

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on December 2, 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, and Dennis Nielsen; others Carolyn Scholl, Ted Ritter, Mariquita Sheehan, Rollie Alger, and Rosemary Leveille
The following County Board member(s) was excused: Gene Ciszek, Mary Platner
The following County Board member(s) were absent:
Media present: Marcus Neseemann, Lakeland Times

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 November 4, 2011 of this committee. Motion carried, all voting aye.

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 the next VCLRA board of directors meeting will be December 12, 2011.

Terrestrial Invasives Management – Lumberjack Proposal –

Ritter presented a draft proposal (on file in the LWCD office) that will go to LumberJack RC&D for possible funding. If funded this will be a joint survey for Vilas and Oneida Counties on terrestrial invasive species along county highways, forest roads, game trails, and county owned gravel pits. The survey information will put in map form and given to the County Highway Committee for their information and possible help to control the invasive species. The final proposal will be completed at the WHIP December meeting and presented to Lumberjack RC&D at their January 13, 2012 meeting. **A motion by Teichmiller, second by Nielsen to submit the proposal to Lumberjack RC&D with the committee's full approval. Motion carried.**

Resolution: Reject DATCP Proposal to Cut County Conservation Staff Grants –

A resolution for "Rejection of DATCP Proposal to Further Cut County Conservation Staffing Grant" (on file in the LWCD office) was presented to the committee. Scholl explained that DATCP has cut \$1 million from the staffing grants already and is proposing to cut an additional \$1.1 million to meet the 2012 lapse requirement.

This resolution is suggesting that the monies be taken from another source since the present grant has been previously reduced. Scholl also showed a graph of the declining staff since 1997 and a position statement.

Nielsen made the motion, second by Teichmiller to authorize and support the resolution pending Corporation Counsel's approval to and move it to the January County board meeting. Motion carried, all voting aye.

WLWCA Resolution –

Five resolutions (all on file in the LWCD office) were given to the members and they were asked to vote on them for the WLWCA meeting. Sitzberger will be attending the meeting and will bring the committee's vote, since there is only one vote per county. Resolution #1 "Regarding Reduction of Agriculture Phosphorus Loading to Green Bay and Lake Michigan". **Motion by Teichmiller, second by Nielsen to support this resolution. Motion carried.**

Resolution #2 "Retain Agriculture Tax Classification on Lands Enrolled in the Wetlands Reserve Program". **Motion by Teichmiller, second by Nielsen to support this resolution. Motion carried.**

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Resolution #3 “Requesting Increased Resources by Directed to Prevent Asian Carp from Spreading to Inland Watersheds through the St. Croix and Wisconsin Rivers”. **Motion by Nielsen, second by Teichmiller to support this resolution. Motion carried.** Resolution #4 “Requesting Changes be Made to Conservation Practice Standards Incorporating Recommended Adaptations for Climate Change”. **Motion by Teichmiller. Motion failed for lack of second.** Resolution #5 “Support Merging: WLWCA with WALCE and the Repeal and Recreation of the WLWCA Bylaws”. **Motion by Nielsen, second by Teichmiller to support this resolution. Motion carried.**

Land and Water Conservation Standing Rules – review-

A copy of the standing rules was given to the members for their review. Two changes were suggested by Scholl in line #3 to add “and maintain” after the word establish, and in line #9 to add “regional and state” after the word various. **A motion by Teichmiller, second by Nielsen to approve the revisions and forward the standing rules to the Legislative and Judicial committee. Motion carried unanimously.**

DATCP Business –

Scholl gave the members a copy of a correspondence/memorandum from Kathy Pielsticker, DATCP and a comparison of DATCP staffing grant options for 2012 allocation (both on file in the LWCD office) for their review and information.

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

LWCD – Scholl, Ritter and Sheehan distributed and discussed their written report. Ritter stated that the Governor’s Council on Invasive Species has come into play again and they are working on a state strategic plan for aquatic and terrestrial invasive species. There are 5 meetings in the next year with the following departments: DNR, DOT, Tourism, Administration and DATCP. Ritter was asked to join by webinar. He was also asked to attend a meeting in Douglas County for the purpose of helping or giving assistance on aquatic invasive species control since he and Vilas County have been so successful with their projects. Scholl announced that Lumberjack RC&D is now in the process of looking for members at-large. The deadline for nominations is December 28th. Megan Scholl received second place at the state level for her poster on conservation and Terry Daulton, a local artist, will be giving an art lesson to the 3 first place winners from Vilas County on December 6th. A letter to Senator Holperin and Representative Meyer asking to have a meeting on DATCP funding was sent out this week.

Out-of-county travel –

A motion by Nielsen, second by Teichmiller to approve the following out of county travel: Ritter on December 3rd to Hiles for Kentuck Lake District EWM management meeting, December 7th to Rhinelander for EWM bio-control research planning meeting, December 16th to Minocqua for WHIP steering committee meeting, December 14th – 15th to Milwaukee for MIPN/IPAW invasive species conference, and December date unknown to Eau Claire to invasive species meeting; Scholl on January 13, 2012 to Florence County for Lumberjack RC&D meeting, January 18 -19, 2012 to Wausau for WI Lakes Partnership meeting, and February 29 – March 2, 2012 to Eau Claire for WALCE Conference; and Sheehan on December 13th – 15th to Milwaukee for Invasive Plants Conference. Motion carried unanimously.

Budget/Voucher approval –

The following vouchers were presented for payment: Ted Ritter-\$86.03; Carolyn Scholl-\$290.90; Mariquita Sheehan-\$25.74; and Southern Computer Warehouse-\$888.73. **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 – December 2011 report, FSA Financial Services Website Available to Producers news release, Forestry Notes November 2012; Governor’s Northern Wisconsin

Economic Development Summit; Flowage Preservation Alliance meeting minutes; Thursday Note, September 22, 2011; and Bylaws of the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association, Inc.

LCC Chair Comments –

It was a pleasure working with the committee and staff this year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Future Meeting Dates/Items –

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 6, 2012 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521.

Adjournment –

Meeting was adjourned by Sitzberger at 10:45a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted by: *Rosemary Leveille*