



**Groundwater Nitrate Work Group
Monday September 16, 2019 @ 8:00 am
Land Conservation Department Conference Room
Janesville WI**

MINUTES

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chair Sweeney called the meeting to order at 8:09pm.

Members Present: Nick Baker, Rich Bostwick, Wes Davis, Pat Mullooly, Chris Murphy, Lou Peer, Rick Richard, Al Sweeney, Tom Sweeney and Rick Wietersen.

Members Excused: David Rebut; Colin Byrnes

Others Present: Erin Conway; UWEX
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Wes Davis moved the agenda as presented, seconded by Rich Bostwick. **Motion Carried.**
3. **Approval of Minutes from the July 9, 2019 meeting:** Lou Peer moved the minutes for the July 9, 2019 meeting as presented, seconded by Rick Richard. **Motion Carried.**
4. **Communications:** None.
5. **UWEX-Youth Program Proposal:** Erin Conway, UWEX was present and discussed a youth education project she has been working on. Erin Conway distributed a draft proposal for discussion purposes. Rich Bostwick stated that public outreach regarding the groundwater issues is appropriate. Wes Davis added that the Women's League of Voters may be interested in participating in this type of project. Al Sweeney asked Erin Conway what she was looking for from this group. Erin Conway responded and asked that the Workgroup membership review the draft proposal and return comments to her ASAP. Chris Murphy stated that FFA may be interested in the proposal. Rick Richard stated that is extremely important to be consistent in the message regarding the high nitrates in the County's Groundwater. Pat Mullooly stated that this type of project is appropriate for schools. In closing Erin Conway thanked the Workgroup and asked that comments regarding the proposal be forwarded to her ASAP.
6. **Monitoring Well Sampling Update:** Rick Wietersen presented updated graphs for the monitoring wells sampling being conducted at the County Farm. Rick Wietersen noted the groundwater level in the observation wells has risen between 3-4 feet. Since we are going into the winter months, Rick Wietersen noted that collection of samples will be reduced to once per month. Rick Wietersen

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discussed the sampling results. A short discussion regarding precipitation trends should somehow be incorporated into the data sets. Lou Peer questioned if any additional information was available to help with the data sets. Rick Wiertersen stated that cropping histories would be of some help. Tom Sweeney noted that the county farm north of State Hwy 14 has been seeded with cereal rye.

7. **Producer Led Watershed Group:** Nick Baker stated the next Producer Led Watershed Group (PLWG) development meeting is scheduled for this evening. Nick Baker stated the meeting will be held at the Craig Center, Rock County Fair Grounds is the venue for tonight's meeting. Nick Baker noted that the past mailing list was utilized for this meeting.
8. **USDA-NRCS Grant Application:** Tom Sweeney provided an update on the staff grant application. Tom Sweeney noted the grant will be funded at the application level. The next issue is amending the Land Conservation Department budget and advertise the position.
9. **Next Meeting Date, Time, and Location.** The next meeting was set for 8:00 am, Monday, November 11, 2019 and will be held at the Land Conservation Department Conference Room.
10. **Adjourn:** Rich Bostwick moved to adjourn the September 16, 2019 meeting of the Groundwater Nitrate Workgroup at 9:20 am, seconded by Rick Richard. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Sweeney
County Conservationist

Minutes are not official until adopted by the Groundwater Nitrate Workgroup