

**DODGE COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
127 EAST OAK STREET
JUNEAU, WI 53039
APRIL 27, 2015**

The Dodge County Land Conservation Committee (LCC) met on April 27, 2015 beginning at 8:30 AM in Room 3C 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, 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; Lisa Derr, Dodge County Board Member; Josh Odekirk – USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) District Conservationist; and Paige Seago, USDA-NRCS Soil Conservationist; .

Others Present: Ruth Johnson and Greg Farnham, Lake Sinissippi Improvement District Commissioners.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Kriewald to approve the minutes of March 23, 2015 as sent by mail; seconded by Foley. Motion carried.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENTS: Ruth Johnson and Greg Farnham both spoke in support of Dodge County pursuing the enactment of an ordinance that would require conservation buffers along county lakes, rivers, streams and ditches. Ruth shared a one-page handout expressing her view of the “pros” and “cons” of such an ordinance.

AGENCY ADVISOR REPORTS: Josh Odekirk introduced Paige Seago as the new Soil Conservationist with the Juneau Field Office of the USDA-NRCS. There were no other agency advisor reports.

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

CONSIDERATION OF NEW AND REVISED CONSERVATION PLANS: There were no conservation plans presented for consideration by the committee.

CONSIDER EXPANDED USE OF VEGETATED BUFFERS IN DODGE COUNTY: Marc Bethke reviewed a two-page handout describing potential issues related to the creation of a county-wide conservation buffer ordinance. Significant discussion followed regarding the issue. Motion by Foley to put the discussion of a conservation buffer ordinance on hold for 90 days until a meeting of stakeholders can be organized and convened to further explore the relevant issues, with a report to the committee following the stakeholders meeting; seconded by Muche. Motion carried.

CONSIDER 2015 SOIL AND WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (SWRM) GRANT CONTRACT: The committee reviewed the 2015 SWRM Grant Contract as drafted by the Wisconsin

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP). Motion by Nelson to approve signing the 2015 SWRM Grant Contract as presented; seconded by Bischoff. Motion carried.

UPDATE ON 2015 BUDGET EXPENDITURES: Marc Bethke explained that year-to-date expenditures for repairs to Land Conservation Department vehicles have nearly exhausted the 2015 budget allocation under Business Unit 7001.5241 – “Motor Vehicles”. Due to an upcoming vacancy in the department, and due to other potential underspending in 2015, there may or may not be a need to a transfer of funds. Marc will monitor the situation as the year progresses and further update the committee as needs may arise.

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 reported that the Lake Sinissippi Improvement District is planning to host a tour of various resource issues on Lake Sinissippi in early June, and have invited members of the Land Conservation Committee. Jim also reported that Bill Muche has been appointed as the new representative from the county on the Lake Sinissippi Improvement District Board of Commissioners. Bill Foley reported attending the Dodge County Lakes Group Meeting on April 22nd. Bill also attended the Wisconsin Lakes Association Annual Conference, and described some of the breakout sessions that he attended.

CORRESPONDENCE: Copies of the March 10, 2015 meeting minutes of the Lake Sinissippi Improvement District were distributed for committee members to read.

PER DIEMS: Motion by Muche, seconded by Bischoff to approve the regular per diems, with no other additional per diems. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 beginning at 8:30 AM in Room 3A 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 Bischoff to adjourn at 11:00 AM seconded by Muche. 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)

Radisson Paper Valley Hotel - Lodging at WI Land & Water Annual Conference =	\$	420.00
Marc Bethke - March 2015 Expenses =	\$	83.89
Joe's Auto Service - Repairs to 1999 Ford Ranger =	\$	197.08
Joe's Auto Service - Repairs to 2007 Chevy Tahoe =	\$	187.25
Dodge County Signs LLC - 2014 Open House Poster =	\$	<u>63.36</u>
TOTAL =	\$	951.58

(REVENUE)

Two Small Packet Tree Orders =	\$	<u>94.78</u>
TOTAL =	\$	94.78

APRIL 2015 COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST REPORT

SIGNIFICANT WORK ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS:

