

JUNEAU COUNTY LAND & WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Joe Lally, Chair, Wonewoc
Rodney Seamans, LaValle
Jim Raese, FSA Representative, Wonewoc

Gary Frei, Camp Douglas
Scott Wilhorn, Necedah

**Land & Water Resources Committee
October 12, 2017 - 8:30 am
U.W. Extension Meeting Room, Hickory Building, Mauston, Wisconsin**

PRESENT: Joe Lally, Chair, Rodney Seamans, Gary Frei, Scott Wilhorn, FSA Rep. Jim Raese, County Board Member Tim Cottingham, APHIS Rep. Phil Peterson, FSA CED Jon Williams, NRCS Reps. Jon Field & Lindsy Hagen, LWRD Reps. Matt Komiskey, & Kerrie Wheeler

1. Meeting called to order by chair, Joe Lally, at 8:30 am.
2. MINUTES
Motion by Gary Frei, seconded by Scott Wilhorn to approve the minutes of September 14, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.

3. VOUCHERS
The following vouchers were submitted to the committee for review and approval:
 - Kerrie Wheeler – (Contracted Services)
 - The Highway Department – (Fuel)
 - LaCrosse County Treasurer – (Clean Sweep Hazardous Waste/Bulb Disposal)
 - Inter-County Voucher – (Soils Equipment)
 - USDA APHIS – (Wildlife Damage – Administration)
 - Sam Rollins – (Cost Share Payment)
 - Clarence Rollins – (Cost Share Payment)
 - Randy Hastings – (Cost Share Payment)
 - Chris Kemper – (Cost Share Payment)

Motion by Jim Raese, seconded by Rodney Seamans to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.

4. WILDLIFE DAMAGE ABATEMENT
 - o Phil presented the 2018 budget. There is a \$16.00 increase from last year for a total of \$7,835.18 as an operating budget.

Motion by Rodney Seamans, seconded by Scott Wilhorn to approve the Wildlife Damage budget as presented. Motion carried

- There have been verified cougar sightings in the county and it has been making its way south. It has been caught on a Necedah Wildlife Refuge camera

Questions and discussion on how deer damage compensation, fur markets and honey hive damage by bear.

5. NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

- NRCS has a new employee – Lindsy Hagen. She is the Office Automation Clerk.
- Registered Land Surveyors will be in the county working on two WRP sites.
- EQIP cost sharing projects are in progress – one is a forestry project in Cutler Township and one is a brush management project to correct a multi-flora rose project that was started by SCS back in the 1930's.
- Cover crops cost share practices have been extended to October 31st.

6. FSA REPORT

- Corn silage is being taken, soybean harvest has started and winter wheat is being planted.
- 1st killing frost is later now that it was 10 years ago. This may point to climate change.
- FSA received notice on 10/10/17 they can accept CRP applications that were submitted between May 4, 2017 and September 30, 2017. They have 5 that were submitted in this time frame.
- November 1st is the deadline for reporting fall seeded crops.

7. OFFICE MOVE DISCUSSION

- The County pulled out of the bid process for office space. They are still looking at March 2018 to raze the Annex Building.
- NRCS and LWRD will continue to work on a Contribution Agreement which will help pay for lease costs for LWRD.

Discussion on alternative funding sources for office space.

8. 2018 BUDGET/DATCP GRANT

- 2018 LWRD budget was passed. Capital Outlay was approved through the ATC funds.
- DATCP grant was approved at the State level.
- Budget unknowns which could have a big impact on the LWRD budget are where we will be located and with whom.
- LWRM Plan is part of the budget process. The 10 year plan must be completed in order to continue to receive DATCP funds. The plan writing is a year-long process with public and technical input. There are meetings in November and December for this input. A public opinion survey is out requesting input as well.

9. COUNTY TO COUNTY TRANSFER OF BOND FUNDS
 - Several larger projects decided not to participate at this time so there are some unspent cost share dollars. Rather than send them back to the State, it is in the departments' best interest to transfer them to another county.

Motion by Scott Wilhorn, seconded by Gary Frei to transfer unspent cost share dollars to another county that is in need of them. Motion Carried.

10. COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST EVALUATION
 - Matt Komiskey had his 6 month evaluation.

11. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS
 - 12 million gallon manure pit is being installed.
 - TRM grant barnyard is finished.

12. Next meeting was set for **November 9, 2017** at **8:00 am** in the **U.W. Extension Meeting Room. PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME**

13. Meeting adjourned – Motion by Scott Wilhorn, seconded by Gary Frei to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m. Motion carried.