

AMENDED 7/1/2021
****ADDED LOCATION**



LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Wednesday July 7, 2021, 7:15 P.M.
****Ag Service Center, 440 N US Hwy 14, Janesville 53546**
OR
CALL: 1-312-626-6799
Meeting ID: 845 1680 6766
Passcode: 566936

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84516806766?pwd=WIR0WDJnSINLUEQ4dE1FZWkwdjd2dz09>

Meeting ID: 845 1680 6766

Passcode: 566936

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,84516806766#,,,,*566936# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,84516806766#,,,,*566936# US (Chicago)

If you are interested in providing public comments on items on this agenda, you must submit your comments by noon on Tuesday, July 6, 2021. To submit a public comment use the following email: andrew.baker@co.rock.wi.us

Join from a telephone:

- On your phone, dial the phone number provided above
- Enter the meeting ID number when prompted, using your dial-pad.
- Please note that long-distance charges may apply. This is not a toll-free number.
- Supervisors: Please identify yourself by name
- Please mute your phone when you are not speaking to minimize background noises
- We are new at holding meetings this way, so please be patient

Instructions for the hearing impaired –

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/207279736-Getting-started-with-closed-captioning>

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Wednesday July 7, 2021, 7:15 P.M.
VIA ZOOM

or
****Ag Service Center, 440 N US Hwy 14, Janesville 53546**

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes – June 2, 2021 Meeting
4. Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements
5. Review Bills Paid
6. Introduction of new Conservation Specialist II – Ashley Roscoe
7. **Action Item:** *Resolution* Directing Rock County Staff to Explore the Feasibility of Creating Program to Address Nitrate Mitigation in Rock County's Ground Water (Previously tabled by Land Conservation Committee pending possible recommendation from Nitrate Work Group).
8. **Action Item.** Land and Water Resource Management Program: Approval of 2021 Cost Share Agreements
 - LR-009.21 – Atkinson Farms Critical Area Stabilization
 - LR-010.21 -- Judith H Stewart
9. **Informational Item.** Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements
 - A. 2020 Applications Update
10. Semi-Annual Report - Attendance at Conventions/Conferences
11. Adjourn



MINUTES

ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Wednesday June 2, 2021, 7:15 P.M.
Virtual Meeting - Zoom

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Bostwick called the meeting to order at 7:16 pm.

Committee Members Present: Stephanie Aegerter, Rich Bostwick, Wes Davis, Mike Mulligan, James Quade, Genia Stevens and Alan Sweeney.

Committee Members Excused: None

Others Present: Terri Carlson, Chris Murphy, Andrew Baker

2. **Approval of Agenda:** Andrew asked the Committee to remove item 7 from the agenda as the applicant ask to delay the request for the fee waiver for a second permit. Supervisor Davis moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Supervisor Mulligan. **Motion carried unanimously.**
3. **Approval of Minutes – May 5, 2021 LCC meeting.** No corrections or clarifications were suggested. Supervisor Sweeney moved the approval of the minutes, seconded by Supervisor Aegerter. **Motion carried unanimously.**
4. **Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements.** Supervisor Sweeney noted that Tom Sweeney's mother recently passed away. He asked that staff notify the LCC when services will be held.
5. **Review Bills Paid:** Supervisor Davis asked about the payments to O'Leary Shamrock Acres. Andrew responded that the payment was for a cost-share contract for Nutrient Management Planning. The costs are 100% reimbursed by DATCP as part of the annual Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) Grant program.
6. **Action Item. Resolution:** Approval of Certain Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Cost Shore Payments.

Andrew explained that Cost Share contracts for Nutrient Management Planning require that an operator include the entire operation in the plan. Therefore, considering the payment rate is \$40 per acre, contracts may be exceed the amount that finance staff can approve. Any payment over \$10,000 requires a resolution, approval by LCC, Finance Committee and County Board. These payments are 100% reimbursed b DATCP as part of the grant approval. In the past two years, the County has been award \$75,000 to contract as deemed necessary in the County. Supervisor Davis asked about the turnaround time for reimbursement from DATCP. Andrew said it is very quick.

Supervisor Aegerter made a motion to approve the Resolution, seconded by Supervisor Mulligan. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7. (Removed from Agenda)

8. **Action Item.** Land and Water Resource Management Program: Approval of 2021 Cost Share Agreements
 - LR-008.21 – Mullikin

Andrew explain that this contract is for a water and sediment control basin and access road in the LaPrairie area.

