

**CALUMET COUNTY
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
January 7, 2022
THESE MINUTES ARE APPROVED**

1. Meeting Announcement and Posting

The meeting was properly announced and posted. Chair Hofberger called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Hofberger, Hartl, Kesler, Handschke, Hansen.

Staff Members Present for All or Part of the Meeting; Reali, Faust, Piper.

Others Present for All or Part of the Meeting; Alice Connors, Brian Maedke, Joe Smedberg.

Excused: Gentz.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Hartl and second by Handschke to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Approval of Minutes from December 2, 2021 Committee Meeting

Motion by Hartl and second by Handschke to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2021 Committee Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Public Participation (if requested by Committee Chair)

None.

7. Agency and Association Reports

• **NRCS Report; If in attendance**

Joe Smedberg indicated that their office is at 25% capacity. There is 1 NRCS or affiliate in the office at a time. He will be training Elizabeth Asendorf remotely. Updated the committee on the cover crops process.

• **FSA Report; If in attendance**

None.

• **UW Extension; If in attendance**

None.

• **Glacierland RC&D**

Mike Hofberger reported that one of the founders of this group had recently passed away.



- **Land & Water Conservation Board**

Hofberger updated the committee on the last meeting he attended, which was December 7th. Reports were given by both Waukesha and Waushara counties. Updated about the upcoming conference. Hofberger wanted to put a reminder out that Eugene Hansen is a LCC member and not a representative of FSA.

8. Communications

- **DATCP Report; December 2021**

Reali updated the committee on the 2022 Producer Led Watershed Protection grants. Calumet County is no longer the fiscal manager of that grant for CCASA.

- **Great Lakes Aquatic Invasive Species Landing Blitz Recap**

Reali reviewed the handout which was included in the packet. The handout explained the reason for these events and the 2021 statistics.

- **Letter from Matt Krueger; WI Land & Water Executive Director**

Yearly we get a letter from Matt Krueger, Executive Director. It gives an overview of accomplishments of the year. Increasing the staff funding was a main point. Reali discussed Matt Krueger's role with the organization.

9. Items for Action or Discussion

- **Brian Maedke; USDA-APHIS; Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program**

- **2021 WCAP Claims Review; Approval/Denial**

Maedke distributed some handouts on Wildlife Damage Abatement Program. It is a state run program. Maedke runs the program for us. Maedke is looking for an approval or denial for claims. There were two farmers that had claims and four others enrolled in the program but had no claims. The damage is similar to other years but the crop prices went up so there were changes to the damage payable. Maedke recommends that farmers get paid for their claims as they followed the rules. Motion by Hartl, seconded by Handschke to approve the claims. Discussion followed. Motion carried

- **Farmland Preservation Program; Herman Brenner; Notice of Noncompliance; Voluntary Waiver of Rights; Approval/Denial**

Reali reported that Mr. Brenner has not been taking tax credits and voluntarily does not want to participate in the program. Motion by Hartl and second by Kesler to approve the voluntary waiver of rights for Mr. Brenner. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

10. Report of Department

- **Introduce Paula Piper, new P&Z and L&W Secretary**

Hofberger introduced Paula Piper and turned it over to Paula to give some personal background. Hofberger gave a thank you and appreciation to Rose Faust for her service.

- **Staff Reports**

Reali reported on the projects each staff members is working on.

There is a tentative public hearing to be scheduled in March for Manure Storage, Storm Water and Nonmetallic Mining ordinances. Other items Reali reported on: Brent had to do an intergovernmental agreement with the Town of Buchanan for stormwater; related some of the articles that will be in the newsletter such as Stony Brook, CalMan Lakes, and 2021 accomplishments. A suggestion was made by Handschke about doing an educational article about water in ditches.

Reali is still closing out 2021 grants and cost sharing.

9:34 Hansen left meeting

11. Report of Committee Members

None.

12. Upcoming/Past Events

- **2021 Winter County Conservationist Meeting Recap**
Reali updated committee with a meeting recap. UW extension talked about water quality outreach and working with farmland groups and the DNR. Another topic discussed was conservation funding opportunities. Reali also reported there on a new program called Harvestable Buffer Program, which is being used in Manitowoc County. Tony wants to apply for a grant in spring to bring this program to Calumet County.
- **2022 Lake Winnebago Land & Water Conservation Association Planning Meeting; January 28; Virtual**
This meeting is an educational and planning meeting, which is being held virtually. There is no fee for this meeting. A motion to approve per diem was made by Hartl and seconded by Kesler. Motion carried unanimously.
- **2022 WI Land & Water Annual Conference; March 2-4; Chula Vista Resort; Wisconsin Dells**
Hofberger asked if the conference is being held in person or virtual. Reali indicated that NRCS will not be able to attend if in person. Reali will know sometime in a few weeks about the status of the conference. Hartl made a motion to approve committee member attendance and second by Handschke. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Next Meeting Date

- **February 3, 2022; 1:00 pm**
The next meeting will be held February 3, 2022 at 1 p.m.

14. Adjourn

Hofberger adjourned the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:11.

Respectfully submitted

Paula Piper, Recording Secretary