

MINUTES

Clark County Land Conservation Committee
Tuesday, January 22nd, 2019, 9:30 am
Clark County Courthouse, Auditorium

Committee Members Present: Don Koerner, Bryce Luchterhand, Martin Nigon – FSA, Chairman Fritz Garbisch, Dan Clough. A quorum of the Committee was present.

Committee Members Absent: None

Others Present: Jim Arch – County Conservationist, Sheri Denowski – Conservation Engineer, Jane Reigel – NRCS, DeWayne Snobl – Wildlife Specialist, Shirley Iwanski - Program Assistant. (DeWayne Snobl and Jane Reigel left after presenting their reports)

Fritz G. called the meeting to order at 9:29 a.m.

Review of the minutes of previous LCC meetings.

- a. Bryce L. made the motion to approve the minutes of the December 18th, 2018 meeting as presented. Seconded by Don K. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Review of vouchers.

- a) Committee reviewed the vouchers for December. Don K. made the motion to approve the December vouchers as presented. Seconded by Marty N. All ayes. Motion carried.

1. Wildlife Damage Update

a. Shooting Permit Harvest Exemption

- i. Dewayne Snobl presented one harvest exemption for a landowner within the city limits of Greenwood. The landowner did not meet the harvest deadline due to hunting restrictions within the city of Greenwood, however Dewayne recommends that Clark County grant a harvest exemption because of those restrictions. Don K. made a motion to grant the exemption from the harvest quota, seconded by Marty N. All ayes. Motion carried.

b. 2018 WDACP claims

- i. Dewayne presented three requests for 2018 WDACP claims for a total of \$4,019.98 in payable loss. This is down approximately \$2,000 from last year. Marty N. made the motion to approve claims as presented, seconded by Bryce L. All ayes. Motion carried.

c. Other wildlife issues

- i. DeWayne reported that currently there are no elk reported in Clark County. There have been reports of cougar tracks in southern Clark County.

2. USDA Agency Reports

- a. **NRCS** - Jane R. reported NRCS is currently working on the 2019 EQIP signup. There may possibly be a third signup for 2019 EQIP. Some NRCS issues are on hold due to possible changes as a result of the farm bill. They will have a new technician starting in the next month or two.
- b. **FSA** - Marty N. reported FSA is closed due to the government shutdown. There was no FSA meeting on January 9th so he has little to report. He has asked about the sharing of data as discussed in the December meeting, but he has not received a response. He should hopefully have more information at the next LCC meeting..

3. LWRM Plan

- a. Jim reported Carrie Morrell and Amanda are working on the maps used in the LWRM plan. Jim is working on the draft of the plan and should have it ready by the April LCC meeting. There should be a public hearing for the plan around that time as well.

4. Large Scale TRM grant

- a. Jim provided the committee with a map of the site to be used for the demonstration farm, located on Hwy N in the town of Reseburg. He also provided a copy of the contract, which is waiting for DNR approval. There will be four three-acre plots. One control plot and three with various cover crops. The land has been no-till for the last five years.

5. Land Conservation Department Reports/Updates

- a. Cost Share Rates
 - i. Sheri provided the committee with what she has determined should be top cost share priorities for Clark County LCD, based on the Natural Resources Opinion Survey from June 2018 and other factors. Sheri asked the committee for their priorities. Funding is based on the county cost share allocation from DATCP of \$60,000 for 2019 and projects are also limited due to shortage of staff to manage those funds. Clark County has only one technician.
 - 1. Marty N. felt that wetlands priority should remain the same. Bryce L. feels wetlands needs to stay as high priority.
 - 2. Fritz would like to see buffers along streams as a higher priority. This list has buffers as low priority.
 - 3. Marty N. feels that barnyard runoff should be a high priority, particularly for larger farms. They have no penetrable ground for the runoff. Runoff control should be at the top of medium priority.

