

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on August 3, 2012 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, Mary Kim Black, Kathleen Rushlow, Dennis Nielsen, & Lorin Johnson; and others, Clyde Owens, Michael Stinebrink, Ted Ritter, and Rosemary Leveille
The following County Board member(s) was excused:
The following County Board member(s) was absent:
Media present:

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

Approve Minutes: Motion by Black, second by Johnson to approve the minutes from July 6, 2012 of this committee. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program –

Nothing for this month.

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

VCLRA, Owens stated that the North-Central Lakes Workshop was well attended and went very well. He shared a few of the items that are being worked on – assistance to Lake Associations and District in writing grants, creating a marketing plan for their student course that takes place at Tress For Tomorrow, and working on the celebration for June 2013.

Position Description Revision – Lake Specialist –

A motion to accept the revised Position Description for the Conservation Specialist as written and forward to the Personnel Committee for approval was made by Johnson, second by Nielsen. Motion carried. Rushlow was asked to work on a policy for the department with the possible collaboration of Janna Kahl, Personnel Director and Martha Milanowski, Corporation Counsel.

2013/14 Draft Land Conservation Department Budget –

The committee was informed that the 2013/14 budget was submitted to Jason Hilger, Finance Director.

State AIS Budget Proposal – Draft Resolution –

The committee was given a copy of the “Wisconsin Lakes AIS 2013-15 Draft Budget Proposal”, “How Should Wisconsin Fight Aquatic Invasive Species in the Future?”, and a resolution on “Increased Funding for Wisconsin AIS Programs” (all on file in the LWCD office). A few of the concerns on the budget proposal are: the startup of the “Invasive Species Account” will it be strictly for AIS or will it be used for TIS also; will Counties be able to use some of the monies for staff funding directly or will they be able to partner with RC&D's for funding? After discussion Sitzberger stated that he will discuss this with Scholl and possibility write a letter (the committee agreed) stating Vilas County's questions and concerns about the Wisconsin Lakes AIS 2013-15 Draft Budget Proposal. **Nielsen made the motion to approve and sign the resolution as presented and forward to the County Board for approval, second by Black. Motion carried.**

DATCP Business –

The 2012 SWRM grant reimbursement request of \$66,823.31 for January 2012 through June 2012 was presented to the committee. **Motion by Rushlow, second by Black to have Sitzberger, Chair sign the request for reimbursement payment. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

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

NRCS, Stinebrink discussed his written report (on file in the LWCD office) and answered questions. Lumberjack RC&D, Nielsen stated that at the last meeting they toured an incubator lumber program. He will be presenting a project to RC&D on behalf of the Vilas County museum for heating and cooling improvements which will result in expanding their hours and preservation of the artifacts. LWCD, Ritter, Scholl, and Sheehan written reports were distributed (on file in the LWCD office). Ritter expanded on the Lumberjack RC&D report with regards to WHIP. Jean Hanson discussed the roadside invasive survey stating that the Oneida County portion of the program is going strong, but the Vilas County portion wasn't able to begin since they were not able to find a candidate for the position. She requested that the monies be used to fund this position in 2013. Lumberjack RC&D was gracious enough to extend the project for Vilas County. Also, WHIP will continue to receive their financial support for at least one more year. Ritter stated that he was asked to present at the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference in La Crosse. He discussed the out of county costs associated with the conference.

Out-of-county travel –

Rushlow made a motion to approve Ritter's trip to La Crosse for the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference on October 29th through October 31st. Motion carried, all voting aye. A motion by Rushlow, second by Black to approve the following out of county travel: Scholl on August 24th to Wisconsin Rapids for NCLWCA Summer meeting/tour, August 27th to Stevens Point for WLWCA Board meeting; and Sitzberger on August 24th to Wisconsin Rapids for NCLWA Summer meeting/tour. Motion carried.

Budget/Voucher approval –

An update of the budget was presented to the committee. The following vouchers were submitted for payment: Ted Ritter-\$212.57; William Rudy-\$7,105.00; Carolyn Scholl-\$209.79; Mariquita Sheehan-\$195.92; Southern Computer-\$588.64; and Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Assoc.-\$65.00.

Letters and Communications –

The following items are on file in the LWCD office: Forestry Notes, July 2012; DATCP email on Drought, and Grazing Network News, July 2012.

Future Meeting Dates/Items –

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday September 7, 2012 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521.

Adjournment –

Meeting was adjourned by Sitzberger at 10:50 a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted by: *Rosemary Leveille*