



MINUTES

**ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY APRIL 5, 2017, 7:15 P.M.
LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
CONFERENCE ROOM
440 N US HWY 14
JANESVILLE WI**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Bostwick called the meeting of the Land Conservation Committee to order at 7:24 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Rich Bostwick, Wes Davis, Brenton Driscoll, Kara Hawes, James Quade, and Alan Sweeney.

Committee Members Absent: Anders Dowd and Jeremy Zajac

Staff Present: Tom Sweeney

Others Present: Tom Brien

2. **Approval of Agenda:** Supervisor Driscoll moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Hawes. **Motion Carried.**
3. **Approval of Minutes – March 1, 2017 and March 23, 2017:** Supervisor Davis moved to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2017 and March 23, 2017 Land Conservation Committee meetings, seconded by Supervisor Quade. **Motion Carried.**
4. **Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements:** Supervisor Davis noted Senate Bill SB 76, references the replacement, reconstruction, and transfer of an approved high capacity well in the State of Wisconsin. This bill was passed by the Wisconsin Senate and may represent major negative impacts to the state's groundwater resources.
5. **Review of Bills paid.** Bills Paid were presented.
6. **Review of 2016 4th Quarter Budget.** Tom Sweeney reviewed the 4th quarter of the 2016 budget. Mr. Sweeney stated that review was part of the finance committee amendment to County Board rules to assure bills were being paid in a timely manner.
7. **Land and Water Resource Management Program:**
 - A. **Approve 2018 Joint DATCP/DNR Nonpoint Source Grant Application.** Tom Sweeney reviewed the grant application. Supervisor Sweeney moved the application as presented, seconded by Supervisor Davis. **Motion Carried.**
 - B. **Approve Cost Share Agreements for Nilson – Well Abandonment; Miller - Well Abandonment; Johnson - Well Abandonment; and Fenrich Waterway System.** Tom Sweeney reviewed the agreements needing approval. Mr. Sweeney noted that Nilson agreement was approved during the last LCC meeting. The following cost share agreements need approval: Miller - Well Abandonment; Johnson - Well Abandonment; Fenrich - Waterway System; Reavis - Waterway System; Martin/Agricol - Waterway System/Diversion; Tremaine - Waterway System; and Walsh - Shoreline Stabilization. Supervisor Quade moved the cost share agreements as presented, seconded by Supervisor Davis. **Motion Carried.**

8. **Approve Contract for Pheasants Forever to Conduct Controlled Burns at County Campus located at State Rd 51 and County Rd F.** Tom Sweeney explained that the Pheasants Forever Controlled Burn contract for 2016 was not fulfilled due to unfavorable weather conditions. One of the three burns was completed. This contract will allow Pheasants Forever to conduct controlled burns on the triangle and the areas in and around the Rock Haven Facility. Supervisor Driscoll moved the contract as presented, seconded by Supervisor Davis. **Motion Carried.**
9. **Groundwater Quality – Next Step(s):** Supervisor Sweeney provided an update regarding the Groundwater Quality Workgroup meeting conducted on Tuesday, April 4, 2017. Of note was the overall need to increase the use of Nutrient Management in the County and how to establish a small scale pilot project for best management practice effectiveness on shallow wells. Discussions also included offering free well water tests for landowners involved in nutrient management planning efforts. The next meeting was scheduled for May 2, 2017 at 3:00 pm in Conference Room N-1.
10. **Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements (PACE) Program Update.** Tom Sweeney provided an update on the status of individual applications to the PACE Program. Of note, resolutions and final drafts of the easement documents have been completed and entered into the administrative review system. Waiting for NRCS to complete the review of the appraisal and easement document for the Gary Kraus Easement. We should be able to start closing easements in late May. The 2017-18 application period will start in early May.
11. **Adjourn:** Supervisor Hawes moved to adjourn the April 5, 2017 Land Conservation Committee meeting at 8:23 pm, seconded by Chair Bostwick. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Sweeney
County Conservationist

Minutes are not official until adopted by the Land Conservation Committee.

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