was provided with a folder (on file in the LWCD office) with all of the correspondence, history, and pertinent information on the subject. Sitzberger stated that he went to the Forestry Committee and had the project turned over to the LCC Committee for continuity and devoted attention by one committee. **Motion by Platner, second by Sitzberger to turn over the file to the Corporation Counsel, Milanowski for her expertise and guidance on how to proceed and to determine if the culvert is County owned along with the proper way to proceed. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Agenda item #5: Lake Conservation Specialist – Scholl announced that the position has been filled, by Mariquita Sheehan, who will start on April 19th.

Agenda item #7: Agent reports: UWEX, FSA, LWCD, NRCS, NCLWCA, Lumberjack RC&D – Ritter and Scholl distributed their written reports (on file in the LWCD office) and discussed them. Ritter showed the committee a copy of the alert letter and flyer on Garlic Mustard that was sent out to 2,000 property owners from WHIP, and stated that WHIP will be having an awareness day on terrestrials at Trees For Tomorrow on May 1st. He announced that he is now a licensed certified pesticide applicator for Turf & Landscape, and Forestry on a commercial not for hire basis, as a county employee only. A draft memo to Corporation Counsel (on file in the LWCD office) was given to the committee asking for a statement of liability concerns and the possibility of Ritter helping private homeowners with applying herbicides. **A motion by Sitzberger, second by Platner for the letter to go to Corporation Counsel for advisement, legality and possible implementation. Motion carried, all voting aye.** Scholl stated that she has just received the official approval of the Land and Water Resource Management plan (on file in the LWCD office). A copy of the DATCP report and a forum on conservation funding and other means to deliver conservation work meeting (on file in the LWCD office) was also given out. Scholl announced that she received the 2010 Wisconsin Lake Stewardship award for public service at the WAL conference. Ritter and Scholl stated that they are very frustrated with the new “Barracuda” program that is now on the county computers regarding internet access. Scholl was directed by Rushlow to write a letter to the Public Property Committee on behalf of the Land and Water Committee stating that this program is hindering their availability to access and do research on the internet. Lumberjack RC&D, Teichmiller stated that he is very pleased with the grants and assistance that RC&D is now giving to help out groups like WHIP. FSA, a copy of a written report (on file in the LWCD office) from Susan Hunter, was given to the committee.

Agenda item #8: Lake Organizations, ER Unified Lakes Commission (ULERCLC) & Vilas County Lakes Association (VCLA) – Big St. Germain Lake District. Platner stated that the water table situation is very bad and the dam had to be put at the lowest possible legal level to try to help the situation. Nothing to report from the other Lake Districts this month. VCLA, Thier spoke about the no lead bait law, and the fact that you are now encouraged to donate \$2.00 to Aquatic Invasive Species prevention when purchasing a fishing license. He also stated that the Northern Lakes Workshop, June 19th is coming together and the agenda is now being finalized. St. Germain Lake Commission received a \$65,000 grant in the fall and will be doing an area survey. Thier also stated that he will be stepping down from the St. Germain Lake Commission and the VCLA board.

Agenda item # 9: Out-of County travel – **Motion by Teichmiller, second by Sitzberger for the following travel plans: Ritter –Northwoods CWMA in Hurley April 27th; Scholl Lumberjack RC&D meeting in Langlade County May 27th, Conservation Camp Planning in Ladysmith May 3rd, and L&W Conservation Board in Madison June 1st, (this is up to Scholl's discretion as to need of attending).**
Motion carried, all voting aye.

Agenda item # 10: Budget/Voucher approval – The following vouchers were presented for payment: NCLWCA-\$150.00; Ted Ritter-\$287.96; Donald and Diane Schoessow-\$5,600.00; Carolyn Scholl-\$681.00; and USDA-APHIS-\$1,411.85. **Motion by Platner, second by Teichmiller to approve the bills as presented.**
Motion carried, all voting aye.

Agenda item # 11: Letters and Communications – Platner submitted and discussed her report (on file in the LWCD office) on the Wisconsin Association of Lakes conference she attended. Sitzberger also reported on the conference and the workshops that he attended. Thier mention the VCLA “Blue Heron” Shoreland Stewardship Award Program on restoration. The following items are on file in the LWCD office: 2008 Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Annual Progress Report; Forestry notes, April, 2010; Thursday Note, Volume 13, Issue 2; Grazing Network Members, March, 2010; Northeast Wisconsin Forest Pest Update, March 16, 2010; FSA Wisconsin State News, March 2010; and Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative, Volume 15, N0. 2 (all on file in the LWCD office).

Agenda item # 12: LCC Chair Comments – Rushlow said that she appreciated being on this committee and everyone on it. The committee has accomplished many things in this last term and worked very well together. She also stated that she hopes that the committee will remain the same for the next term.

Future Meeting Dates/Items: The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 12, 2010 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment: Motion by Sitzberger, second by Teichmiller to adjourn at 11:15 a.m. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Minutes reflect the recorders notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.

Respectfully submitted by: Rosemary Leveille