

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on June 1, 2012 in the Lower Level Conference Room #2, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin, and asked that everyone introduce themselves.

Present: The following persons were present: County Board members; Ralph Sitzberger, Kathleen Rushlow, Dennis Nielsen, & Lorin Johnson; and others Clyde Owen, Carolyn Scholl, Ted Ritter, Mariquita Sheehan, and Rosemary Leveille
The following County Board member(s) was excused: Mary Kim Black
The following County Board member(s) was absent:
Media present: Joe Van De Laarshot

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

Approve Minutes: Motion by Rushlow, second by Johnson to approve the minutes from May 4, 2012 of this committee. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program –

Irish had nothing to report at this time and did not attend.

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

VCLRA, Owen stated that the class for students at Trees For Tomorrow (TFT) had 27 attendees and went very well. VCLRA and TFT will be critiquing the program and making some adjustments for next year. He also stated that the North Central Lakes District will be having a workshop on June 15th at Nicolet College in Rhineland on invasives and how they can effect lake property values. Dr. Ben Beardmore from the UW Limnology Department will be the speaker.

Youth Conservation Camp – Planning Update –

Scholl announced that they now have 18 campers and gave a brief highlight of the daily camp activities. Day 1 will focus on lakes; day 2 on wildlife & GPS; day 3 on forestry; and day 4 reporting on what the campers learned and how they liked the camp.

Conservation Observance Day 2012 – Planning Update –

The coordination is going well and the memorial maple tree and plaque have been ordered. Scholl stated that the speakers will be John Petty from DATCP, Brad Pfaff from FSA, John G from WDNR, Tyrone Larson from NRCS, a group of middle school students, and an Oneida County student that is the state conservation speech winner.

Resolution – Grant Support for *Erosion Protection using large Wood in Lakes Project* –

Scholl informed the committee that as per a conversation with Kevin Gauthier from DNR, she would like to withdraw the resolution until next year, in order to work out the issues i.e. site selections, footage affected, etc. Since this project could possibly result in changing the regulations for permits. **A motion by Nielsen, second by Johnson to withdraw the resolution and application for the wood in the lakes project at this time. Motion carried.**

DATCP Business –

The committee was given a booklet on Land and Water Conservation Committee information for new LCC members. They were informed that the ATCP 50 revisions will be ongoing while trying to work out the bugs and differences. Scholl stated that her main concern is that the cost share dollars might have exclusions and restrictions and will try to assist the fight for that not to happen. Sitzberger stated that he had issue with the staff funding wording and would like that to be addressed with the powers that be.

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

LWCD, Ritter, Scholl, and Sheehan distributed their written reports (on file in the LWCD office) and discussed them. Sheehan stated that she attended the first training for Lake Leaders and is looking forward to the next session. She is also working with the science teachers and students at Northland Pines High School on the native garden plot at the school. The area needs extensive work and grants are being sought for financial help. Ritter highlighted some of his programs. The CBCW students are trained and started their season on the 26th of May, he stated that the purple loosestrife project is moving along and on June 8th he and the students will be harvesting beetles in Manitowish Waters for the next phase, and the person for Oneida County has been hired and the Vilas County person's references are being verified for the Vilas & Oneida County roadway survey that will last 15 weeks. A letter (on file in the LWCD office) was given to the committee stating that Ritter has been nominated and selected for the 2012 Invader Crusader. Scholl announced that the Land and Water Conservation Department for Vilas County now has a Facebook page. She informed the committee that she will be working on revising the cost share program in anticipation of the ATCP 50 revision and also the position description for the Lake Conservation Specialist. Scholl will be working on a grazing plan and has asked for the assistant of Michael Stinebrink, from NRCS. She also stated that her computer has been acting up and moving very slow, and asked for permission to have IT upgrade her memory, which is probably the problem. Ritter and Sheehan's computers are also acting up but intermittently. **Rushlow made a motion to have Scholl write a letter to the Public Property Committee for IT to check out the problem and give their suggestions to correct the problems or to pay for memory upgrades. Motion carried.**

Budget/Voucher approval –

The following vouchers were presented for payment: Clermont Printing and Office Products-\$62.48; Lakeland Rental Center-\$917.50; Ted Ritter-\$640.61; and Mariquita Sheehan-\$225.71. **Motion by Nielsen, second by Rushlow to approve the vouchers as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Nielsen left the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Out-of-county travel –

Sitzberger approved the following out of county travel: Ritter on June 5th to Rhinelander for WDNR/County AIS summer activities planning meeting; Sheehan on June 5th to Rhinelander for NOR spring lakes Team meeting, and June 15th to Rhinelander for North Central Lakes Workshop; and Scholl on June 27th to Woodruff for Aquatic Plane ID Workshop. Sitzberger also approved for any supervisor that would like to attend the North Central Lakes Workshop in Rhinelander on June 5th.

Letters and Communications –

The following items are on file in the LWCD office: Northwoods Land Trust, May 2012; Grazing Network News, May 2012; Forestry Notes, May 2012; and FSA news releases on – FSA Service Center Hosts COC Election Open House for Oneida County, Reduction in Staff and Office Hours at the Farm Service Agency Office in Rhinelander, Wisconsin Technical College system Renews Borrower Training Agreement with Wisconsin FSA, and FSA reminds CRP Participants of Primary Nesting Season Requirements; and Susan Hunter's May 2012 Report. Sitzberger announced that the new Executive Director of WLWCA is Jim Vanderbrook. He also said that the Flowage Preservation Alliance Committee will be having a meeting on July 7th.

Future Meeting Dates/Items –

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

Adjournment –

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

Minutes reflect the recorder's notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.
Respectfully submitted by: *Rosemary Leveille*