



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

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

LCC Committee  
Joe Lally, Chair  
Rodney Seamans  
Scott Wilhorn  
Chris Zindorf  
Jim Raese

**Land & Water Resources Committee  
August 9, 2018 - 9:30 am  
Juneau County Board Room, Mauston, Wisconsin**

PRESENT: Joe Lally, Chair, Rodney Seamans, Scott Wilhorn, FSA Rep. Jim Raese, NRCS Reps. John Field, & Matt Komiskey.

1. Meeting called to order by chair, Joe Lally, at 9:40 am.
2. MINUTES  
Motion by Rodney Seamans, seconded by Jim Raese to approve the minutes of July 12, 2018 meeting.  
Motion carried.
3. VOUCHERS  
The following vouchers were submitted to the committee for review and approval:
  - InterCounty Voucher– (Highway Dept. - Fuel)
  - Work Truck Stuff – (Truck)
  - Ron Daus – (Conservation Payment)
  - Dean Hansen – (Conservation Payment)
  - Turning Point Systems Group – (Survey Gear Accessory)
  - Kerrie Wheeler – (Contracted Services & Mileage)
  - Don Carter – (Conservation Payment)
  - Western Area Association – (LCC training dues)Motion by Scott Wilhorn, seconded by Jim Raese to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.
4. WILDLIFE DAMAGE ABATEMENT
  - o No Report
5. NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
  - o Finishing up conservation plans for CRP/CREP programs.
  - o Discussion on land rent payments
  - o Wrapping up cover crop contracts with only 6 contracts funded so far
  - o NRCS is in the process of filling positions around the State

## 6. FSA REPORT

- COC Election is underway – Local Administrative Area 2 is holding the election. Townships involved include – Clearfield, Cutler, Fountain, Lisbon, Orange, and Plymouth. Election Ballots will be mailed the first week of November.
- Work will begin on our new building the week of August 6<sup>th</sup>. If everything goes smoothly we will probably be moving in around the end of October.
- Continuous CRP signup underway until August 17<sup>th</sup> for buffer and wetland practices such as grass waterways, filter strips, riparian buffers. There are no signing or practice incentives as in the past. Also annual rental payment rates are going to be capped at the relevant cash rent as estimated by NASS (National Ag Statistical Service) Doesn't apply to CREP enrollment.
- A 1-year extension has been granted to expiring CRP contracts that had a term of 14 years or less. Everyone with expiring contracts has been notified by mail.
- Secretary Perdue announced that he is asking Farm Service Agency to roll out a new program, the Market Facilitation Program, which will provide a direct payment to producers of soybeans, corn, sorghum, wheat, cotton, dairy, and hogs.  
Program details will be announced in mid to late August, with signup beginning right after Labor Day. Payments will be based on actual production, so payments will go out after harvest. We do not have any additional details.  
The Market Facilitation Program is one of three programs that will make up to \$12 billion available to help farmers meet the costs of market disruption resulting from retaliatory tariffs. Another program will purchase and distribute surplus commodities like fruits, nuts, beef, pork, and milk to food banks and nutrition programs. A third program will provide trade promotion assistance to help develop new export markets.

## 7. WATER QUALITY MEETING

- Reviewed the water quality meeting that was held on July 17 at the Necedah Town hall
- Around 200 people in attendance
- Meeting provided a lot of information for homeowners but still left a lot of unanswered questions on what the homeowner can do
- Discussed the development of the Armenia Growers Coalition and the MOU they want to form with the County as well as assistance they want to provide to the affected homeowners

## 8. COST SHARE FUNDS TRANSFER

- It's been getting more difficult to get landowners in to sign cost share agreements and to line up contractors to do the work. A transfer of funds to another county is a possibility this year but how much will be transferred is unknown at this time.
- Reviewed troubles we have been experiencing with the local contractors and need to identify other operators to compete for our projects

## 9. NEW EMPLOYEE

- Discussed the job duties for the new position as well as what we are looking for in a candidate
- Interviews will be conducted today starting at 12:00

10. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE
  - One repair of a project is complete and two well decommissions
  - Need to re-evaluate the scheduling of construction activities to improve the cost share spending
  
12. DISCOVERY FARMS PROJECT UPDATE
  - Matt applied for and received a grant to do edge-of-field monitoring at two locations in the Lake Redstone Watershed after giving a presentation to highlight his project. It's a surface water monitoring project that will continue for five to seven years. The producers came up with goals for the project and the LWRD needs to provide staff for field work and outreach.
  - Sites will be installed in September.
  
13. Producer Led Watershed Grant
  - Reviewed the goals and objectives for the producer led watershed.
  - Rodney Seamans made a motion, second by Scott Wilhorn for LWRD to assist the Producers of Lake Redstone apply for the Producer Led Watershed Grant and sign on as a partner for an MOU with the producer group.
  
14. Invasive Species and Culvert Evaluation
  - Discussed presentation Matt gave to township board members regarding culverts
  - Discussed potential joint student with the highway department to map the County culverts and map invasive species in the County next year
  - Coming up with a map of potential invasive species will help both departments determine extent and potential approaches
  
15. LCC training
  - Discussed who was going to attend the Western Area LCC training
  - Discussed who was going to attend the WI River TMDL event put on by PACRS
  
16. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS
  - No other business was discussed
  
17. Motion by Scott Wilhorn, second by Joe Lally to go to recess at 11:00
  
18. Motion to go into closed session pursuant to 19.85(1)(c) Wis. Stats. for the purpose of conducting interviews at 11:58 by Joe Lally, second by Rodney Seamans
  
19. Motion to go into open session by Rodney Seasans, second by Joe Lally at 2:30pm
  
15. Next meeting was set for **September 13, 2018** with **TIME AND PLACE TBD**
  
16. Meeting adjourned.– Motion by Rodney Seamans, seconded by Joe Lally to adjourn the meeting at 2:45pm a.m. Motion carried.