

## Land & Water Conservation Committee

March 7, 2014

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on March 7, 2014, 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, Dennis Nielsen, Mary Kim Black, and others – Carolyn Scholl, Quita Sheehan, Jeremy Irish, and Greg Sass.

The following County Board member(s) was excused: Lorin Johnson, Kathleen Rushlow

The following County Board member(s) was absent:

Media present:

**Approve Agenda: Motion made by Nielsen, second by Black** - To approve the agenda in any order at the chairman's discretion. **All voting aye. Motion carried.**

**Approve Minutes: Motion made by Nielsen, second by Black** - To approve the minutes from February 7, 2014 of this committee. **All voting aye. Motion carried..**

**Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program:** Irish shared a spreadsheet of Venison Donation History for 12 northern Counties from 2000 to 2013.

**Presentation: Current Northwoods Research Programs – Greg Sass, WDNR.** Sass is the WDNR Research Team Leader at the Escanaba Lake Fishery Station. He informed the committee about the type of research being conducted by his station including research on the 5 lakes of the Northern Highland Fishery Research area. Scholl asked Sass to suggest an area of concern he would suggest for the LWRMP revision. Sass suggested that the health of fisheries habitat is a major concern.

*Sass departs 10:33*

**Lake Organizations, ER Unified Lakes Commission (ULERCLC) & Vilas County Lakes and Rivers Association (VCLRA):** No reports

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

**LWCD: Scholl** has been in contact with Kristi Minahan, WDNR, about a Watershed Health Initiative Modeling program that will be useful in identifying areas of concern for the LWRMP revision. Scholl is also organizing a conference call between LWCD staff and experts at the WDNR and Wisconsin Wetlands Association to develop the Wetlands section of the LWRMP. All reports on file.

**NCLWCA:** Scholl shared that the Conservation Speech and Poster Contest Rounds 1 and 2 have occurred. **WLWCA: Motion: made by Nielsen, seconded by Black** - To vote for David Solin, Joe Piechowski, and Charles Wagner to serve on the Land and Water Conservation Board. **All voting aye. Motion carried.** Form signed by Chair.

**NRCS:**

**Lumberjack RC&D:**

**DATCP Business: Motion: made by Black, seconded by Nielsen** - To accept the Farmland Preservation Grant funds from DATCP. **All voting aye. Motion carried.** Form signed by Chair.

**Motion: made by Nielsen, seconded by Black** - To approve the application for the 2015 SWRM grant (\$141,979 for staffing, \$60,000 for conservation projects). **All voting aye. Motion carried.**

**2014 Cost Share Program: Sheehan** shared that 3 large projects will be funded for Cost Shared Conservation work in 2014.

**Out-of-county travel:** Sitzberger will attend WLWCA in Appleton on March 10-12.

## **Land & Water Conservation Committee**

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**Monthly Budget Review:** The committee was given a copy of the current status of the Department budget.

**Letter and Communications:**

**Future Meeting Dates/Items:** The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2014 at 9am in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521.

**Meeting was adjourned by Sitzberger at 11 a.m.**

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

Respectfully submitted by: *Quita Sheehan*