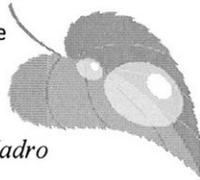


FLORENCE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

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



Department Administrator: Margie Yadro

Land Conservation Committee (LCC)

Meeting Minutes

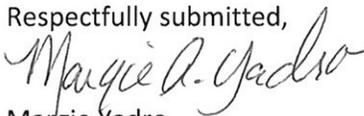
Date: February 2, 2015

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, and Vice Chairwoman, Yvonne VanPembrook. Also in attendance: Florence County Land Conservation Department Administrator, Margie Yadro, and Zoning Administrator, Rich Wolosyn.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** On a motion by Steber, supported by Theer, all were in favor to approve the agenda as posted on January 28, 2015.
3. **Approval of the previous LCC Meeting Minutes:** Moved by Kelley, seconded by Broullire, to approve the January 5, 2015 LCC Meeting Minutes as drafted. Motion passed.
4. **Agency Partner Reports/Open Forum:** Yadro commented on a recent consensus taken from the Committee of Three to determine wildlife abatement compliance with deer permits filled. It was determined that a Florence County producer may not have received all pertinent permit requirement notifications. The decision was made to process the landowner abatement claim as fully eligible. Yadro added that the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) federal partners have agreed to host an early spring planning meeting to match up potential local, state, and federal resources for Florence County landowners installing eligible conservation practices.
5. **Administrative Summary:** Yadro shared worklog highlights for the month and provided handouts related to the emergency functional exercise that was conducted on November 13th at the courthouse. Yadro was able to successfully complete lockdown and evacuation drills, while still receiving emergency notifications through the existing public announcement system and CODE RED. Her feedback conveyed on the exercise noted a lack of directional signage inside the building. While many reimbursement reports and forms are being filed at this time of year, Yadro also plans to pursue further bulk purchasing savings for the County as preferred customers.
 - A. **Farmland Preservation Planning (FPP):** Yadro updated the Committee on the Farmland Preservation Planning Agreement that would be included as a February County Board agenda action item. She provided a handout that listed the materials checklist required for the State's Certification Application. Yadro did introduce this FPP process at the recent local unit meeting of the Wisconsin Towns Association. Wolosyn added the varying Zoning implications throughout the townships depending on their status related to adoption of Comprehensive Planning which requires consistency with the revised FPP. She will follow up with the Regional Planning Commission once the agreement has been finalized. No formal action was necessary and this will continue to be an open LCC agenda item.
 - B. **Finalize 2014 Program/Project Reimbursements:** The 2014 LCD revenue and expenses were reviewed including grant funded projects and programs, County newsletters, non-lapsing funds, and estimated use of the local levy. The annual revenue was estimated at \$190,312.25 with the levy portion only 8.7%. Yadro explained that reimbursements have been finalized for the RV service island totaling \$9,980 from federal conservation partner Lumberjack RC&D. The installation is expected to be operational before Memorial Weekend 2015. Yadro went on to outline the remaining grant reimbursement requests including \$41,373.10 from the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP); \$15,254.06 from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) wildlife abatement; and, a remaining DATCP cost-share reimbursement of \$1,552.03. The balance in the Crossroads Community Garden project stands at \$5,365.15. VanPembrook moved to approve the requests for reimbursements as stated, supported by Theer. All were in favor.

- C. **2015 Program/Project priorities:** Yadro began with an explanation of the primary office funding from DATCP with their 2015 final allocation showing Florence County eligible for \$83,522 in Staffing and Support Costs with an additional \$45,000 earmarked for cost-share conservation projects. Yadro explained that the staffing grant is reduced from 2014 due to less spent on a qualifying second position that year. Yadro followed up with a letter from the County's WDNR Grant Specialist, Jane Malischke, congratulating Florence County on being awarded a \$44,000 Clean Boats, Clean Waters grant for the 2015 boater season. VanPembrook moved to accept the grant award and proceed with the project as proposed, seconded by Broullire. Motion passed. Yadro will refer to the County Clerk and Personnel Policy to begin the hiring protocols. Other project priorities included Lumberjack RC&D support granted for the Lake Emily Spawning Reef proposal, with the water bottle filling station installation proposal still under consideration. Yadro anticipates the fully reimbursed Wildlife Abatement program running consistent with past budgets. Another WDNR Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) grant for additional seasonal staff is not yet finalized which would potentially add two more LCD positions for the next 2 years. Committee members were also provided the summary of the Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition AIS Action Team meeting that showed resources available for additional related signage and, an agreement that should be revisited with the WDNR to maintain the boat washing units, etc. No further action was necessary.
- D. **Conservation Resolutions:** Yadro explained the current application to DATCP for the 2016 grant funds that shows the breakdown of qualifying state priorities which could have some ramifications for local programming. Yadro felt that the requirements had eased up since an earlier local resolution addressing this funding formula change was sent to DATCP through the Governor's Representative and they had responded. Yadro will follow up with neighboring counties at the upcoming North Central Land and Water Conservation Association meeting on this issue and any related conservation legislation.
- E. **Expense Vouchers:** on a motion by Steber, supported by Kelley, all were in favor to approve the expense vouchers and recommended them to the Florence County Audit and Budget Committee for payment.
- F. **Future Agenda Items/Upcoming Meetings:** Yadro listed upcoming meetings including registration due to the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association Conference scheduled for March 9-11. The NCLWCA meeting will be held February 20 in Rhinelander. A March 19th Culvert Workshop is planned, hosted by the County Highway Department. Yadro also plans to follow up with County Departments that may impact local invasive species prevention and management. Bomberg asked for job descriptions for the seasonal positions proposed.
6. **Next LCC meeting date:** Monday, March 2nd, 2015.
7. **Call for Adjournment:** With all business completed and a motion by Kelley, supported by VanPembrook, all were in favor to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Margie Yadro

Florence County Conservationist