



MINUTES

ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2016, 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 7:18 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Rich Bostwick, Tom Brien, Wes Davis, Phil Owens, David Rebout, Alan Sweeney, Larry Wiedenfeld, and Jeremy Zajac.

Committee Members Absent: None

Others Present: Tom Sweeney, LCD and Dave Terrell, USDA-APHIS-WS
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Supervisor Sweeney moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Brien. **Motion Carried.**
3. **Approval of Minutes – January 6, 2016:** Supervisor Owens moved to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2016 Land Conservation Committee meeting, seconded by Supervisor Zajac. **Motion Carried.**
4. **Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements:** None
5. **Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program – Approval of Damage Claims for 2015 Program Year:** Dave Terrell, representing the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services- Wildlife Service stated that one request for a crop damage claim was submitted for evaluation by Marjorie Hanlon. Mr. Terrell continue stating that Goose damaged approximately 2.8 acres of beans resulting in a 95 bu. loss. Mr. Terrell continued stating the committee set the Rock County Soybean price at \$9.08/bu. for the 2015 program year, resulting in a total estimated loss at \$864.42. Mr. Terrell reminded the committee that the WDACP has an annual program deductible of \$500.00 per claim, therefore Ms. Hanlon's claim will be \$364.42, which will be forwarded to the DNR for consideration. Supervisor Sweeney moved to approve the claim as submitted, seconded by Supervisor Owens. **Motion Carried.**
6. **Bills/Transfers/Encumbrances:** Supervisor Wiedenfeld moved to approve the bills as presented, seconded by Supervisor Davis. **Motion Carried.**
7. **Farmland Preservation Program (FPP):**
 - a) **Review of Past Approvals of Notices of Noncompliance;** Tom Sweeney reviewed the past notices of non-compliance approved at the January 2016 LCC meeting. Mr. Sweeney noted that landowners have sent their annual certification in to the office over the past month. Mr. Sweeney read the names, stating the notices were pulled from the mailing to DATCP and DOR prior to being mailed.
 - b) **Approval of Voluntary Program Withdraws:** Tom Sweeney read a list of landowner names requesting to withdraw from the FPP. This list represents three different categories; Landowners who no longer want to be in the program, Landowners not meeting the deadline for the annual certification, and landowners with land that was not

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included on a town's zoning map update. Supervisor Rebout moved to approve the Voluntary Withdraws as presented, seconded by Supervisor Brien. **Motion Carried.**

8. **Land and Water Resource Management Program (LWRM) - Approval of Cost Share Agreements.** Supervisor Sweeney moved to approve the agreements, seconded by Supervisor Owens. Tom Sweeney reviewed the agreement for Gene Prudhon for two well abandonments. **Motion Carried.**
9. **Approval of 2016 Wisconsin Clean Sweep Grant Contract for HHW and Ag Collections.** Supervisor Wiedenfeld moved the grant contract, seconded by Supervisor Owens. Tom Sweeney reviewed the grant contract for the Clean Sweep program. Mr. Sweeney noted that that contract covers only three days of collection various the traditional four days. Mr. Sweeney noted that the LCD is trying to increase the efficiency of the program. A short discussion amongst the committee members regarding different types of advertisement for this program ensued. Non-traditional methods highlighted where producing a short video, having a news station do a story, and setting up a Facebook page. Also noted that the LCD staff should do a presentation to County Board after the election. **Motion Carried.**
10. **Purchase of Agriculture Conservation Easements (PACE) –**
 - a) **Authorization to conduct survey of Morton Easement Building Envelope:**
Supervisor Rebout moved to approve the survey for the Morton Easement building envelope, seconded by Supervisor Davis. Tom Sweeney noted that since the county does not currently employ a Surveyor, and the Survey must be done by an RLS, arrangements have been made with Combs and Associates to conduct the survey. The estimated cost was \$900.00. **Motion Carried.**
 - b) **Update:** Tom Sweeney stated that NRCS has selected the 2016 ALE applicants to pursue. No Rock County Applicant was selected due to limited financial resources. USDA noted that the Kraus applicant was ranked second in the state for funding, which is estimated to be \$51,000 +/- short. A discussion occurred as to how to proceed into the future. Tom Sweeney also provided an update on the Sayre Farms, LLC Easement and the potential for a landowner to donate an easement during the 2016 program year.
11. **Set time and date for the March 2016 LCC Meeting.** Supervisor Sweeney moved this item to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Owens. **Motion Carried.** Chair Bostwick noted that since the meeting date and time will not to be changed due to the Annual WLWCA Conference the date for the next meeting is March 2, 2016 with a start time of 7:15 pm. No further action is needed.
12. **Adjourn:** Supervisor Brien moved to adjourn the February 3, 2016 Land Conservation Committee meeting at 8:21 pm, seconded by Supervisor Wiedenfeld. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Sweeney
County Conservationist

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