

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on January 6, 2012 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, Mary Platner, and Dennis Nielsen; others Carolyn Scholl, Mariquita Sheehan, Bill Lochte, Al Drum, Susan Hunter, and Rosemary Leveille
The following County Board member(s) was excused: Kathleen Rushlow
The following County Board member(s) were absent:
Media present:

Approve Agenda: Motion made by Teichmiller, 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 December 2, 2011 of this committee. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program –
Nothing to report.

Lake Organizations, ER Unified Lakes Commission (ULERCLC) & Vilas County Lakes and Rivers Association (VCLRA) –

VCLRA, Drum had no official report. ULERCLC, Lochte distributed a newsletter (on file in the LWCD office) from the ERCLA to everyone. He also updated the progress of controlling EWM in the chain of lakes with a visual chart of the amounts treated each year. The treatment started in 2007 with 278 acres each year the treatment was reduced. In 2011 the number of acres was 24, not to say that the treatment can end but it is now manageable and more affordable to keep it under control. He stated that at a conference with the Governor an AIS packet was presented to him and discussed. A suggestion to follow a Wyoming program that requires a decal to be purchased and displayed on every floating device on the waters was given to him. The projected annual amount would be \$16M. Lochte also stated that he is acting chair of the ERCLA lake association due to the illness of Gil Rosenthal.

Recognition for Gene Ciszek –

A discussion to have the County Board present a resolution to Gene Ciszek for his years of service took place and will be suggested to Steve Favorite, County Board chair. **A motion by Teichmiller, second by Nielsen to send a letter to Gene Ciszek in appreciation of his contributions and service to the Land and Water Conservation Department. The letter is to be written by Scholl and signed by all at the next meeting. Motion carried.**

Assignment of a new LCC Vice Chairman –

Sitzberger welcomed Platner on her new position of Vice-Chair for the Land and Water Conservation Department.

Extension of 2011 DATCP Conservation Funding –

Motion by Nielsen, second by Platner to approve the extension of 6 cost share projects from 2011 at approximately \$33,000 and for the chair to sign for submission. Carried

Conservation Projects & Monitoring Activity Update –

A power point presentation of several past cost share projects with before and after pictures were shown to the committee. The contract that is used with the resident is a 10 year contract with the stipulation of periodic checks of compliance and practice uses.

DATCP Business –

Scholl presented a summary of FY2012 lapse plan from DATCP that will be presented to the State Joint Finance Committee on January 17th for approval or disapproval. Scholl and Sitzberger met with Senator Holperin to try and get some assistance on stopping the approval. Sitzberger spoke to Representative Meier on the same subject. The committee was also given a copy of the “Initial ATCP 50 Changes Meeting Notes – 12/14/11.” ATCP 50 is the administration rules for NR151.

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

FSA, Hunter presented her written report and discussed the programs. LWCD – Scholl, Ritter and Sheehan written reports were distributed. Scholl stated that she is on the committee for the Conservation Camp and the decision to have it this year has been made. Trees For Tomorrow has been chosen and the dates will be June, 12th thru 15th. The WLWCA merger with WALCE has passed WLWCA and now needs to pass WALCE. Scholl will be doing a presentation on the groundwater study results at the County Board meeting in January. WALCE board has appointed Scholl to be the Lake Partnership Northern Representative. Sheehan stated that at the Invasive Plants Symposia she learned of a possible study of planting aquatic native instead of letting them reproduce naturally. This is something that would be of interest for the area should the opportunity arise. Sheehan and her counterpart in Oneida County are thinking of offering a planting package with the help of local garden centers for residents.

Out-of-county travel –

A motion by Teichmiller, second by Platner to approve the representative from the Department or committee to attend the meetings for WHIP, NCLWCA, Lumberjack RC&D, WLWCA, and Wisconsin Lake Partnership for the 2012 year. Motion carried, unanimously. A motion by Teichmiller, second by Platner to approve the following out of county travel: Ritter on January 13th to Florence for Lumberjack RC&D meeting; Scholl on February 9th to Stevens Point for the SWCS Conference; and Sheehan on January 18th & 19th to Wausau for a Lakes Partners meeting, and May 17 – 18 to green Lake, Sept. 20 – 21 to Kemp Station, and Oct. 18 – 19 to Devil’s Head for Wisconsin lake Leaders Institute, Motion carried unanimously.

Budget/Voucher approval –

The following vouchers were presented for payment: 2011 - Prime Choice Meat Market-\$55.00; Ted Ritter-\$579.88; Carolyn Scholl-\$452.24; Mariquita Sheehan-\$252.94; and 2012 - Carolyn Scholl-\$549.40. **Motion by, Teichmiller, second by Nielsen to approve the vouchers as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Letters and Communications –

The following items are on file in the LWCD office: FSA - January report, news releases on “Keepseagle Settlement Claims Filing Period Ends soon for Native American Farmers and Ranchers”, “January 30th Deadline Approaching for 2011 Disaster Applications”, and FSA’s 2012 SURE Crop Disaster Program sign-up Now Available”; NRCS report to the Land Conservation Committees; Forestry Notes, December 2011, Volume XXL, Issue 1; and Network News. Sitzberger asked the committee to read and pay close attention to the Thursday Note that they all received in the mail.

LCC Chair Comments –

None

Future Meeting Dates/Items –

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 3, 2012 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521.

Adjournment –

Motion to adjourn was made by Teichmiller at 10: 58a.m. Platner made the second.

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

Respectfully submitted by: *Rosemary Leveille*