

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on July 18, 2011 in the Lower Level Conference Room #2, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

Present: The following persons were present: County Board members; Ralph Sitzberger, Erv Teichmiller, Gene Ciszek, Mary Platner, and Dennis Nielsen; others Ted Ritter, Callie Bertsch, Mariquita Sheehan, Mike Stinebrink, NRCS, Jeremy Irish. Rollie Alger and Rosemary Leveille
The following County Board member(s) were excused:
The following County Board member(s) were absent:
Media present:

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

Approve Minutes: Motion by Platner, second by Nielsen to approve the minutes from June 20, 2011 of this committee. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program –

Irish stated that he has 4 Vilas County participants in the wildlife damage program, 3 with deer damage and 1 with bear damage as of now. He is also assisting with fencing on some properties to help control the bees and bear. He controls the fencing inventory and is responsible for its return.

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

VCLA, Alger gave an overview of the June 16th annual meeting. The decision to officially change the name Vilas County Lakes Association (VCLA) to Vilas County Lakes and Rivers Association (VCLRA) was made and became effective immediately. They also gave lake stewardship awards to the North Lakeland Discovery Center and the Moon Beach Camp along with 3 individuals. They are also getting ready for the middle school class to take place at Trees For Tomorrow.

Little Tamarack Flowage – update –

Nothing for this month.

NRCS Operational Agreement –

The agreement was given to all members (and on file in the LWCD office). After looking and discussing the agreement a **motion by Teichmiller, second by Platner to postpone the accepting and signing until next month after Sitzberger, Stinebrink, and Scholl to peruse the agreement correct, add, delete, and/or amend it. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Groundwater Project – update -

The committee was given the signup information on the ground water testing along with a sample of how the pinpointing on the map will look. It was stated that the calls to signup have certainly been coming in.

Cost-Share Program – update –

A copy of a letter (on file in the LWCD office) sent to one of the past cost-share participants explaining how they are in violation of their contract. Scholl has given them a deadline to comply or they need to refund the cost share funds to the County. Sheehan explained that she and Dehne, DATCP engineer, have been spot checking cost-share projects and will be sending letters to applaud them for keeping up the good work or reminding them that they are responsible for keeping their shoreline up to the standards of their contract.

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

Lumberjack RC&D - Teichmiller stated that he will be unable to attend the next meeting on July 21st in Shawano and ask if anyone else could attend. Nielsen will be able to attend. LWCD – Scholl and Ritter’s written reports (on file in the LWCD office) were given to the committee. Ritter stated a new finding of an old patch of “Curly Pond Leaf Weed” of almost 21 acres in Rice Creek and an infestation of Eurasian Water Milfoil in Kentuck Lake that is approximately 100 yds. Long. The Manitowish Waters Lake Association will be meeting with the DNR and Onterra Corp. to try to treat and control the invasive. Ritter followed up with the Law Enforcement committee; chair Egan about alerting the officers of the new law of ticketing people for having aquatic invasives on their boats and/or trailers while traveling on the roads. Egan stated that if Ritter would like to give a presentation at the next Vilas County Sheriff training session he would be welcomed, but that was all that was offered. Bertsch told the committee that she has just a few parcels to check out and will then be writing the individual reports. NRCS - Stinebrink distributed a notice about discrimination of Hispanic and/or women farmers and a listing of the programs that are offered by the NRCS.

Out-of-county travel –

A motion by Platner, second by Teichmiller to approve the following out of county travel: Ritter on August 19th to Minocqua for WHIP steering committee meeting; Scholl on August 30th to Stevens Point for a WLWCA board meeting, and Nielsen on July 21st to Shawano for a Lumberjack RC&D meeting... Motion carried unanimously.

Budget/Voucher approval –

The following vouchers were presented for payment: Mark & Karen Anderson-\$3,279.23; Callie Bertsch-\$250.09; Ted Ritter-\$206.58; Carolyn Scholl-\$66.42; and Mariquita Sheehan-\$102.12. **Motion by Teichmiller second by Platner to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Letters and Communications –

The following items are on file in the LWCD office: a thank you note from Kyle Radtke; a written update from Karl Jennrich concerning the Little Tamarack Flowage; FSA report; Forestry Notes, June 2011, Volume XX, Issue 7; Northwoods Land Trust, summer 2011; Network News, May and June 2011 and Network News upcoming events; and the Thursday Note, Volume 14, Issue 4. Nielsen stated that he attended a Public Property meeting concerning the relocation of the UW-Extension office which then lead to the discussion of moving the Land and Water Department. No decision was made and further discussion and study need to take place before any decisions will be made.

LCC Chair Comments –

Sitzberger had no comments.

Future Meeting Dates/Items –

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 3, 2011 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment –

Meeting was adjourned by Cizek at 10:29 am.

Minutes reflect the recorder’s notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.

Respectfully submitted by: *Rosemary Leveille*