

Land & Water Conservation Committee

March 1, 2013

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on March 1, 2013 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, Dennis Nielsen, Kathleen Rushlow, Lorin Johnson; and others - Carolyn Scholl, Mariquita Sheehan, Ted Ritter, Martha Milanowski, Rollie Alger (VCLRA), and by phone Waltraud A. Arts. The following County Board member(s) was excused:

The following County Board member(s) was absent: Mary Kim Black

Media present:

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

Approve Minutes: Motion by Nielsen, second by Rushlow to approve the minutes from February 1, 2013 of this committee. In discussion, Johnson requested a correction. **Vote to correct, all voting aye.**

Vote to approve corrected minutes, all voting aye.

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program:

Irish had no report and did not attend.

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

VCLRA – Alger stated that the 35th Annual Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention will be April 9-11, 2013 in Green Bay, and the “Celebrating Lakes Day” will be on June 14, 2013 at the Conserve School in Land O’Lakes. Alger also shared that VCLRA submitted a grant to purchase Dissolved Oxygen sampling equipment for Citizen Lake Monitors on the west side of Vilas Co. to share.

Big Sand Lake District Petition:

Scholl reviewed the report that will go to the full County Board on March 19th. Sitzberger requested that Milanowski review the package before the County Board meeting. After discussion it was decided to add copies of all the letters received as part of the official record to the packets.

Milanowski left at 9:25 a.m.

County Conservationist Position Description - Update:

Motion by Johnson to send the position description to the Personnel Committee for review. Motion died.

Motion by Rushlow, second by Johnson, to send the position description to the Human Resources manager for review and return to LCC. All voting aye, motion carried.

DATCP Business:

- Scholl shared the 2013 DATCP Final allocation funding to be received by Vilas Co. Requested \$137,233 for staffing and \$50,000 for cost share funding; received \$97,109 for staffing and \$42,768 for cost share.
- Scholl applied for and submitted the 2nd 2012 DATCP staffing & support reimbursement request.
- Motion by Nielsen, second by Rushlow to **approve a Resolution on the Annual DATCP Grant Funding Application 2014 for the County Board.** All voting aye, motion carried.
- Scholl shared information on the proposed ATCP 50 Rule Revision and how that would affect the Vilas County LWCD. **Motion by Rushlow, second by Nielsen, to have Scholl write a letter to DATCP regarding the changes to ATCP 50, with cc's to our State Assembly**

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representatives, WLWCA, WI DNR Secretary Stepp and NOR Director Gozdziwski. All voting aye, motion carried.

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

Alger mentioned that he has a copy of a Power Point presentation about research by Michelle Nault (DNR) on the effects of 2,4,D in lakes when it is used for AIS control. Sitzberger requested that the presentation be shared at a future LCC meeting when there was time in the agenda.

LWCD: Ritter, Sheehan, and Scholl distributed and discussed their written reports (on file in the LWCD office). Ritter discussed the WHIP Annual Partners meeting Feb. 26th at Trees for Tomorrow. Sitzberger wants to ensure County representation at the Annual meeting in future. Sheehan reported - 1 agricultural and 3 shoreland restoration projects for Cost Share funding. Sheehan also reported that Oneida and Vilas counties shared their funding situation challenges with respect to ATCP 50 changes at the Lakes Partnership Meeting at Trout Lake with DNR, UWEX-Lakes, Wisconsin Lakes, and other partners. The lakes Partners talked about investigating how DNR funding might change in the future to help counties. Scholl will continue work on the Annual DATCP Grant Funding Application for 2014. Scholl has also been busy with the Big Sand Lake petition follow up for reporting to the county board and with a public records request for the petitioners of the Big Sand Lake District. Scholl will outline the points of concern about how ATCP 50 rule changes may affect future funding of Vilas County Land and Water Conservation and will share a copy of those with the LCC members.

NCLWCA: Annual meeting calendar will be distributed: the Association will be responding to the ATCP 50 revision; next meeting May 23rd in Antigo.

WLWCA: Conference is March 11-13 in WI Dells; at the last BOD meeting they discussed the ATCP 50 revision response.

Lumberjack, RC&D: Nielsen shared the news that nominations for the Friend of Forestry Award are now open.

Out-of-county travel:

A motion by Nielsen, second by Johnson, to approve the following out of county travel: Sitzberger and Scholl - March 28th to ACTP 50 hearing in Tomahawk. Scholl – April 8-11 to the 2013 Wisconsin Lakes Convention in Green Bay, and April 17 to the Lumberjack RC&D meeting in Oconto. Ritter – March 11 DNR EWM/CLP chemical treatment review, and March 12 NR40 revisions, both in Rhinelander. **Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Monthly Budget Review:

An update of the budget was presented to the committee along with the statement of the bills paid.

Motion by Rushlow, second by Nielsen, to approve the review of the budget update. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Letters and Communications:

The following items are on file in the LWCD office: NRCS Report to the Land Conservation Committees, Feb, 2013; Forestry Notes, February 2013. A letter received from Waltraud A. Arts, Attorney representing the Big Sand Lake District Petitioners, re: Request for Reconsideration of LWCC's Recommendation against Formation of a Lake District for Big Sand Lake, Vilas County, WI was briefly discussed. The request was rejected.

Future Meeting Dates/Items:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday April 5, 2013 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521. Scholl informed the committee that she will be absent from that meeting.

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Adjournment:
Meeting was adjourned by Sitzberger at 10:37 a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted by: *Quita Sheehan*