

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on November 4, 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, and Dennis Nielsen; others Carolyn Scholl, Ted Ritter, Mariquita Sheehan, Rollie Alger, Janna Kahl, and Rosemary Leveille
The following County Board member(s) was excused: Gene Ciszek
The following County Board member(s) were absent:
Media present:

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 Teichmiller, second by Nielsen to approve the minutes from October 24, 2011 of this committee. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Introductions –

Everyone introduced themselves to the Human Resource Director, Janna Kahl, who joined the meeting for observation and to familiarize herself with the committee members and the staff.

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program –

Irish was unable to attend.

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

VCLRA, Alger stated that VCLRA is working on an event with 9 or 10 counties for June of 2012 to present the Economic Impacts of AIS on lakes. Sheehan announced an ER Lakes Commission meeting to be held on November 10th at the Lincoln Town Hall at 7:00 pm with a presentation by Tim Hoyman from the Onterra Corporation. Teichmiller said that the treatment of Arrowhead Lake for invasive weeds has been very successful and will be easy to control in the future.

Status of new Department website – review –

The committee was shown the new website in its infancy stage with narrative information only for now. A suggestion was made for the "url" to be given to a few people internally with in the county and/or departments for their feedback and suggestions before the site goes live.

2011 Conservation Awareness Poster Contest results –

Three local schools participated in the poster contest; Northland Pines Middle School, St Germain elementary School, and Christ Lutheran School. The winners of the poster contest are: elementary division - 1st Anna Peterson-Kristek; 2nd Avery Adamovich; and 3rd Rowan Klaver; middle division – 1st Megan Scholl; 2nd Isabella Valeria and 3rd Joseph Misina; junior division – 1st Kerri Seyfert; 2nd Jenna Paez and 3rd Lucas Giebal. The 3 first place posters were advanced to the regional level and each division's 1st place winner then advances to the state level. Vilas County's middle division Megan Scholl placed 1st at the regional level and will be entered in the state level on November 5th.

WLWCA/WALCE Merger Vote –

The vote to merge the WLWCA and WALCE organizations will take place at the December WLWCA conference and each Land and Water Department committee will have one vote whereas the employees will have individual votes at the February conference of WALCE. **Motion by Nielsen, second by Platner for Vilas County to vote yes to merge the WLWCA**

and WALCE organizations. Sitzberger will be attending the conference and will vote on behalf of the committee. Motion passed unanimously.

2012 LWCC meeting calendar –

The committee was given the 2012 meeting schedule which is the 1st Friday of each month except for April which will be the second Friday, April 13th.

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

LWCD – Scholl, Ritter and Sheehan distributed and discussed their written report. Scholl explained that the DATCP funding has not met the criteria for distribution in a few years and they are now talking about lowering the minimum allowance. They are also thinking of reducing the cost share funding in non-agricultural related projects. The committee instructed Scholl to write a letter to the legislators asking for their input on correcting the distribution for staffing and cost share monies to be used for all aspects not just working with agriculture, and to set up a meeting with Senator Holperin and Representative Meyer.

Out-of-county travel –

A motion by Nielsen, second by Teichmiller to approve the following out of county travel: Ritter on November 5th to Hiles for Kentuck Lake District EWM management meeting, December 7th to Rhinelander for EWM bio-control research planning meeting, and December 16th to Minocqua for WHIP steering committee meeting; Scholl on November 15th & 16th to Madison for WI Lake Partnership meeting, November 29th & 30th to Stevens Point for an Erosion Control Training, and December 7th thru 9th to WI Dells for WLWCA Conference; and Sheehan on November 15th & 16th to Madison for WI Lakes Partnership meeting, and November 29th & 30th to Stevens Point for an Erosion Control Training. Motion carried unanimously.

Budget/Voucher approval –

The following vouchers were presented for payment: Rita Mazur-\$5,670.00; Carolyn Scholl-\$161.38; and Mariquita Sheehan-\$82.14 **Motion by Platner, second by Teichmiller to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye. .**

Letters and Communications –

The following items are on file in the LWCD office: FSA – November 2011 report, 2010 Crop Loss Program Sign-up begins Nov. 14 news release, and Marketing Assistance Crop Loans Available to Producers, news release

LCC Chair Comments –

No comments for this month.

Future Meeting Dates/Items –

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 2, 2011 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521.

Adjournment –

Meeting was adjourned by Sitzberger at 10:40a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted by: *Rosemary Leveille*