

Lafayette County Conservation and Zoning Office



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* These minutes are subject to the approval of the Land Conservation Committee on 7/5/2016 *

MINUTES MEETING OF THE LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE USDA AG CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Chairman Leon Wolfe. Others present: Bahr, Bartels, Hammer, Marion, Wang, Bartz, Loeffelholz, and N. Larson. Also attending: Warrens, SW Badger, Schilling, Carpenter, Kieler, A. Stauffacher, J. Stauffacher, Pokorny, and Rear.
Excused: James

Larson stated that the agenda and amended agenda were posted in the USDA Service Center, by the County Clerk's Office, the Darlington Municipal Building, the Darlington Post Office, on the Lafayette County Webpage; and was sent to the press, the State Agencies, and NRCS. It was also sent to Representative Novak.

Motion was made by Bartels and second by Bahr to approve the agenda as amended to correct meeting minutes date to 5/3/2016, and to add approvals and modifications of Cost Share contracts at #15. Motion carried.

Motion made by Bartels and second by Hammer to approve the minutes of the 5/3/16 LCC meeting. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Concerns on items on the agenda.

Wendy Warrens – SW Badger Report: Began by thanking the County for approving the higher level of funding required. SW Badger sponsors the Invasive Species program. They have a stakeholders group, and feel the Pecatonica will score high as a project. The next step would be a management plan for getting grant funding.

- Other projects include: 2 educational floats and a paddling event.
- Education on cleaning boats for cleaner waters.
- Boat landings probably next year.
- Working with Beginning Farmers on a Mentor/Mentee program.
- Workshops on grazing, cover crops, business plans, and successors
- Forestry – Emerald Ash Borer assessments

They are always applying for new funding, and new projects.

Karst Feature – Discussion only: Wolfe stated that at the July meeting we will have a representative from the State Geologic Service to speak and present information. He instructed speakers that inappropriate language would not be accepted.

Kieler stated that he has been complaining of inaction on a karst feature, and that his well is now contaminated. He is using bottled water, and his dog is sick. He stated that the new farmstead is the problem, and it will cost him \$60,000 to \$90,000 to case his well as deep as it needs to be. Wants to know what will be done.

Sauer recommended that the County Nurses Office be contacted for an official sample, then see from there if we need to find a source. Loeffelholz stated he hoped we would have some answers for Mr. Kieler next month. We have scheduled for someone to come from the National Geologic Survey Service to come to our July meeting with information and education on Lafayette County as a whole, and to give us some information on karst issues, and the possibilities in Lafayette County. Sauer asked if we might take the Committee out to see the feature. He will also contact the Nurses Office. We will plan on going to the site following the meeting. Bahr handed out NRCS Standard Code 527 – Karst Treatment. (See copy) Bahr said 10,000 gals./minute runoff to the feature in the spring. Kieler commented that he was required to put eaves on his barn, but that they changed the whole system to run into the feature. Why not put up a berm. Loeffelholz stated that one is taking Federal benefits, and the other State benefits; and there are different rules. Code 527 is an NRCS standard for doing voluntary projects. Permits for zoning can't be held to an NRCS standard. The site was built prior to Loeffelholz's hire. The Waste Storage Ordinance has been updated because it was vague.

Well Test Discussion: Discussed in the prior items.

Field Staff & Department Head Report:

A Tech report was handed out for Lange. A lot of calls have been generated by the letter sent from DATCP to all 2014 FPP claimants regarding the new number needed for 2016 claims. Department of Revenue does not allow the sharing of the actual names. If you have received a number, this letter does not apply to you. If you need a number, you will require a status review be satisfactorily completed and to have a nutrient management plan in place.

Brandt is working with Terry Cox. Tom Brines has received his DNR permit for 4 scrapes. Rob Snyder DNR permit for riprap. Sieg Dairy will start their abandonment soon. UW-P – waterway repair for 6 waterways, plus re-do 2. Mark Rielly will be starting his dam soon.

Loeffelholz has been taking calls regarding the Livestock Siting Ordinance. He has had several discussions with individuals, but it has been a good thing and has fostered discussion.

USDA Programs: Bartz stated

- They have 40 CSP applications, and 7 have already been approved.
- 30 compliance reviews – HEL & Wetlands
- CRP -3 for contracts – HEL & Continuous
- Friday is the deadline for cover crops and pollinators
- They have committed \$478,000 for contracts so far

Other Agency Reports: None

Land Conservation Advisory Committee: Wolfe stated that he had received a lot of input regarding livestock. He had not spoken with Chairman Sauer yet, but our committee has no active cattle operators on it. They would like to have more input on the Committee. They would be an advisory committee of volunteers, and this would have to be done with approval from the Committee. Sauer said that currently only Commission on Aging has had an advisory committee, during the changes there. People are allowed to speak at the open meetings. Agendas are on the webpage and posted at the Courthouse, Municipal building, and at the USDA

Center. Meetings are generally on the first Tuesday of the month. Wolfe stated we would try to be fair, and not have a hand-picked committee, it would not be a paid committee, and they would not be able to vote. Sauer stated that the Commission on Aging advisory Committee is paid, and they do vote. Bahr commented that we have the 3-minute public comment. Kieler commented that you have to look at each circumstance, and listen to your neighbors. Carpenter commented that it is good to talk. Wolfe stated that all are welcome to come and discuss the interests of the County.

Conservation Award Winners and Dairy Breakfast Attendance: The Dairy Breakfast will be held at the Gaylord Schultz farm on Saturday, June 11. This year's Conservation Awards are:

Jeff & Mary Moore and Family – Conservation Farmer Award

Dan Shelliam – Water Leadership Award

Those attending to present awards will be – Bartels, Marion, and Wang. Meet with Loeffelholz or Brandt by 9:00 by the band and sound system.

Voluntary Notice of Non-compliance: None

County Cost Share Approvals and Amendments: Approvals – White and Cooley – Well Abandonments. Amendment – Sieg Dairy to amend signature authority. Motion by Bartels and second by Hammer to approve the above contracts and amendments. Motion carried.

In Correspondence: None

Approval of Vouchers: Motion to approve the vouchers by Hammer and second by Wang. Motion carried.

Future agenda items:

Well testing and possible funding – County Nurses Office

WI Geological & Natural Survey Service

Plastics recycling – See brochure (Free Service) – now metal dumpsters. Net wrap is not accepted.

The next meeting of the LCC will be Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 9:30.m.

Motion by Bartels and second by Hammer to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Recorded By

Nikki Larson
For Ed James
LCC Secretary

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
