

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on February 8, 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, Mary Platner, Gene Ciszek, and Dennis Nielsen; others Carolyn Scholl, Ted Ritter, Mariquita Sheehan, Kim Goerg, Carol Linn, Dave Mueller, Bill Lochte, Rollie Alger, and Rosemary Leveille
The following County Board member(s) were excused:
The following County Board member(s) were absent:
Media present: Rachel White, Lakeland Times
Note: Teichmiller had to leave the meeting at 11:00 am.

Introductions were done by each individual.

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

Approve Minutes: Motion by Nielsen, second by Teichmiller to approve the minutes from January 4, 2011 of this committee. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program –

Irish was not able to attend, but called to say that he will be attending next month. Scholl stated that she has submitted the 2011 reimbursement form for the amount of \$8,077.

Website Revision –

The Land and Water Department received a request from by the Information Technology Department to reduce the size of their website; after discussion within the department it was decided to reduce the site and to ask the lake groups to remove their information from the site and create their own website or use some other alternative for getting their information to the public. Scholl read a letter (on file in the LWCD office) from S. Favorite, chair of the Lower Eagle River Chain Commission (the "Commission"), concerning keeping their information on the Land and Water Department's website. Ritter gave a background on how and why the lake groups' information got on the site originally. A chart (on file in the LWCD office) was given to the members to show how much space is being used by the LERC. Each member and person that was in attendance was asked to share their opinion/reason why or why not the LERC information should remain on the department's website. It was decided for now to keep LERC's information on the site while Sitzberger, Platner, Scholl, and Ritter discuss the situation and come up with a reasonable solution for presentation to the full committee at the next meeting. Scholl stated that the new website will not be finished by the target date of April and may take a few additional months due to work commitments. Sitzberger requested that the website remain on the agenda until the new website is finished and online.

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

VCLA, Alger announced that in the last newsletter (Jan. 2011) the town lakes group were offered an opportunity to post their individual articles. The planning of celebrating lakes day has started and will take place on June 17, 2011 at Moon Beach Camp. Lake Researches and/or graduate students will talk about what is going on in Vilas and Oneida Counties.

Groundwater/Private wells Testing Program –

Lumberjack RC&D has approved the grant for well testing in Vilas County. Scholl asked for the committee's

opinion on sharing the results with the public since the testing will be conducted in cooperation with private citizen volunteers.. The committee directed

Scholl to discuss seek the advice of Milanowski, Corporation Counsel to discuss the need to write a statement/policy on how to handle the results.

DATCP Staffing and Support 2010 Grant –

Sitzberger was asked to sign the second and final reimbursement for 2010 DATCP staffing and support grant. The second half is for \$48,111.67 making the total for the year \$106,690.00. **Motion by Teichmiller, second by Ciszek to give the chair authorization to sign the 2010 DATCP staffing and support grant reimbursement request. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

AIS Grant AEPP-261-11 as match for Federal Funds –

A letter from the DNR was received by Scholl regarding the use of AIS grant project AEPP-261-11 as a match for federal funds. The DNR would like to use the monies given to Vilas County as the matching funds for a federal GLRI grant that they are applying for, which would prevent Vilas County from applying for a GLRI grant themselves for the time frame addressed in the letter. **Motion by Teichmiller, second by Nielsen to approve and have the chair sign the permission contingent on the approval of Corporation Counsel. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Resolutions –

The committee were given two resolutions (on file in the LWCD office) regarding a summer intern position to conduct extensive terrestrial invasive species monitoring surveys and the funding. The first to be presented in March to the county board for the application of a Conservation On the Land Internship Program (COLIP) grant. **Motion to accept and approve the resolution as written for the application for a COLIP grant to help support an intern was made by Teichmiller, second by Platner. Motion carried, all voting aye.** The second resolution to be present in April to the county board for the creation of a Land & Water Conservation summer intern. **Teichmiller made the motion to approve the resolution with the language changes and additions made by Milanowski, Corporation Counsel, to create the summer intern with the contingency of receiving the COLIP grant second was made by Nielsen**

