

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on September 7, 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; Ralph Sitzberger, Mary Platner, Gene Cizek, Erv Teichmiller, and Dennis Nielsen; others Bill Lochte, Rollie Alger, Carolyn Scholl, Ted Ritter, Mariquita Sheehan, and Rosemary Leveille
The following County Board member(s) were excused:
The following County Board member(s) were absent:
Media present: Jon Helgeson

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

Approve Minutes: **Motion by Nielsen, second by Platner to approve the minutes from August 3, 2010 of this committee with the correction of vice-chairman to chairman in the motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program –

Irish gave Scholl an amended 2010 contract for the chair's signature. The changes are due to an increase the cost by \$275 for administration of the venison donation program and by \$5 for the processing of each deer from \$50 to \$55.

Wisconsin Headwaters Invasives Partnership –

Scholl stated that the insurance company was invited and were unable to attend. They would answer questions in writing if they were any specific ones to address. The answer about the coverage for herbicide application for terrestrial invasives is the County has coverage but with limited liability. **Motion by Teichmiller, second by Nielsen to have Sitzberger request the Insurance Committee to get a quote from the insurance company for the coverage of applying herbicides to terrestrial invasives to cover the liability. Motion carried 4 voting aye and Sitzberger voting nay.**

Lake Organizations, ER Unified Lakes Commission (ULERCLC) & Vilas County Lakes Association

(VCLA) – ULERCLC, Lochte stated that 285.3 acres were treated for Eurasian Water Milfoil on the Eagle River chain this year and the public meeting to explain all of the information will be in the 3rd week of October. He also stated that the criteria for applying for a grant may be changing but that is uncertain. Scholl was instructed to ask Carroll Schaal for clarification on the new changes and/or instructions. VCLA, Alger announced that VCLA is checking out the idea of sponsoring an educational class on shorelands, that will be presented by Trees For Tomorrow to students. They now have 6 nominees for their shoreland award.

Groundwater/Private Wells Testing Program update –

Scholl will be going to the Lumberjack RC&D meeting to ask for funding to start a groundwater testing program in Vilas County. The details of the program are not totally in place yet but, Scholl has set a date with the UW Stevens Point laboratory for August 9, 2011 to analyze the water samples in anticipation of receiving the funding. More details will be brought forth once the funding has been established.

Resolution to eliminate potential spread of Asian Carp throughout the entire Great Lakes ecosystem –

The committee was given a draft copy of a resolution to reduce the potential spread of Asian Carp (on file in the LWCD office). **A motion by Teichmiller, second by Nielsen to approve the resolution to reduce the potential spread of Asian Carp was made. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

2011 Land & Water Department Budget –

Scholl presented a draft 2011 budget for Land and Water Department. **Motion to recommend this budget to the Finance Committee was made by Teichmiller, second by Cizek. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Staffing and Support 2010 Grant –

A motion by Platner, second by Cizek to approve the signing, by the chair, of the 1st payment reimbursement request to DATCP for the staffing and support grant. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Agent reports: UWEX, FSA, LWCD, NRCS, NCLWCA, Lumberjack RC&D –

Lumberjack RC&D, Planter announced that the 2 people that she recommended Roger Cardinal for the “Friend of Forestry” award and John Hupperts for the “Chairman’s” award have won and will be receiving their award at the October 21st meeting. NCLWCA, Scholl mentioned the Summer Tour meeting and the places they toured; Mead Wildlife Area, a beautiful wildlife and wetland area; Ag Research, unique testing and research in herd control and feed; and Managed Grazing Farm, a farm where the animal attendants are robots and everything is done by computers and mechanics. LWCD, Scholl, Ritter and Sheehan distributed and discussed their written reports (on file in the LWCD office). Scholl told the committee of the fact that she is trying to expand the poster and speech contests to more of the school in the county, and has just learned that the Northland Pines Middle School is dropping out of the poster and speech contests. Ritter stated that all 12 of the MOU’s are signed and the agreement between the Forestry Service and Lumberjack RC&D is also. The funding that they may be receiving would be used to do an inventory of the invasives in Vilas County forests. This money will be handled by Lumberjack. Ritter also stated that he has completely pulled out of the Woodruff terrestrial project because of the unresolved insurance issues. At the request of the AIS partners, Ritter will be hosting an annual county wide meeting on September, 23rd in Boulder Junction.

Out-of-county travel –

A motion by Teichmiller, second by Cizek to approve the following; Platner, Scholl, Nielsen and Teichmiller on Oct. 21st to Keshena for the Lumberjack RC&D meeting; Scholl and Sheehan Sept. 29 – Oct. 1 to Boulder Junction for Northwoods conference; Ritter on Sept, 17th for WHIP in Woodruff and Nov. 1st – 2nd for the AIS Coordinators annual meeting in Stevens Point. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Budget/Voucher approval –

The following vouchers were presented for payment: Joseph and Patti Fahey-\$5,033.53; Florida Micro, LLC-\$393.44; Ted Ritter-\$122.5; Mariquita Sheehan-\$171.00; Carolyn Scholl-\$245.00; USDA-APHIS-\$2,348.01. **Motion by Nielsen, second by Planter to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Letters and Communications –

The following items are on file in the LWCD office: FSA, Sept. report; Timeline for 2011-2012 Conservation Priority Setting Process; Thursday Note, Volume 13, Issue 7; Northern Region Forest Insect & Disease Report; Grazing Network News, August and September; and Forestry Notes, Volume XIX, Issue 9

LCC Chair Comments – Sitzberger stated that he will be attending the upcoming Forestry meetings to learn about their groundwater testing program with a local lumber company.

Future Meeting Dates/Items –

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 5, 2010 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment –

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Teichmiller, second by Nielsen at 11:35 a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted by: *Rosemary Leveille*