Supervisor Davis made a motion to approve the Cost Share Agreement, seconded by Mr. Quade. **Motion carried unanimously.**

9. **Informational Item:** Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement

- A. 2020 Application Update: Andrew noted that acquisition is proceeding on the applications approved in 2020. Appraisals will be done soon. The County Surveyor has assisted in determine easement boundaries.

The NRCS has recently determine that property previously approved for acquisition in another County has since been deemed ineligible. Therefore, the NRCS has asked if the County would be interested in proceeding with the Conway property. However, there would be significant less Federal funding available for the acquisition than what has been estimated as part of the application process. The balance would have to be either made up by the County or included as additional landowner donation. The LCC will be presented at the next meeting with a resolution to proceed with the project with a higher funding level than already approved (25% of the easement value) when the applicant was submitted to the NRCS the past winter.

- B. Andrew explained that a meeting was held for the RCPP partners following the preliminary approval of the proposal by the NRCS. In the near future, an agreement will be prepared between the NRCS and the group and priorities will be determined. It is likely that similar criteria will be used to determine project priority as is used for ACEP- ALE (the Federal Program that matches the PACE program dollars), however discretion for approval for this source of funds will by the RCPP partnership. The seven million dollars that has been approved for this project (over the next five years), is distinct and separate from the funding source used to match PACE. Therefore, the County may still apply for each program for each easement acquisition.

10. **Adjourn:** Mr. Quade made a motion to adjourn at 7:47 pm, seconded by Supervisor Mulligan. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew Baker
Director

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

G: office/lcc/lcc2020/M06022021

**COMMITTEE REVIEW REPORT
WITH DESCRIPTION
FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2021**

Account Number	Account Name	PO#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Description	Inv/Enc Amt
62-6200-0000-63100	Office&Misc Exp	P2100502	06/17/2021	US BANK	STAPLES FILE FOLDERS	9.89
62-6200-0000-64319	Tree Purchase	P2101392	06/10/2021	TREE PRO	TUBES, STAKES, ROOT GEL	1,212.40
62-6200-0000-65321	Building Lease	P2100500	06/10/2021	SILHA LLC,DAN	JULY-SEPT RENT	5,147.49
Land Conservation PROG TOTAL						6,369.78
62-6210-0000-64316	Tree Planting	P2100502	06/17/2021	US BANK	PRESSURE GAGE FOR TREE SPRAYER	8.99
Tree Planting PROG TOTAL						8.99
62-6265-0000-64928	Cost Sharing	P2101473	06/17/2021	FLEMING,SCOTT	RYE SEED, CROP DUSTING	6,864.00
Groundwater Nitrate Project PROG TOTAL						6,864.00
62-6280-0000-64928	Cost Sharing	P2101358	06/17/2021	GUNN,RICHARD AND MARGARET	NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT LR-026.20	14,496.00
		P2101404	06/10/2021	COLLINS,JOSHUA	COST SHARE LR-003.21	840.00
		P2101405	06/10/2021	VANDERVEEN LLC	COST SHARE LR-004.21	4,361.00
		P2101410	06/10/2021	EMERALD HEIGHTS INC	WATERWAY SYSTEM LR-014.20	1,688.26
		P2101444	06/10/2021	JOHNSON LIVING TRUST	COST SHARE LR-007.21	7,000.00
		P2101454	06/17/2021	THOSTENSON,RHONDA AND RAY	COST SHARE NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT	2,040.00
		P2101455	06/17/2021	THOSTENSON,RHONDA AND RAY	COST SHARE NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT	4,112.00
		P2101456	06/17/2021	THOSTENSON,RHONDA AND RAY	COST SHARE NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT	4,660.00
		P2101457	06/17/2021	THOSTENSON,RHONDA AND RAY	COST SHARE NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT	4,660.00
LWC Plan Implementation Grant PROG TOTAL						43,857.26
62-6300-0000-64918	Marketing	P2101432	06/10/2021	ADAMS PUBLISHING GROUP OF SOUT	CLEAN SWEEP ADS	755.85
		P2101434	06/10/2021	ROCK VALLEY PUBLISHING LLC	CLEAN SWEEP AD FOR CLINTON TOP	98.17
		P2101465	06/17/2021	EVANSVILLE REVIEW LTD	2021 CLEAN SWEEP AD	77.00

Land Conservation 7/7/2021

COMMITTEE REVIEW REPORT
WITH DESCRIPTION
FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2021

Account Number	Account Name	PO#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Description	Inv/Enc Amt
Household Clean Sweep PROG TOTAL						931.02

