

## Land & Water Conservation Committee

February 7, 2014

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on February 7, 2014, 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, and others – Carolyn Scholl, Ted Ritter, Quita Sheehan, and Rollie Alger.

The following County Board member(s) was excused: Lorin Johnson

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. **All voting aye, motion carried.**

**Approve Minutes: Motion made by Rushlow, second by Nielsen,** to approve the minutes from January 3, 2013 of this committee. **All voting aye, motion carried.**

**Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program:** Scholl received the 2013 Venison Billing for 2013 and will have a reimbursement form for signature next month.

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

**VCLRA:** Next multi county lake association meeting to be held June 13<sup>th</sup> at Nicolet College.

**Little Tamarack Flowage District Formation:** The public hearing occurred Sat Feb 1 in Conover over district formation, no action was taken. There was no discussion about inclusion, or not, of County Lands within the District Boundary.

**Eagle River Lakes Association:** There was a meeting between representatives of the Eagle River Chain of Lakes Association and the WI DNR about the in-kind contribution issue. There was some accommodation between the 2 groups.

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

**LWCD: Ritter** shared 2 handouts: a) WHIP Annual Meeting on Feb. 18 at Trees for Tomorrow (to highlight past work and to get partner input on future direction); b) Watercraft Inspection Program (this summer+ 17 organizations, Total of \$81,000, 5480 hours of Student intern time, 26 boat landings, 2 teams [St. Germain and Conover, from Memorial Day to Aug 17<sup>th</sup>. **Sheehan** shared that she attended a County Conservation technicians meeting yesterday and learned about a new material that shows promise for erosion control. Sitzberger asked Sheehan to contact a person in the DNR that may be a source of funding for boat landings and access points. **Scholl** shared the flier for the 2014 Youth Conservation Camp to be held in Vilas County at Trees for Tomorrow in June. She also shared the details for this year's Youth Conservation Awareness Poster Competition "Mysteries in the Soil" occurring this next week. There are 3 schools submitting posters. There will be an Awards Ceremony for the Winners on March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Olsen Library. Scholl presented to information about the LWCD to the Vilas Visions meeting. All reports on file.

*Alger leaves 9:45*

**NCLWCA:** Next meeting will be February 21, 2014. Poster and speech contest will be held and at the same time.

**WLWCA:** Conference is March 10-12 in Appleton, Scholl and Sheehan will attend.

**NRCS:**

**Lumberjack RC&D** – Ritter shared that at the January 16<sup>th</sup> Council meeting in Vilas County at the Riverstone Restaurant, the WHIP proposal for \$10,000 to support the new Coordinator's position was approved.

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**DATCP Business:** Scholl has received and completed the 2013 Final Reimbursement Request for DATCP to complete the \$97,000 reimbursement. **Motion: made by Nielsen, seconded by Rushlow - To approve the 2013 Final Reimbursement. All approved. Motion carried.**

Scholl will bring the Application Request for 2015 for LCC approval to the March meeting.

**2014 Cost Share Program:** Sheehan shared that under the new ACTP 50 rules the LCC is required to authorize any cost share contracts the county enters into. Rushlow suggested and the LCC agreed that Scholl obtain a stamp to be used on contracts that would indicate LCC authorization. Stamp will include a fill-in space to reference the date of the LCC Minutes where the approval is given. LCC would authorize contracts as they are ready and presented at LCC meetings. Chairman will give approval in emergency situations and present to the next LCC meeting.

The new ATCP 50 rules also require some documentation of authority for county representatives to sign documents. **Motion: made by Rushlow, seconded by Nielsen - To authorize LWCD staff as County representatives to sign Cost Share Contracts. All approved. Motion Carried.**

**Out-of-county travel:** Sitzberger and Nielsen to NCLWCA in Wausau Feb 21, and Sitzberger to WLWCA in Appleton on March 10-12.

**Monthly Budget Review:** The committee was given a copy of the current status of the Department budget. Sitzberger asked Scholl to report on what the charges to the LWCD budget is from use of a pool vehicle.

### **Letter and Communications:**

NCLWC results of election for Land & Water Board – Dave Solon.

WLWCA – 4 candidates for WLWCA Board to be voted on at March LCC meeting.

**Greg Sass, WI DNR fisheries biologist** offered to present information on fisheries research going on in the area and sharing of future research interests. LCC invited him to next LCC meeting.

Scholl reported that the Standing Rule requires that LCC have 2 representatives from UWEX on LCC, currently that is not the case. Scholl shared that information with Dave Alleman.

**Future Meeting Dates/Items:** The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2014 at 9am in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521.

### **Meeting was adjourned by Sitzberger at 10:23 a.m.**

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

Respectfully submitted by: *Quita Sheehan*