



## FLORENCE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

501 Lake Avenue, Room #249 Courthouse  
P.O. Box 107, Florence, WI 54121  
PH: 715-528-5940

*Department Administrator: Margie Yadro*

### Land Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date/Time:** July 7, 2014

**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. Additional members in attendance were: Edwin Kelley, Jeanette Bomberg, Susan Theer, and Yvonne VanPembrook. Supervisor Gary Steber and Farm Service Agency (FSA) Representative Todd Broullire were excused. Also in attendance: Florence County Zoning Administrator, Rich Wolosyn; FSA County Executive Director, Matt Peplinski, and Florence County resident, Stanley Suszka.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** On a motion by Kelley, supported by Theer, all were in favor to approve the agenda as posted.
3. **Approval of the previous Meeting Minutes:** Moved by Theer, seconded by VanPembrook, to approve the June 2, 2014 LCC Meeting Minutes as drafted. Motion passed.
4. **Agency Partner Reports/Open Forum:** Administrator Yadro introduced Matt Peplinski, the FSA County Executive Director for the local seven county service area. He presented an overview of the 2014 Farm Bill authorizing several new programs and extension of others, including the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP). Both federal programs deal with losses caused by adverse weather or attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government, or other conditions such as blizzards and wildfires not covered by other programs. Peplinski supplied his contact information for any follow up interest.
  - A. **Headwaters Local Workgroup Survey:** In response to survey questions regarding Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) priority funding and programs, Zoning Administrator Wolosyn conducted a mapping survey of property classifications in the county. Yadro added soil and water protection priorities as stated in the *Florence County's Land and Water Resource Management Plan*. On a motion by Bomberg, supported by Theer, all were in favor for Yadro to forward the survey results as presented to the County's NRCS District Conservationist, Michael Stinebrink, at the upcoming Headwaters Workgroup Meeting.
5. **Administrative Summary:** County Conservationist Yadro shared a "Thank You" received from the Florence High School Environmental Class for a Natural Resource Program presentation by the Land Conservation Department. A copy of the recent edition of the County's *Connections* newsletter was also circulated with eight county departments and agencies taking part. In the LCD Work Plan Log, Yadro noted hosting the WRISC Annual Meeting; a field day for GPS invasive species mapping; Lumberjack grant project progress; finalizing the WDNR AIS Grant Project AEPP-176-09; and a new department computer installation, upgrading to Windows 7 and Microsoft 2013 Office Suite. A technology inventory will reflect the improvements and be submitted to the IT Committee.
  - A. **Farmland Preservation Plan Resources:** On a motion by VanPembrook, supported by Kelley, the motion passed to accept the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) agreement to provide grant funds up to \$23,012.50 to cover part of the costs of preparing a Farmland Preservation Plan required by state statutes. Motion passed.

Yadro was directed to request a detailed outline of the proposal offered for contract by regional planning.

- B. AIS Education, Prevention and Planning Grant AEPP-176-09:** Yadro supplied a copy of the final reimbursement and project report filed with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) by the June 30, 2014 deadline. After meeting all grant deliverables, the reimbursement request totaled \$21,713.78, successfully completing the \$200,000 grant funded project. Yadro acknowledged a special thanks to Deputy County Clerk Kelly Prevost for her assistance in preparing the documentation. On a motion by Kelley, seconded by Theer, the final report and reimbursement were accepted.
  - C. AIS Prevention and Management Ad Hoc Committee update:** The minutes of the June 18, 2014 AIS Ad Hoc Committee meeting were distributed. Highlights included reviewing local AIS source waters and species; educational billboards; Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) treatments; proposed experimental use of Zequanox; decontamination stations; and, developing a Florence County Invasive Species Action Plan. No action was necessary. A July 9<sup>th</sup> follow up Ad Hoc Committee meeting is scheduled.
  - D. Terrestrial Invasive Species Management Resources:** Town of Fern resident Stanley Suszka expressed his concern for the amount of invasives, especially wild parsnip, that have overtaken many roadsides in the county. Yadro plans to request additional mowing and any rapid response intervention available from the Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition. Wolosyn agreed to follow up with the WDNR on treatment proposed along the Highway 101 corridor.
  - E. Expense Vouchers:** on a motion by Kelley, supported by VanPembrook, the vouchers were approved as listed and recommended to the Florence County Audit and Budget Committee for payment. All were in favor.
- 6. Future Agenda Items or Committee Concerns:** Invasive Species Management; upcoming meetings include a July 22 ANSWERS meeting at the Florence Natural Resource Center and an August 7 NCLWCA meeting in Antigo.
  - 7. Next Meeting Date:** Monday, August 4, 2014.
  - 8. Call for Adjournment:** With all business completed and a motion by Kelley, supported by Theer, all were in favor to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Yadro  
Florence County Conservationist