I have reviewed the preceding payments in the total amount of **\$58,031.05**

Date: Dept Head _____

Committee Chair _____

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Rick Richard
INITIATED BY

Land Conservation Committee
SUBMITTED BY



Corporation Counsel Richard
Greenlee
DRAFTED BY

February 3, 2021
DATE DRAFTED

**DIRECTING ROCK COUNTY STAFF TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF
CREATING PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS NITRATE MITIGATION IN
ROCK COUNTY'S GROUND WATER**

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the level of nitrates in Rock County' s groundwater has increased over the past two decades
- 2 in private wells, with over an estimated 3,000 Rock County homeowner wells exceeding the drinking
- 3 water nitrate health advisory level of 10 mg/L; and,
- 4
- 5 **WHEREAS**, it's estimated that fewer than 5% Rock County private wells are tested annually, at a cost of
- 6 \$25 per test.
- 7
- 8 **WHEREAS**, ;in order to address the continued threat to public health of nitrates in Rock County's ground
- 9 water, the Rock County Board of Supervisors created the Rock County Nitrate Workgroup by Resolution
- 10 17-5A-282 which was tasked with, among other things, evaluating nitrate sources and researching
- 11 groundwater nitrate reduction initiatives being conducted in other parts of Wisconsin; and,
- 12
- 13 **WHEREAS**, other communities across Wisconsin have also confronted the problems of excess nitrates in
- 14 groundwater and similarly formed working groups of community leaders and stakeholders to address
- 15 excess and unsafe nitrates in Wisconsin's groundwater; and,
- 16
- 17 **WHEREAS**, developing programs to remediate or mitigate nitrate concentrates in groundwater is essential
- 18 for protecting human health.
- 19
- 20 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
- 21 this _____ day of _____, 20__ directs that staff from the Rock County Planning
- 22 Department, Rock County Public Health Department, County Administrator's Office, Land Conservation
- 23 and Corporation Counsel to explore the feasibility of creating and administrating programs to address
- 24 excess nitrate levels in Rock County Groundwater including, but not limited to, implementation of a
- 25 program to subsidize the cost of nitrate testing for ground water well users in Rock County, and a program
- 26 to subsidize the cost of installation of reverse osmosis, or similar, water treatment systems that filter out
- 27 groundwater nitrates to levels lower than federal maximums.
- 28
- 29 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any such program evaluated and considered use Sales Tax collected
- 30 in Rock County or the American Rescue Plan Act funds as a funding source.
- 31
- 32 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the group of staff shall report on their findings to the Rock County
- 33 Nitrate Working Group by December 1, 2021.

DIRECTING ROCK COUNTY STAFF TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS NITRATE MITIGATION IN ROCK COUNTY'S GROUND WATER

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Respectfully submitted,

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Richard Bostwick, Chair

Alan Sweeney, Vice Chair

Stephanie Aegerter

Wes Davis

Vacant

Mike Mulligan

James Quade

Vacant

BOARD OF HEALTH

Louis Peer, Chair

Dr. Connie Winter, DDS, Vice Chair

VACANT

Supervisor Shirley Williams

Eric Gresens, R.PH

Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers, DVM, MPH

Supervisor Danette Rynes

Dr. Vijaya Somaraju, MD, MPH, FACP

Debra Kolste

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Alan Sweeney, Chair

Wayne Gustina, Vice-Chair

J. Russell Podzilni

Wes Davis

Robert Potter

FISCAL NOTE:

Minimal fiscal impact in and by itself.

/s/Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §§ 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats.

s/Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

The County Board has previously determined that nitrates in groundwater is a priority issue for Rock County. This resolution would further clarify how the County Board wants staff to support the work of the Nitrate Working Group, focusing on which approaches, and on what timeline.

/s/Josh Smith

Josh Smith
County Administrator



Rock County Land Conservation Department

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Land Conservation Committee
County Administrator Josh Smith

From: Andrew Baker, Director

Date: June 29th, 2021

Re: Semi Annual Report – Attendance at Conventions/Conferences

Per resolution 06-9A-087, each Department Head is responsible for reporting on a semi-annual basis all out of state training conventions or conferences along with associated costs per event, per employee and of all instances of attendance at all training, conventions, and conferences that exceed costs of \$1,000 per event, per employee (in state or out of state). This memorandum is for informational purposes.

Please be advised that no Land Conservation Department employee attended an out of state event or any event that exceeded the \$1,000 threshold per event, per employee, in the first half of 2021.