

220 LaCrosse Street, Rm. 14
Mauston, WI 53948
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LCC Committee
Joe Lally, Chair
Rodney Seamans
Tim Hartford
Scott Wilhorn
Jim Raese

Staff

Matt Komiskey, County Conservationist
Brian Goepfert, Technician
Kerrie Wheeler, Special Projects Coord.



Land & Water Resources Committee
May 10, 2018 - 8:00 am
200 Hickory Street, Room 140, Mauston, Wisconsin

PRESENT: Joe Lally, Chair, Rodney Seamans, Tim Hartford, FSA Rep. Jim Raese, NRCS Rep. Lindsie Hagen, LWRD Reps. Matt Komiskey, & Kerrie Wheeler

1. Meeting called to order by chair, Joe Lally, at 7:59 am.
2. MINUTES
Motion by Jim Raese, seconded by Rodney Seamans to approve the minutes of April 12, 2018 meeting.
Motion carried.
3. VOUCHERS
The following vouchers were submitted to the committee for review and approval:
InterCounty Voucher– (Highway Dept. - Fuel)
Mauston True Value – (Supplies for Water Quality Monitoring Equipment)
Kerrie Wheeler – (Contracted Services & Mileage)
Motion by Rodney Seamans, seconded by Tim Hartford to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.
4. WILDLIFE DAMAGE ABATEMENT
 - There was wolf predation on a dog in Northern Juneau County.
 - A bear damaged bee hives in Southern Juneau County.
 - In 2017 there were 2 CWD hits in the county.

5. NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

- Jon is out at Outdoors Forever 5th grade education day and Matt will be going after the meeting. More outdoor education days are scheduled for Royall and Wonewoc schools and Jon and Matt taught Mauston High School students on Tuesday, May 8, 2018.
- EQIP – cover crop signup has 20 applications so far with an allocation of \$200,000 and the signup ends May 18, 2018
- CSP – 20 applications with 14 renewals, the most ever in Juneau County.

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6. FSA REPORT

- Margin Protection Program ends June 1, 2018 with limit being 5 million pounds per producer.
- Farmers are encouraged to get their crop reporting done as soon as crops are planted.
- Four farms reported damage due to the April snow storms.
- August 1, 2018 the ARC signup ends.
- Farmers are encouraged to talk with their insurance companies about prevent plant insurance.

7. A YEAR IN REVIEW

- Matt reviewed programs, policies and what projects have been going in so far this year for the new LCC member.

8. 2019 BUDGET

- The Department has to submit the request for funds to DATCP over a year in advance. These funds include cost sharing and staffing grants.

9. GROUNDWATER SURVEY UPDATE

- 107 people signed up to have their wells tested at a reduced rate. 95 requested the homeowners package and 12 wanted just the nitrate/chloride test done. Sampling will be completed all in one day on May 30, 2018. The Health Department is involved with the project and the Land Information Department has played a role in mapping the participants and planning routes for sampling.

10. ATC FUNDING PROGRAM UPDATE

- There will be meetings with NRCS/DNR/Parks & Forestry/Highway to discuss the focus areas.
- Want to use funding to encourage upland practice adoption.
- LCC and LWRD needs to define criteria as to site selection.

11. WILDERNESS/CASTLE ROCK PARK UPDATE

- 3,800 plants will be shipped May 14, 2018 and LWRD will help the Parks Dept. to install the rain gardens.

12. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

- In the process of design are 3 dams, 1 access road and possible waterways.
- The new survey gear is working well now that an adaptation has been made to better pick up the wifi signal.
- A potential CREP project east of town is in the works.
- Nutrient management – soil samples are still being taken.

13. ENFORCEMENT VS. ZONING DISCUSSION

- Matt talked about the pros and cons of enforcement versus zoning and which direction the department should take going forward. Enforcement seems to be the choice over zoning according to the LCC so Matt will start with that direction.

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14. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

- NRCS/FSA is close to finalizing floor plans for the new building.
- Looking for initiatives for the Lemonweir River. A 9-key element plan will allow for more funding options for this area.
- Discovery Farms meeting next week for edge of field monitoring project
- Farmland Preservation needs to be updated since many parcels have been sold over the last ten years and the land transfers have not been done.
- Apparel Order – the department has a logo so an apparel order with the logo will be done with Eagle Promotions.
- Underwear Challenge – starting to hand out the underwear for landowners to bury in fields, pastures, and prairies as soon as the fields are planted. The healthier and active the soil, the less underwear will be left at the end of the month.
- Personnel changes – Kerrie Wheeler has informed the Department that she is leaving on July 18, 2018. This should give plenty of time for a replacement to be hired. Both Matt and Kerrie feel that a full time position is necessary due to the addition of so many projects this past year.
- Discussion on drones and the use of the Sheriffs' departments drone for conservation efforts.

15. Next meeting was set for **June 14, 2018 at 8:00 am - PLACE TBD**

17. Meeting adjourned.– Motion by Tim Hartford, seconded by Jim Raese to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 a.m. Motion carried.