- Attended Administration Building Emergency / Safety Training Session on April 13, 2015
- Conducted Spring 2015 Small Packet Tree Distribution on April 23rd and 24th at the Dodge County Fairgrounds – over 250 people purchased 23,000 trees this year
- Reviewed air photos for Towns of Elba and Portland to identify prospective projects and future contacts for soil erosion control and water quality protection work.
- Continued to prepare Farmland Preservation Program Certificates of Compliance for program participants that are in full compliance with soil and water conservation performance standards – focused on the Town of Lomira this past month.
- Completed performance evaluation for John Bohonek, Conservation Engineering Technician.
- Rebecca Neitzel, Land Conservation Department Typist III, will be retiring as of May 1, 2015. Activities will be undertaken to address this vacancy as soon as possible.

MAY 2015 COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST REPORT

SIGNIFICANT WORK ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS:

- Submitted personnel requisition to Jim Mielke and Human Resources and Labor Negotiations Committee to fill the Administrative Secretary III vacancy as a 32-hour per week position.
- Prepared 2015 Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) conservation compliance certification and crop report mailing.
- Prepared FPP Certificates of Compliance for Theresa landowners that are in full compliance with all soil and water conservation performance standards.
- Reviewed air photos for Town of Calamus to identify prospective projects and future contacts for soil erosion control and water quality protection work.
- Spoke to Dodge County Farm Bureau Board of Directors to make them aware that a request has been made to Dodge County to create a county-wide conservation buffer ordinance, and to ask them to consider sending representatives to a meeting later this summer to discuss the issue.

LAND & WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM REPORT

April 27, 2015 - May 26, 2015

Cost Share Agreements Signed

<u>(Name)</u>	<u>(Cons. Practice)</u>	<u>(\$ Committed to Agreements)</u>
Dodge Co. Highway Comm.	Well Decommissioning	\$500.00
Russell Schroeder	Diversion and Waterway	\$3,823.75
Total		4,324

Cost Share Agreements Awaiting Signatures

<u>(Name)</u>	<u>(Cons. Practice)</u>	<u>(\$ To Be Committed)</u>
Peter Bonack	Diversion and Waterway	\$5,040.00
Gerald Zingsheim	Critical Area Stabilizations	\$6,177.50
Total		\$11,217.50

Cost Share Payments to Landowners

<u>(Name)</u>	<u>(Cons. Practice)</u>	<u>(\$ Expended)</u>
None		

**SPRING 2015 SMALL PACKET TREE SALES PROGRAM
FINAL REPORT**

- Sold 23,000 trees and shrubs to 244 customers
 - Gross revenue from trees and shrub sales = \$21,620
 - Program Outlays Included:
 1. Cost to Purchase Trees = \$15,668
 2. Cost for U-Haul Rental Truck and Fuel = \$ 217
 3. Cost for bags to Package Trees = \$ 64
 4. Postage = \$ 319
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- Total Program Costs (not including staff time) = \$16,268

Net Gain for the 2015 Sales Program (Gross Revenues minus Total Program Costs) =

\$21,620 Total Revenue (minus) \$16,268 Total Costs = Net Gain of \$ 5,352 for 2015

LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT BILLS & REVENUE

(BILLS)

OfficeMax - Miscellaneous Office Supplies	=	\$ 32.87
USDA-APHIS - 1 st Quarter 2015 Wildlife Crop Damage Program Expenses	=	\$ 5,472.69
Wheeler's Laura's Lane Nursery - Final Payment for 2015 Small Packet Trees	=	<u>\$ 11,186.00</u>
TOTAL	=	\$ 16,691.56

(REVENUE)

Six Small Packet Tree Sales	=	\$ 1,289.10
One Landowner - Manure Storage Ordinance Technical Assistance Earnest Fee	=	\$ 1,000.00
Two Landowners - Manure Storage Ordinance Permit Fees	=	<u>\$ 800.00</u>
TOTAL=		\$ 3,089.10