

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on May 4, 2012 in the Lower Level Conference Room #2, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin, and asked that everyone introduce themselves.

Present: The following persons were present: County Board members; Ralph Sitzberger, Kathleen Rushlow, Dennis Nielsen, Mary Kim Black, & Lorin Johnson; and others Susan Hunter, Carolyn Scholl, Ted Ritter, Mariquita Sheehan, Michael Stinebrink and Rosemary Leveille
The following County Board member(s) was excused:
The following County Board member(s) was absent:
Media present:

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

Approve Minutes: Motion by Rushlow, second by Nielsen to approve the minutes from April 13, 2012 of this committee. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program –
Irish did not attend.

Lake Organizations, ER Unified Lakes Commission (ULERCLC) & Vilas County Lakes and Rivers Association (VCLRA) –
No one attended.

Lumberjack RC&D representative/alternate –
Motion by Rushlow, second by Johnson to appoint Dennis Nielsen as the Lumberjack RC&D representative and to appoint Lorin Johnson as the alternate. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Recommendations of new County Lake District representatives-
A motion by Rushlow, second by Nielsen to approve the following recommendations for County Supervisor representatives to the County Lake Districts: Lost Lake District – Dennis Nielsen, Big St Germain Lake District – Gary Peske, Spectacle Lake District – Ralph Sitzberger, Little Arbor Vitae Lake District – Erv Teichmiller, Alma-Moon Lake District – Kathleen Rushlow, Long Lake District – Lorin Johnson, Little St. Germain Lake District – Mary Kim Black, and Stella Lake District – Leon Kukanich subject to County Board approval. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Youth Conservation Camp – Planning Update –
Scholl stated that the plans are coming along fine with the only one thing needed now participants. The camp will be held at Trees For Tomorrow in Eagle River from June 12th thru 15th.

Tamarack Flowage – update –
There was nothing to report for now. The committee members and Scholl explained the situation to the new members.

Conservation Observance Day 2012 – Planning Update –
In the past an award has been given to a farmer for his/her observance of Conservation, but this year there will be a Conservation Observance Day instead and will be celebrated at Trees For Tomorrow on June 11th with the emphasis on youth conservation. There will be several speakers and a tree planting ceremony in memory of Rod Nilsestuen, the former DATCP Secretary.

Resolution – Grant Support for *Erosion Protection using large Wood in Lakes Project* –

A resolution was sent out to the members for their review. After discussion **Rushlow made a motion to send the resolution to the County Board with the changes made to line 6, Nielsen made the second. Motion carried.** The grant was submitted and they are waiting the approval. Scholl distributed and discussed the budget (on file in the LWCD office) that was submitted with the grant.

DATCP Business –

A copy of “Intent: Revise Subchapter IV of ATCP 50 for the Purpose of DATCP Allocation Funds to Land Conservation Committees for Staff” was given to the members for their perusal to discuss at the next meeting. Sitzberger was asked to sign the 2012 SWRM Grant Contract.

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

FSA, Hunter distributed her written report (on file in the LWCD office) and announced that her office will be changing hours and she will be moving to Columbia County. NRCS, Stinebrink handed out his report (on file in the LWCD office) and discussed some of the programs that his office can offer to our residents. LWCD – Scholl, Ritter and Sheehan’s written reports (on file in the LWCD office) were presented. Scholl stated that the next NCLWCA meeting will be on June 8th in Antigo and asked who will be attending so she can send in the sign-up sheet. Sheehan is now gearing up for the field session with cost share projects. Ritter announced that Lumberjack has approved the invasive species survey on the highway right-of-ways. He also started the purple loosestrife project with 16 high school students and 2 teachers this week. The first phase went extremely well. A Rusty Crayfish Public forum will take place on May 31st at the Boulder Junction town hall. The DNR Secretary will be visiting the area on May 18th Ritter was asked to be on hand for some questions. Scholl presented the new website - www.vilasconservation.org - to the members and stated that it will be going up in the next couple of days.

Susan Hunter left at 11:10.

Out-of-county travel –

A motion by Rushlow, second by Nielsen to approve the following out of county travel: Ritter on May 11th to Ashland for GLRI AIS 2012 planning meeting, on May 18th to Minocqua for WI Land Information Assoc. presentation; Scholl on June 8th to Antigo for NCLWCA and any County supervisor to attend the NCLWCA meeting as well. Motion carried.

Budget/Voucher approval –

The following vouchers were presented for payment: Ted Ritter-\$158.19; Carolyn Scholl-\$24.98; and Mariquita Sheehan-\$26.64, and USDA-APHIS-\$1,693.89. **Motion by Rushlow, second by Black to approve the budget update and the vouchers as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Letters and Communications –

The following items are on file in the LWCD office: Lumberjack Updates, April 2012; NCWRPC News, Spring 2012; Northwoods Land Trust, March 2012; Network News, March 2012; Forestry Notes, March 2012, April 2012; FSA New Releases – Annual Report filing, Tree Assistance Program Eligibility requirements, CRP General Signup April 6th, Sign-up for E-mail News, National Ag Day, Highly erodible Land and Wetland Conservation Compliance, and Small Farms Conference for Wisconsin’s Northwoods.

Future Meeting Dates/Items –

The 2012 LWCD meeting schedule was listed. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday June 1, 2012 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521.

Adjournment –

Meeting was adjourned by Sitzberger at 11:37a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted by: *Rosemary Leveille*