

MINUTES

ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 5, 2018, 7:00 P.M. LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM 440 N US HWY 14 JANESVILLE WI

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Bostwick called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Committee Members Present: Stephanie Aegerter, Rich Bostwick, Wes Davis, Robert Potter, James Quade, Alan Sweeney, and Jeremy Zajac.

Committee Members Excused: Brenton Driscoll

Others Present: Tom Sweeney, LCD; Chris Murphy, LCD.

- 2. **Approval of Agenda:** Chair Bostwick asked if any changes were needed to the agenda. No requests heard. Supervisor Davis moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Supervisor Zajac. **Motion Carried.**
- 3. **Approval of Minutes November 6, 2018:** Supervisor Zajac moved the minutes from the November 6, 2018 LCC meeting, seconded by Supervisor Potter. **Motion Carried.**
- 4. **Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements:** Supervisor Aegerter noted an error under the Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements. The minutes reflect St. John's Lutheran Church for the Janesville Winter Farmers Market. It should read St. John Lutheran Church. Supervisor Davis noted the NACD North Central Board of Directors Meeting will be held at the Double Tree by Hilton, Racine WI on January 7, 2019.
- 5. **Review Bills Paid:** The committee reviewed the bills paid. Supervisor Davis asked about a payment to Brabazon Title in the sum of \$80,500. Tom Sweeney stated that the payment is to an escrow account for the purchase of the Donna Morgan Agricultural Conservation Easement.
- 6. Resolution: Authorization to Exceed the Payment Threshold of \$25,000 for the Land and Water Resource Management Program. Tom Sweeney explained the need for the resolution since the \$25,000 limit will be exceeded regarding the payment Arnold Farms for the development and implementation of a nutrient management plan on the Leederland Farm and the Hagen Farm, both are located west of Evansville. The plan consisted of 652 acres. Supervisor Sweeney moved to approve the resolution as presented, seconded by Supervisor Aegerter. Motion Carried.
- 7. Erosion Control Storm Water Permit ECSW-2017-13, Agrecol Greenhouse, Requests a 6
 Month Extension to Complete Permit Conditions. Chris Murphy explained that the extension request is due to the contractor not completing the final site work due to excessive moisture/rain. Supervisor Sweeney asked if any County money was involved in this project. Chris Murphy stated he is not aware of any. Supervisor Quade moved to approve the request as presented, seconded by Supervisor Potter. Motion Carried.
- 8. Land and Water Resource Management Program:
 - A. **Approval of Cost Share Agreements**. Tom Sweeney stated there are two cost share agreements for consideration of approval. Both are on the spreadsheet forwarded with the agenda. Supervisor Aegerter moved to approve the cost share agreements, seconded by Supervisor Zajac. **Motion Carried**.

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- 8. B. Approve 2017- 18 Carryover Request for Cost Share Agreements. Tom Sweeney stated that approval is needed for 17 agreements that need extensions into 2019. The spreadsheet was attached to the agenda. Supervisor Sweeney moved to approve the extension request, seconded by Supervisor Zajac. Motion Carried.
- 9. **Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements**: Tom Sweeney provided an update to the committee on the status of the pending easements. Sweeney noted the Donna Morgan wished to delay the closing on her easement until after the first of the year. A closing date will be scheduled at Brabazon Title on the first Friday of the month of January. Tom Sweeney stated he had a conversation with the Easement staff in the State Office of NRCS. The easement appraisal review for Hargarten Easement has been put on hold until the Farm Bill has passed. Tom Sweeney stated he continues to work on the three separate applications for Barlass Farms, which are to be submitted once the application cycle opens up. After the first of the year, an appraisal will be completed for the O'Leary Trust Donation Easement.
- 9. **Groundwater Nitrate Pilot Project:** Tom Sweeney provided the committee with a short update on this project. Also mentioned was the meeting date, time, and location for the next meeting which is Monday, December 10, 2018 at 8:00 am and held at the new UWEX Building.
- 10. **Adjourn:** Supervisor Davis moved to adjourn the December 5, 2018 Land Conservation Committee meeting at 7:34 pm, seconded by Supervisor Quade. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Sweeney
County Conservationist

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

G: office/lcc/lcc2018/MI120518