

220 E. State Street, Rm. 6  
Mauston, WI 53948  
(608) 847-7221 ext. 3

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**  
**June 14, 2018 - 8:00 am**  
**650 Prairie Street, Forestry & Parks Building, Mauston, Wisconsin**

PRESENT: Joe Lally, Chair, Rodney Seamans, Scott Wilhorn, NRCS Rep. John Field, FSA Rep. Jon Williams, LWRD Reps. Matt Komiskey, & Kerrie Wheeler. Others in attendance: Barb Theis, Health Dept., Brian Loyd, Forestry & Parks Dept., April Martell and Alana Voss, UW-Extension, Chris Zindorf, County Board, Reps from Art Schroeder's office, and an independent landowner.

1. Meeting called to order by chair, Joe Lally, at 8:00 am.
2. MINUTES  
Motion by Rodney Seamans, seconded by Scott Wilhorn to approve the minutes of May 10, 2018 meeting. Motion carried.
3. VOUCHERS  
The following vouchers were submitted to the committee for review and approval:
  - InterCounty Voucher– (Highway Dept. - Fuel)
  - Brian Goepfert – (Mileage)
  - The Messenger – (2<sup>nd</sup> Public Notice for LWRM Plan)
  - Elizabeth Housworth – (Mileage for LWRD Project)
  - Eagle Promotions – (Logo Setup and Landowner Awards)
  - Kerrie Wheeler – (Contracted Services & Mileage)Motion by Scott Wilhorn, seconded by Rodney Seamans to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.

4. WILDLIFE DAMAGE ABATEMENT

- No Report

5. NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

- NRCS is finally hiring employees State-Wide.
- EQIP – cover crop signup has 22 applications with an allocation of \$250,000. This is the most in the Southwest region of the State.
- CSP – 20 applications with 14 renewals, the most ever in Juneau County. They have to be in to the State Office by the end of June.

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6. FSA REPORT

- Deadline for ARC in 8/1/18. There are 1,000 farms that participate and 75% have been approved.
- Crop reporting has started but it is a little behind because of the weather. So far 30% of the 1,500 who usually report have come in to report their crops.
- Elections for a number of townships are being held this year. Anyone who is actively involved in agriculture can fill out a ballot
- Continuous CRP signup has been announced. This along with CREP are the only types of CRP available at this time. One year extensions for contracts expiring this year are also available.
- Jon Williams will be working in Columbia County through Shared Management starting this month and continuing for up to a year due to a retirement there.

7. WATER QUALITY DISCUSSION

- EPA has been drilling test wells in Armenia. Chis and the political reps. wanted to know what does the County know and what are they doing about it.
- Matt discussed information regarding the following: the majority of surface water in the County is impaired. The 10-year Land & Water Resource Management Plan preparation showed water quality is the number one public concern. He explained TMDL's. The groundwater nitrate levels will become an issue in the county. Funding was secured to start a project of well water sampling and Matt reviewed the project and how it was a collaboration between LWRD and the Health Department along with Wood County. U.W. Extension and Land Information also provided assistance. He gave the preliminary results of the testing. The next steps to the this project will be an official Press Release, educational seminars later in the summer, mapping locations and doing follow-up testing, looking at options for landowners, other educational opportunities regarding testing and documenting the private wells in the County.
- There were a number of questions regarding specifics of where the high nitrates were coming from and the exact health issues but these are not questions that can be answered at this time. More information will be needed. Anyone who has health concerns should see their health care provider.

8. GRAZING PLAN APPROVAL

- A landowner wants to graze cattle on a CREP filter strip that also has a CREP perpetual easement. In order to graze the filter strip, he needs an approved NRCS grazing plan and approval from the LCC to allow this to be done. The CREP perpetual easement also has a wetland restoration that cannot be grazed and is excluded from the grazing plan.

Motion by Scott Wilhorn, seconded by Rodney Seamans to approve the NRCS grazing plan of this CREP filter strip that excludes the CREP wetland restoration. Motion Carried.

9. COST SHARE FUNDS DISCUSSION

- We have approximately 54% of our cost share funds possibly spoken for and some of these projects may not go in. LWRD should transfer some of these funds to another county who really need them. Even if landowners come in today to ask for a project, it would be difficult to get a contractor lined up to put in the practice. This will be re-visited at the next LCC meeting.

10. NEW EMPLOYEE/STAFFING CHANGES

- The LWRD received approval to hire a full time position from finance and personnel. This will now go to County Board for their approval and then the position will be advertised.

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11. WILDERNESS/CASTLE ROCK PARK UPDATE

- The plants were installed at both parks and signs have been designed to put up at the parks to describe the project.

12. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE/RCPP DISCUSSION

- Possible projects this year are a 2017 repair, 4 dams, 1 access road, a manure storage closure, some gutters and possible waterways. This would take about \$30,000 to \$40,000 of the available cost share dollars.
- RCPP and Trout Unlimited will be able to help cost share streambank projects in Juneau County. Focus of staff could be placed on these projects and the corresponding upland practices for the rest of this year and into next year. Discussion on the pros and cons of cost sharing streambank practices.

13. ENFORCEMENT VS. ZONING DISCUSSION

- Last month the LCC decided the Department should take an enforcement approach. Matt & Brian talked with DNR and their recommendation is for the County to have citation authority and an ordinance that accepts state rules. The citations should not be less than \$1,000.00. The LCC decided that Matt should work with Corporation Counsel to come up with an Ordinance and Citation Authority to be approved by LCC and County Board.

14. VEHICLE BIDS

- Bid requests went out for a second time for a truck to 4 vendors. One bid came back. This was a closed bid process so the bid was open today by Joe Lally. Motion by Scott Wilhorn, seconded by Rodney Seamans to decline the vehicle bid offer opened June 14, 2018. Motion Carried.
- It was decided that Matt would take quotes for existing vehicles from further out geographically.

15. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

- Request by e-mail from Tim Hartford to change the meeting to a Tuesday or Friday. The LCC decided that at this time it would be too difficult to change the so many peoples' schedules since the LCC and U.W. Extension meet on the same day. For now the LCC and U.W. Extension will continue to meet the second Thursday of the month.

16. Next meeting was set for **July 12, 2018 at 8:00 am - PLACE TBD**

17. Meeting adjourned.– Motion by Scott Wilhorn, seconded by Jim Raese to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 a.m. Motion carried.