4. Marty suggested the list be revisited every year, as things could change. Add to agenda for every December or January LCC meeting.
 5. Bryce said funding from DATCP for staff is going down when it should be increasing.
 6. Sheri thought there should be something in the guidelines to say cost share will pay 70% of a reasonable amount, not just what some contractors are asking for.
 7. Cost share rates will be part of the LWRM plan so the LCC committee would like to look at the updated cost share rates again next month.
- b. Department vehicles
1. Jim reported the 2005 Chevy truck has been sold for \$2,000.
- c. Farmland Preservation Plan (FPP)
- i. Jim reported Amanda has been working on the FPP self-certification checklists and has been receiving many of those.
- d. WLWCA Speaking/Poster Contest
- i. County Speaking Contest
 1. Only Thorp school has responded for the Speaking/Poster contest this year, so the Clark County Speaking contest will be in Thorp on February 5th at 10 a.m. The teacher said they have two speakers for the contest. Jim asked for judges – no LCC members are available.
 - ii. Regional Contest
 1. Jim said the regional Speaking and Poster Contest will be on February 12th at 29 Pines in Eau Claire. Jim asked if anybody was planning to attend. Don K. will attend.
- e. WLWCA Annual Conference
- i. The WLWCA annual conference will be held March 13-15 in Lake Geneva. So far only Bryce L. and Amanda are going. Fritz might be going. Shirley asked Fritz for confirmation by Monday, January 28th in order to complete registration by the deadline
 - ii. Jim asked about ideas for silent auction item donations. Marty N. will donate a couple of quarts of maple syrup. Dan C. will donate olive oil. It was suggested to check with Parks and Forestry for a gift certificate for camping, skiing, etc. Jim will check with Marieke Gouda for a cheese donation.

f. Engineers Report

i. A written report was provided from Sheri D. Most construction projects are done for the year. There are no new applications or permits issued this past month.

1. The new hog barn waste storages construction is complete but we haven't heard if the barns are completed. We don't think there are any hogs there yet.

ii. Animal Manure Management Ordinance

1. Ordinance Update

a. Fritz felt the Chippewa county ordinance is not very helpful since their AMMO ordinance just refers to other ordinances.

b. Marty would like to see at least three months minimum for manure storage.

c. Sheri felt the current ordinance should be stronger and clearer. We need to also revisit setbacks. Should consider increasing the fee for AMMO permits. Sheri will make notes on our current ordinance and have it available at the next LCC meeting.

d. Bryce suggested the committee postpone further discussion to the next LCC meeting,

iii. Sportsman Lake

1. Don reported the aerator building is in need of repair. It needs a new roof. Jim said they will look at the aerator building repairs in the spring, as well as finish repairs of the pier.

2. Jim reported the DNR requires an outside engineer to do an inspection this year. Jim will look into hiring an engineer.

3. Walking trails are on hold until spring when the DNR will do the wetland delineation.

6. Mileage reimbursement

a. Bryce is on the WLWCA Legislative/Administrative Committee and is required to attend two or three meetings each year. Bryce would like to know if he can be reimbursed for mileage to those meetings. Dan C. suggested we need to look at county guidelines. There should be something that addresses mileage

reimbursement. If Bryce is attending as a representative of the county, his mileage should be covered. Jim will look into the reimbursement.

7. Video training

- a. Jim reported there are videos available with information covering the LWRM plan, SWRM funds, etc. These are short – approximately six minutes – and he would like to present those videos at LCC meetings. Jim will plan for one at the February meeting.

8. Ground contamination

- a. The committee discussed groundwater contamination, especially from larger CAFOs.
 - i. Don K. mentioned the current ordinance says you cannot spread manure within 100 feet of a well, but there are no restrictions for the spreading of fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals within 100 feet of a well.
 - ii. Sheri mentioned there is a lawsuit in Monroe County regarding a large farm causing high nitrate levels in wells.
 - iii. Dan C. said contamination can come from city dumps as well.
 - iv. Bryce said Marathon County has licensing for CAFOs.

9. Public Comments – No public comment.

10. Next Meeting Date

- a. Next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 19th at 9:30 a.m. at the Clark County Courthouse auditorium. *** Note: meeting later changed to Tuesday, February 26th at 9:30 a.m. ***

11. Adjourn

- a. Marty N. made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:14 a.m. Seconded by Dan C. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared and submitted to the committee by Shirley Iwanski.