

**DODGE COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
127 EAST OAK STREET
JUNEAU, WI 53039
February 23, 2015**

The Dodge County Land Conservation Committee (LCC) met on February 23, 2015 beginning at 8:30 AM in Room 3A of the Dodge County Administration Building.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Ed Nelson at 8:30 AM with the following members present: Ed Nelson, Dale Macheel, Gerald Adelmeyer, Bill Muche, Howard Kriewald, Larry Bischoff, and Bill Foley.

Other Dodge County Board Members, Dodge County Staff and Agency Advisors Present: Marc Bethke, Dodge County Land Conservation Department (LCD) County Conservationist; Jim Mielke, Dodge County Administrator; Janet Wimmer and Sheila Drays, Dodge County Human Services and Health Department.

Others Present: Ruth Johnson, Lake Sinissippi Improvement District Commissioner; Naomi Kriewald.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND PERMIT CHAIR TO DEVIATE FROM AGENDA TO EFFICIENTLY CONDUCT MEETING: Motion by Bischoff to approve the agenda and to permit the Chair to deviate from the agenda to efficiently conduct the meeting, seconded by Muche. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Kriewald to approve the minutes of January 26, 2015 as sent by mail; seconded by Foley. Motion carried.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENTS: Ruth Johnson shared her concern over the quality of Dodge County's groundwater, and spoke in support of the county establishing a program for regularly testing private well water.

AGENCY ADVISOR REPORTS: There were no agency advisor reports.

REVIEW OF BILLS AND REVENUES: The committee reviewed bills and revenues as shown on the attached listing.

CONSIDERATION OF NEW AND REVISED CONSERVATION PLANS: Motion by Kriewald to approve signing one revised conservation plan as presented for committee consideration; seconded by Muche. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED PRIVATE WELL WATER TESTING PROGRAM: The committee reviewed and discussed a proposed program for testing of private wells in Dodge County (see attached). Marc Bethke also shared some background information related to existing private well water testing activities currently in place in Dodge County. Following discussion, a motion was made by Foley to approve the Dodge County Private Well Water Testing Program as presented; seconded by Kriewald. Motion carried.

LAND & WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM – MONTHLY REPORT: No written report was distributed. However, Marc Bethke reported that the Dodge County Highway Commission is seeking cost share funding to decommission a well discovered on county highway right-of-way in the Town of Trenton.

COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST MONTHLY REPORT: SIGNIFICANT WORK ACTIVITIES, MEETINGS AND OTHER ISSUES: Marc Bethke presented the monthly County Conservationist's Report (see attached report).

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS: Jim Mielke and Ruth Johnson reported that the Lake Sinissippi Improvement District is continuing to consider various smaller sized projects for the year 2015. Bill Foley distributed copies of the recent Beaver Dam Lake Improvement Association newsletter, copies of the 2015 lake association calendar, and also a handout with some recommended public television programs to watch on-line from Iowa Public Television. Dale Macheel reported on the February 12, 2015 meeting of the Fox Lake Inland Lake District. The lake district is working with their environmental consultant to secure grant funding to pay for a nitrogen management reduction project with the Fox Lake Prison Farm.

CORRESPONDENCE: Copies of the December 16, 2014 and January 13, 2015 meeting minutes of the Lake Sinissippi Improvement District were distributed for committee members to read.

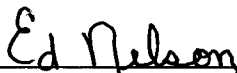
PER DIEMS: Motion by Kriewald, seconded by Bischoff to approve the regular per diems, in addition to the following:

Dale Macheel – Fox Lake Inland Lake District Meeting on February 12, 2015 – per diem and 22 miles.

Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Monday, March 23, 2015 beginning at 8:30 AM in the Dodge County UW-Extension Conference Room, 1st Floor of the Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, Wisconsin.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before this committee, motion by Kriewald to adjourn at 10:00 AM; seconded by Bischoff. Motion carried.



Ed Nelson, Chair

Gerald Adelmeyer, Secretary

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.

LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT BILLS & REVENUE

(BILLS)

Office Max - Office Supplies =	\$ 14.23
USDA - APHIS -4 th Quarter 2014 Wildlife	
Crop Damage Program Expenses =	\$ 5,718.55
Detjens Northern Trails, Inc. - 1 st Venison Donation Processing Bill =	\$ 55.00
Pernat Haase Meats - 1 st Venison Donation Processing Bill =	\$ 555.00
Town & Country RC&D - 2015 Membership Dues =	\$ 150.00
Joe's Auto Service - Repair Wheel Bearing on 2007 Chevy Tahoe =	\$ 511.62
Robert Bird - January 2015 Expenses =	\$ 156.06
TOTAL =	\$ 7,160.46

(REVENUE)

91 Small Packet Tree Orders =	\$ 7,085.31
Two Landowners - Manure Storage Ordinance Earnest Fee =	\$ 2,000.00
One Landowner - Manure Storage Ordinance Permit Fee =	\$ 400.00
TOTAL =	\$ 9,485.31

DODGE COUNTY
PRIVATE WELL WATER TESTING PROGRAM
(Draft Proposal)

GOAL:

To annually offer a private well water testing and education program for up to 150 households in Dodge County. The program utilizes the standard private well test - 'Homeowner Package' that is offered from the Center for Watershed Science and Education at the UW-Stevens Point. The water testing program is a collaborative effort with UWSP Groundwater Center, Dodge County Land Conservation Department, Dodge County University of Wisconsin-Extension, and Dodge County Human Services and Health Department.

Objectives:

1. To educate participating households about the safety of their well water and become more aware of the responsibilities of maintaining a household water system.
2. To refreshen and expand on existing base line data from past private well water sampling and analysis activities.

Steps of Action Needed:

1. At least one year in advance of a planned testing program, contact town boards to solicit their assistance with the private well water sampling program for their township.
2. Contact the Center for Watershed Science and Education in Stevens Point to reserve a date for sampling and analysis – can submit up to 150 sample bottles for analysis
3. Promote the Water Testing Program to Town residents by direct mailing, town board newsletter, county and department website and social media notifications, and print media press releases. (Perhaps also an insert with annual real estate tax bill).
4. Order sample bottles, have them delivered at least one week before the week of bottle distribution.
5. Deliver sample bottles to Townships about one week prior to the date of sampling (if a Town Board is not willing or able to coordinate bottle distribution and collection, county LCD or UWEX office could handle this). Provide training to town officials on how to instruct homeowners to properly take water samples.
6. Town residents are given about five days to pick up and pay for their sample bottles; all residents take their water samples and deliver them to the township drop off place on the same day.
7. Someone from the county will deliver water samples to Stevens Point for analysis.
8. After all samples are analyzed, an educational program is scheduled at the town hall where Ground Water Center Specialists present information on the elements of a well water test, and the household water system. Residents will receive their test results at the program and schedule follow-up education if they have well water issues.
9. Dodge County allocates \$5,000 to either the Land Conservation Department or UWEX budget to cover program costs. Costs could include direct mailings and other forms of advertisement of the program, travel expenses, and water analysis subsidies – possibly \$10-\$20 per sample per homeowner. **Participation by town residents is voluntary, and will be on a first come – first served basis.**
10. Dodge County is scheduled for batch sample analysis in May of 2016 (UW-Stevens Point is all booked for 2015).

FEBRUARY 2015 COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST REPORT

SIGNIFICANT WORK ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS:

- Worked with Jeff Hoffman (UWEX) and Jody Langfeldt and Sheila Drays (Dodge County Public Health) to prepare a private well water testing program in Dodge County
- Prepared Farmland Preservation Program Certificates of Compliance for program participants in Oak Grove and Elba that have achieved full compliance with soil and water conservation standards.
- Continued to take many phone calls from people with questions over Farmland Preservation Program conservation compliance and tax credit eligibility – prepared certificates of compliance for several new participants, and for new land being enrolled by existing participants
- Closed out the 2014 Land Conservation Department budget with Finance Department – under-spending for 2014 was nearly \$8,000.00
- Have been working on the 2016 SWRM Grant Application to DATCP – will have it ready for consideration at the March LCC meeting
- Small packet tree sales will be closed by Friday, February 27th – have sold approximately 22,000 trees and shrubs for delivery in spring 2015
- Robert Bird conducted the “Write Your Own Plan” farmer nutrient management training on January 21st, the “Refresher” farmer nutrient management training on February 18th, and will conduct the Snap-Plus farmer nutrient management training on February 25th. Attendance has been good at all sessions to date.