

LWCC MEETING MINUTES

VERNON COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

February 13th, 2020 MEETING

Ag Service Center

220 Airport Rd.

Viroqua, WI 54665

Present:

Committee: Will Beitlich-Chair, Kevin Larson-Vice-Chair, Frank Easterday, Rod Ofte, Carol Hall, and Kelli Mitchell

Staff: Ben Wojahn, Sarah McDowell, Marty Kennedy, and Nick Gilman

Guests: Dennis Brault-County Board Chair, Christine Walroth-WI DNR, Phil Peterson-USDA-APHIS

1. Call to Order

Beitlich called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Affirmation of Proper Public Notice of meeting

Wojahn affirmed.

3. Review (amend if needed) and approve minutes from the January 9th, 2020 meeting.

A motion was made by Easterday to approve the minutes, second by Hall. All ayes, motion carried.

4. Review and Approve Bills for Payment

A motion was made by Ofte to approve the bills for payment, second by Larson. All ayes, motion carried.

5. Agency Reports (NRCS, DNR, FSA, RC &D, UW-Ext., any others)

None

6. Audience to Visitors

None

7. Schedule next LWCC meeting(s)

March 12th @ 9:30 a.m.

April 9th @ 9:30 a.m.

8. Sidie Hollow Improvements and Enhancements

Kennedy stated that they want to get rid of the tobacco shed and add 2-3 full hookup sites. A motion was made to bid out the shed removal and price putting in new sites by Ofte, second by Larson. All ayes, motion carried.

9. Blackhawk Dock Update

Kennedy stated that they made the dock guy a deal and got the price lowered and they are moving forward on getting the new docks built. We plan to increase each boat slip 10-15% to help pay for the docks.

10. Blackhawk Existing Dock Removal

A motion was made to send it out for bids for the old docks by Easterday, second by Mitchell. All ayes, motion carried.

11. Approval of new Building Lease

Wojahn stated that the lease will be on the next agenda because they need to make a few slight revisions.

12. MDV Money

Wojahn stated that they are going to give it a try and it should be roughly \$25,000 for a year.

13. Timber Sale Bid Opening and Approval

Gilman stated that unfortunately they didn't receive any bids for the big Duck Egg Timber Sale. He will re-bid it when the timing is right. Gilman announced that the current Timber Sale at Duck Egg has been finished and we should be receiving the final payment soon.

14. Public Participation Process for Forestry 15 Year Plan

Gilman stated that we need committee approval and then have a public hearing which would be prior to next months meeting. A motion was made to approve the process by Ofte, second by Hall. All ayes, motion carried.

15. Approval of Designees for TEB Board for Watershed Grant

Wojahn stated that for the \$1.6 million grant there is a board that Ben and Mark would like to be on to help guide them with our dams study. A motion was made to designate Ben and Mark to be on the board to represent our department by Ofte, second by Hall. All ayes, motion carried.

16. VSN MOU Approval

Wojahn stated that they made the few changes to the MOU and it is ready for approval. A motion was made to approve the MOU by Larson, second by Ofte. All ayes, motion carried.

17. Watershed Planning Update

Coon Valley had a Watershed meeting and they are looking to chip in money for a Technician for that area. Monique stated a document to log the requests that we can't get to and she already has 120 people on it. They had Flood Mitigation meetings on Jan. 30th which were highly attended. They have some future events coming up too. March 19th they are having a big dam flood meeting with Tim Hunt in either Coon Valley, Cashton, or Readstown. March 26th they are having an invite only event in Coon Valley.

18. Accounts Manager Financial Report

McDowell shared her report which included balances of accounts and VSN Funding for the Watershed Planning position.

19. Crop Prices (Phil Peterson-USDA-APHIS)

Phil recommended to set the prices at \$3.55 for corn, \$8.08 for beans, \$50 for a 1.5" honeycrisp, and \$65 for premium honeycrisp. A motion was made to accept these prices by Larson, second by Mitchell. All ayes, motion carried.

20. 90% Date (Phil Peterson-USDA-APHIS)

Phil suggested to set the 90% date for Dec. 31, 2019. A motion by Larson to set that date, second by Easterday. All ayes, motion carried.

21. Claim Approvals (Phil Peterson-USDA-APHIS)

Phil suggested accepting the following claims-Willard Buckles for \$1,375.62 and Ethan Bolstad for \$3,000.00. A motion was made to approve both claims by Ofte, second by Larson. All ayes, motion carried.

22. Reports from Committee Members and Announcements

McDowell announced that the Banquet was a big success this year and asked the committee members that attended to share their thoughts on it.

23. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Ofte, second by Easterday. All ayes, motion carried.

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