



MINUTES

**ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2014, 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 7:20 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Richard Bostwick, Tom Brien, Wes Davis, Jason Dowd, Dave Rebout, Rick Richard and Larry Wiedenfeld.

Committee Members Excused: Alan Sweeney

Staff Present: Tom Sweeney, LCD and Andrew Baker, LCD

Others Present: Alvin Francis and Larry Oberdeck

2. **Approval of Agenda:** Chair Bostwick noted that at 8:15 pm, the Committee will advance to item 11 for a conference call with County Administrator Smith and Vice Chair Sweeney. Supervisor Davis moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Rebout. **Motion Carried.**
3. **Approval of Minutes – August 6, 2014:** Supervisor Dowd moved to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2014 Land Conservation Committee meeting, seconded by Supervisor Davis. **Motion Carried.**
4. **Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements:** Anne Miller asked Tom Sweeney to update the committee on the 2014 Clean Sweep Program. A short update was provided to the committee. Neil Deupree requested that Chair Bostwick update the committee on the Enbridge Pipeline proposal. A short update was provided to the committee. Andrew Baker noted that Bill Watson's erosion control permit application for grading work in the non-right-of-way area of County M and the interstate intersection has been approved. Supervisor Davis noted a meeting has been set by Enbridge for County Supervisors from Jefferson, Walworth and Rock @ the Cambridge Pump Station. Supervisor Dowd will also attend and report back to the Committee regarding this topic.
5. **Bills/Transfers/Encumbrances:** Supervisor Wiedenfeld moved to approve the bills as presented, seconded by Supervisor Richard. **Motion Carried.**
6. **Land and Water Resource Management Program:**
 - a) **Approval of Cost Share Agreements:** Tom Sweeney reviewed the cost share agreements for Daniel Ballmer, Waste Transfer System; Terrance Reilly, Well Abandonment; Dan and Linda Pakes, Grass Waterway and Nutrient Management; Mary Jane Buss Trust, Waterway and Terraces; Roger Rebout and Sons Farms, Manure Storage Facility. Supervisor Brien moved to approve the agreements for Ballmer, Reilly, Pakes and Buss Trust, seconded by Supervisor Dowd. **Motion Carried.** Supervisor Dowd moved to approve the Rebout agreement, seconded by Supervisor Brien. **Supervisor Rebout abstained. Motion Carried.**

- b) **Approval of Staff and Support Reimbursement Request:** Supervisor Wiedenfeld motioned to approve the Staff and Support Reimbursement Request as presented, seconded by Supervisor Rebut. **Motion Carried.**
7. **Farmland Preservation Program – Approval of Notices of Non-Compliance:** Supervisor Rebut moved to approve the notices as presented, seconded by Supervisor Richard. Tom Sweeney presented the notice for Pat’s Farm LLC. **Motion Carried.**
8. **Nonmetallic Mine Reclamation:**
- a) **Program Update:** Andrew Baker reviewed the intent of the program and identified the number of active mines and total acres permitted in Rock County.
- b) **Land Conservation Committee Policy Relating to Exemptions Detailed in the Nonmetallic Mine Reclamation Ordinance:** Andrew Baker reviewed the background and purpose for the new policy. Supervisor Wiedenfeld moved to approve the policy as presented, seconded by Supervisor Dowd. Supervisor Richard asked for a review from the Corporation Counsel and a written opinion prior to voting on this issue. Supervisor Dowd withdrew his second on the motion. The motion failed. Staff will ask for a written opinion from the Corporation Counsel prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting.
9. **Resolution: Approving Settlement Agreement and Release with Hanover Insurance Company Relating to a License Bond for Nonmetallic Mine Reclamation and Amending the 2014 Land Conservation Budget.** Supervisor Richard moved to approve the resolution as presented, seconded by Chair Bostwick. **Motion Carried with one dissent vote.**
10. **Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements Program:**
- a) **Purchase Price Policy Related to the Fair Market Value and Priority Areas:** Andrew Baker presented the draft policy. Baker noted the PACE Council recommended the LCC approval. Supervisor Richard moved to approve the policy as presented, seconded by Supervisor Brien. **Motion Carried.**
- b) **Program Cash Flow Analysis – Updated:** Tom Sweeney presented an update on the Cash flow analysis. Sweeney stated the update includes potential actions for the applications presented to the committee for approval.
- c) **Review 2014-15 Program Applications:** Andrew Baker reviewed all the applications received for consideration. He noted the recommendations for approval forwarded by the PACE Council.
- d) **Approval of the 2014-15 Program Applications:** Supervisor Brien moved to approve the following applications in the following order: Morton, Francis, Kraus, Oberdeck. Sayre will be an alternate if any of the four approved applicants drops out of the program, seconded by Supervisor Dowd. **Motion Carried.**
11. **Resolution: Long Term Financial Stability of the Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (PACE).** At 8:15 pm the Committee moved to this agenda item to facilitate a conference call with Administrator Smith and Vice Chair Sweeney. Supervisor Sweeney was unable to join the Conference Call. County Administrator Smith gave a broad financial context of each of the four funding options which included sale of county owned real estate holdings, the tax levy, rent receipts from the county farm and sale tax receipts. Administrator Smith continued with the best available option at this time would be the use of sale tax receipts. Smith continued with a short history of the collections the county has had since collections commenced. Smith also stated how the funds have historically been spent. Supervisor Richard asked Smith if this type of project would be considered a capital improvement project or an operations project. Smith responded to the question. Supervisor Wiedenfeld stated that a middle ground or compromise should be reviewed and discussed. Smith stated that he could only provide the facts of the proposed funding pools identified and that the committee would need to make the decision to proceed. Chair Bostwick asked for a motion. Supervisor Wiedenfeld moved to approve the resolution as presented, seconded by Supervisor Davis. Supervisor Richard noted that this program was developed with the state

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being a primary financial partner and the County was to be a very small player. Supervisor Richard continued and stated that this drastic of a change in funding direction for this program doesn't seem correct. Supervisor Wiedenfeld called the question. **Motion Carried with one dissent vote.**

12. **Set November LCC Meeting Time and Date.** The committee set the November LCC meeting for Monday, November 3, 2014 to commence at 7:15 pm.
13. **Adjourn:** Supervisor Wiedenfeld moved to adjourn the September 3, 2014 Land Conservation Committee meeting at 10:06 pm, seconded by Supervisor Richard. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Sweeney
County Conservationist

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

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