

FLORENCE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT



501 Lake Avenue, Room #249 Courthouse
P.O. Box 410, Florence, WI 54121
PH: 715-528-5940

Department Administrator: Margie Yadro

Monday, February 2, 2015

6:30 PM

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Florence County Courthouse

SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

AGENDA

- i. Roll Call:
- ii. Approval of the Agenda:
- iii. Approval of Previous LCC Meeting Minutes:
- iv. Agency Partner Reports/Open Forum:
- v. Administrative Summary: Margie Yadro
 - A. Discussion/Action – Farmland Preservation Plan
 - B. Discussion/Action – Finalize 2014 Program/Project Reimbursements
 - C. Discussion/Action – Finalize 2015 Program/Project Priorities
 - D. Discussion/Action – Conservation Resolutions
 - E. Discussion/Action – January LCD expense vouchers
- vi. Future Agenda Items/Upcoming Meetings:
- vii. Next Meeting Date:
- viii. Call for Adjournment:

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Yadro, Florence County Conservationist
Land Conservation Department Administrator

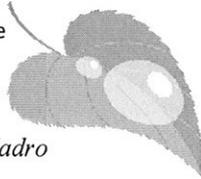
Cc: Florence County Supervisors/Department Administrators, Cooperating Agencies

This agenda was posted on January 28, 2015 at the Florence County Courthouse, Florence Post Office, The State Bank of Florence, and a copy e-mailed to the Florence Mining News and for county website access.

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Department Administrator: Margie Yadro

Land Conservation Committee (LCC)

Meeting Minutes

Date: January 5, 2015

Location: Florence County Courthouse, second floor conference room

1. **Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by LCC Chairman, Edward Wenger. Committee members in attendance included: Supervisors Edwin Kelley, Jeanette Bomberg, Susan Theer, and Gary Steber; along with Farm Service Agent, Todd Broullire. Committee member, Yvonne VanPembrook, was excused. Also in attendance: Florence County Land Conservation Department Administrator, Margie Yadro.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** On a motion by Theer, supported by Steber, all were in favor to approve the agenda as posted on December 22, 2014.
3. **Approval of the previous LCC Meeting Minutes:** Moved by Kelley, seconded by Theer, to approve the December 1, 2014 LCC Meeting Minutes as drafted. Motion passed.
4. **Agency Partner Reports/Open Forum:** Yadro shared several correspondences received since the December LCC meeting. The first was a "Thank You" note from NWTC student Lia Ritchie for her participation in the recent LCC meeting. Then, a resolution to "Discontinue a Highway" was submitted by the Town of Florence regarding Lots 4, 5, and 6 of the Kriegl Plat of the Menominee River. Town supervisors plan to meet on January 26th for further consideration. WDNR Environmental Grants Specialist, Jane Malischke, requested project status on grant CBCW-092-14 involving 3 boat wash inspectors at public landings in Florence County during the 2014 boating season. Yadro stated that the grant deliverables have been completed to her knowledge and a reimbursement request will be filed soon. USDA partner agency representatives with APHIS and NRCS were not in attendance this month and provided no further committee updates.
5. **Administrative Summary:** Yadro shared an office work log for December highlighting the recent publishing and distribution of the County's "Connections" newsletter. She also coordinated with County Board Chairwoman, Bomberg, to process a cost-share contract for a Forestry & Parks water quality improvement project earmarked for 2015 construction. Yadro submitted the request form to DATCP for the extension of the remaining 2014 cost-share funds.
 - A. **Farmland Preservation Planning (FPP):** Informational folders were distributed containing a contract proposal from the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission to provide professional services to update the County's Farmland Preservation Plan as required by the State. On a motion by Bomberg, supported by Theer, the contract supported by the LCC members will be submitted to the full County Board for consideration. Motion passed. Yadro went on to explain the guidelines outlined by DATCP for developing county FPP updates and included explanations of Agricultural Enterprise Areas, along with an estimated in-kind value against the 50% match required by the State grant for this purpose. Yadro was directed to coordinate planning efforts with Zoning Administrator, Rich Wolosyn. This program folder will continue to be developed throughout the FPP update process and presented to local officials attending the upcoming Wisconsin Townships Association meeting
 - B. **Invasive Species Management:** Yadro presented an updated draft of an Invasive Species Prevention and Management Program proposed for the County. Emphasis was given to meet three goals: stop the introduction of invasive species; slow their spread; and, support a long-term management strategy countywide. Included in the outline were priority use of available resources, responses underway requesting aquatic invasive species, AIS, grant funds; and, road crew invasive species identification, mapping, and management guidance prepared by the Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition, WRISC. Yadro will request feedback from other related county

departments and coordinate efforts and resources within the proposed plan. She will add this information to the township presentation January 19th in Fence.

- C. **Wildlife Management:** The County's Deer Advisory Council (CDAC) met on December 18th with many concerned citizens both responding online and in attendance. Local CDAC representatives were added since the latest meeting that now include Yadro (Agriculture), Pat Smith (Forestry), Wendy Gehlhoff (Tourism), Chad Hedmark (Transportation), Terry Steber (Hunting/Conservation Clubs); and, Trina Fluor (DMAP) who was not in attendance. After listening to concerns expressed about poor hunting conditions this fall, abundant predators, last year's winter kill, along with the most current WDNR low herd statistics, it was estimated that the after rifle season deer population is anticipated to be less than 10 deer per square mile within the County. The Council then voted 3 to 2 to increase the herd size though all acknowledged support of the final decision which will be forwarded to the Natural Resources Board. The next CDAC meeting has been tentatively scheduled for February 28, 2015. Chairman Dale Ebert stated that any other authority granted to these CDAC's would need to be made through a legislative process.

Yadro also supplied information regarding deer permits issued locally as a forestry management tool for deer browse and regeneration. Several citizens expressed their concerns to the CDAD about this as well. Wenger had communicated further with WDNR Northern Director, John Gozdziński, about alternate forest management techniques. It was believed that only 65 tags were able to be filled this year by the out of state landowner. Kelley also added his concerns about the recent federal ruling on wolves that would remove them from being hunted, or managed for wildlife abatement. It was felt that this decision could also further diminish the local deer population and cause additional people, pets, and cattle conflicts within the county and region.

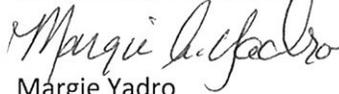
- D. **Expense Vouchers:** on a motion by Kelley, supported by Steber, all were in favor to approve the expense vouchers and recommended them to the Florence County Audit and Budget Committee for payment.

6. **Future Agenda Items/Upcoming Meetings:** Legislative Advisory (Jan.6), local Wisconsin Towns Association (Jan. 19), Lumberjack RC&D (Jan. 23 with an executive committee meeting next week), ANSWERS (Jan. 28).

7. **Next LCC meeting date:** Monday, February 2nd, 2015.

8. **Call for Adjournment:** With all business completed and a motion by Kelley, supported by Steber, all were in favor to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Margie Yadro

Florence County Conservationist