

FLORENCE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT



501 Lake Avenue, Room #249 Courthouse
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Department Administrator: Margie Yadro

Monday, November 2, 2015

6:30 PM

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Florence County Courthouse

MEETING MINUTES

1. **Roll Call:** the meeting was called to order by Chairman Edward Wenger. Committee members also in attendance included: Vice Chairwoman Yvonne VanPembrook; Supervisors Susan Theer, Edwin Kelley, Jeanette Bomberg, and Gary Steber; along with Farm Service Agency Representative Todd Broullire. Also participating were: Land Conservation Department (LCD) Administrator Margie Yadro and Invasive Species Program Manager Scott Goodwin, Zoning Department Administrator Rich Wolosyn, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Northern Director, John Gozdziwski.
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** on a motion by Theer, seconded by Steber, all were in favor to approve the agenda as posted on October 30, 2015.
3. **Approval of the previous LCC Meeting Minutes:** Theer moved to accept the October 5, 2015 LCC meeting minutes as drafted. Supported by VanPembrook. All were in favor.
4. **Agency Partner Reports/Open Forum:** LCD Administrator Yadro noted that both the Natural Resource Conservation District and the USDA-APHIS Wildlife Abatement representatives plan to attend the December meeting if at all possible. WDNR Northern Director Gozdziwski commented on the strong local, state, and federal partnerships working together on natural resource protection and appreciated his close ties to the committee members and their valuable input.
5. **County Conservationist Summary:** Yadro updated the committee on the Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition's continued development, formal partner benefits, and recent activities. Several cooperators expressed interest in the progress of Florence County's Invasive Species Council. Engineering surveys had also been conducted on several sites including those that may be eligible for financial assistance through a new Mitigation and Enhancement Fund (MEF) grant aimed at restoring aquatic watershed connectivity in the Pine and Popple River watersheds. Yadro had also provided detailed information recently to the Lumberjack Resource, Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council regarding a proposal requesting funds for water quality improvements to the Long Lake watershed. A grant determination is anticipated at the organization's January 2016 meeting.
6. **Invasive Species Program Manager Summary:** Goodwin provided information on newly documented Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) infestations throughout the county; and, reported final data collected regarding the Clean Boats, Clean Waters watercraft inspection grant project that was carried out this boating season at 11 public boat landings throughout the county. Additional work to be completed included: sharing data with state partners; equipment purchasing, maintenance, and storage; sending water samples for analysis; and, completing grant reporting requirements and reimbursement forms.
7. **Discussion/Action – Farmland Preservation Plan (FPP)**
 - a. Amendment #1 to FPP Planning Grant Agreement: upon the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's (DATCP) satisfaction to accept Florence County request for a FPP extension of 1 year, an amendment was required for the related grant funding. On a motion by Steber, seconded by VanPembrook, all were in favor to pursue the amendment as requested.
8. **Discussion/Action – Grant funded projects and proposals:** Yadro reported on the finalization of the Lumberjack RC&D funded projects including: water bottle filling stations at Florence Schools, the RV service island

equipment, and a multi-purpose building constructed at the Florence County Crossroads Community Garden. The MEF grant project allows for a 3 year implementation timeline beginning in 2016. Once the DATCP water quality project installation reimbursements are finalized, a cost-share balance will be determined in December to seek full utilization of funding.

9. **Discussion/Action – Conservation Legislation/Resolution(s):** Gozdziwski gave an update on the Public Hearing comments offered recently by the WDNR in regards to a legislative bill proposing changes to the regulation of high capacity wells. He planned to attend the following Legislative Advisory Committee meeting to share those thoughts as well.
10. **Discussion/Action – October Expense Vouchers:** On a motion by Bomberg, supported by Steber, all were in favor to submit the expense vouchers and recommend them to the Audit and Budget Committee for payment.
11. **Roll Call vote to Adjourn to Closed Session** pursuant to; WI State Stat. §§ 19.85(1)(f) Considering employee personnel issue over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss personnel changes: Kelley (aye), Bomberg (aye), Theer (aye), Steber (aye), VanPembrook (aye), Broullire (aye) and Wenger (aye).
12. **Roll Call vote to Reconvene to Open Session** and take action, if appropriate, on matters discussed in Closed Session. Kelley (aye), Bomberg (aye), Theer (aye), Steber (aye), VanPembrook (aye), Broullire (aye) and Wenger (aye). Bomberg moved to accept Yadro's letter of resignation with regret, and expressed appreciation for her dedicated efforts. Seconded by Kelley. All were in favor.
13. **Future Agenda Items/Upcoming Meetings:** nothing noted.
14. **Next Meeting Date:** December 7, 2015
15. **Call for Adjournment:** with all business completed, VanPembrook moved to adjourn. Supported by Bomberg. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Yadro

Margie Yadro, Florence County Conservationist
Land Conservation Department Administrator