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

Lumberjack, Teichmiller stated that in his opinion Lumberjack is functioning exceptionally well. They now have a system for funding grant requests including a specific way of determining the total amount of monies that will be given out per year. Teichmiller was asked to represent Lumberjack in Washington D.C. and has accepted. He will be meeting with legislators to discuss Lumberjack RC&D work including the fact that they are creating jobs also. Goerg announced that RC&D will be initiating a website shortly and are working on several projects with different counties and groups. The next meeting will be in Oneida County on April 28th. He also mentioned that the Sustainable Forestry Conference will be April 14th. LWCD, Ritter, Sheehan, and Scholl distributed their written reports (on file in the LWCD office) and highlighted several items. Ritter told the committee that the Clean Boats Clean Waters monitoring done last year by UW-Oshkosh students went so well that this year the student workforce has increased by 50% from 4 to 6. The funding comes from the lake organizations that have requested the assistance which will be just under \$30,000 for 2011 with Ritter doing the scheduling for 4 of the students. He announced that the terrestrial training that he and Sheehan did for the Zoning staff went very well and asked if the committee had any suggestions and recommendations for other departments or groups that could benefit from this presentation. Ritter passed out the WHIP brochure and a priority invasive terrestrial plants flyer (on file in the LWCD office) to the committee. Sheehan spoke of the meeting in Mercer on shoreline project planning about “Fish Sticks” which is a way of creating a fish crib and has also been shown as a shoreline buffer

tool. Scholl spoke of the training done for the Land & Water Department by the Zoning Department on NR115. Scholl was contacted by the insurance company to ask if a quote on pollution or chemical treatment was needed for this year. **Motion by Platner, second by Nielsen to recommend that a quote be requested at this time. Motion carried 4 ayes and 1 nay, Sitzberger.** Scholl stated that she will be attending the quarterly lakes partner meeting and asked if anyone had any concerns, questions, or suggestions that she should relay. A suggestion that the committee send a letter of congratulations to Kevin Gauthier for his "2010 Water Resources Employee of the Year" award and his contribution to Vilas County's grant efforts. **Motion by Nielsen, second by Platner for Scholl to write a letter on behalf of the committee to be signed by the chair, Sitzberger for congratulations and recognition of all of the work that Gauthier has done on Vilas County's behalf. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Out-of-county travel –

A motion by Platner, second by Nielsen to approve the annual 2011 out of county travel for staff as follows: Scholl –NCLWCA meetings, WLWCA meetings, Lumberjack RC&D meetings, occasional meetings located at Rhinelander WDNR; Ritter – WHIP Steering Committee meetings, Lumberjack RC&D meetings, occasional meetings located at Rhinelander WDNR; Sheehan – occasional meetings located at Rhinelander WDNR. All other meetings will be requested as needed. The annual list is on file in the LWCD office. Motion carried, all voting aye. A motion by Platner, second by Nielsen to approve the annual 2011 out of county travel for supervisors as follows: Teichmiller – Lumberjack RC&D meetings. All other meetings will be requested as needed. Motion carried, all voting aye. Motion to approve the following out of county travel: Scholl on February 7, 2011 to Mercer for shoreline project planning, and 2011 WI Lakes Convention in Green on April 11 -14; Sheehan on February 10 for Lakes Partnership in Wausau, March 3-4 for WALCE meeting in Wisconsin Rapids, March 21 for DATCP training in Wausau, and March 28 Educational Seminar in Wausau. Motion carried unanimously. A list of North Central Land & Water Conservation Association 2011 Activities Schedule is on file in the LWCD office.

Budget/Voucher approval –

The following vouchers were presented for payment: Boulder Junction Market Place-\$55.00; Clermont Printing and Office Supply-\$28.26; Lumberjack RC&D Council, Inc.-\$200.00; NCLWCA/Ramona Pampuch, Treasurer-\$150.00; Prime Choice Meat Market-\$55.00; Ted Ritter-\$116.28; Carolyn Scholl-\$323.11; Mariquita Sheehan-\$128.95; and USDA-APHIS-\$1,938.82. **Motion by Nielsen second by Platner to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Letters and Communications –

Scholl read a letter from Manitowish Waters on the intention of abandoning a road and an email from K. Jennrich on the progress of the Little Tamarack Dam. The following items are on file in the LWCD office: Grazing Network News, newsletter January 2011; NCLWCA – Agenda, January 25 and minutes, October 28, 2010; NACD, Forestry Notes January 2011; USDA FSA – Rhinelander office monthly report, Jan., 2011, 3 news releases, January 10 3 news releases February 3; WLWCA – ad hoc committee for WLWCA-WALCE agendas January 24, February 17 and minutes, January 12; 2011 Annual Northcentral Regional RC&D conference postcard; Northwoods Landtrust Newsletter, winter 2010-11; and Trees For Tomorrow – Fall/winter 2010.

LCC Chair Comments –

Sitzberger gave his intentions for the evaluation process for the department head, Scholl that will take place at the May 3rd meeting.

Future Meeting Dates/Items –

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, 2011 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521 at 9:00 a.m. The regular meeting for June has been changed to the 14th instead of the 7th due to a conflict.

Adjournment –

Motion by Ciszek to adjourn the meeting at 11:43 am.

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

Respectfully submitted by: *Rosemary Leveille*