

**DODGE COUNTY  
LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
127 EAST OAK STREET  
JUNEAU, WI 53039  
AUGUST 24, 2015**

The Dodge County Land Conservation Committee (LCC) met on August 24, 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, Larry Bischoff, and Bill Foley. Howard Kriewald was absent.

**Other Dodge County Board Members, Dodge County Staff and Agency Advisors Present:** Marc Bethke, Dodge County Land Conservation Department (LCD); John Bohonek, Conservation Engineering Technician; and Jim Mielke, Dodge County Administrator.

**Others Present:** Ruth Johnson; Lake Sinissippi Improvement District.

**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 Nelson to approve the minutes of July 27, 2015 as sent by mail; seconded by Bischoff. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENTS:** Ruth Johnson thanked the committee for their efforts in considering her request that Dodge County enact a county-wide conservation buffer ordinance, and also expressed her desire that a citizens task force continue discussing ways in which nonpoint source pollution to county waterways would be minimized in the future.

**AGENCY ADVISOR REPORTS:** There were no 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.

**CONSIDERATION OF LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT BUDGET – STATUS OF 2015 BUDGET / PROPOSED 2016 BUDGET:** Marc Bethke reported that he does not anticipate any business units will exceed the amount of county levy allocated under the 2015 Land Conservation Department Budget. Looking ahead to 2016, and due to personnel changes within the department, it is anticipated that \$25,000 less levy will be needed for the 2016 Land Conservation Department Budget.

**CONSIDER FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM ISSUES:** Marc Bethke reported that there are still 40 Farmland Preservation Program participants that have not yet certified conservation compliance for 2015. Reminder post cards will be mailed to each of these participants by the first week of September, asking that certification be completed, that the \$25.00 service fee be paid, and that an additional \$50.00 late reporting penalty fee also be paid. Two voluntary notices of noncompliance under the program were also reviewed. Motion by Muche to authorize the chair to sign voluntary notices of noncompliance for Roger Fink, Town of Theresa; and for Adrian & Jane Powers, Town of Elba; seconded by Foley. Motion carried.

**CONSIDER 2015 SOIL EROSION TRANSECT SURVEY RESULTS:** Marc Bethke shared a summary of results from the 2015 Dodge County Soil Erosion Transect Survey. The overall erosion rate in Dodge County has decreased from 2.3 ton/acre/year in 2014, to 2.2 ton/acre/year in 2015. The reason for this is because a higher percentage of cropland was planted by no-till and strip-till planting methods in 2015.

**LAND & WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM – MONTHLY REPORT:** Marc Bethke distributed copies of the August report of cost-share activities under the Land & Water Resource Management Program (see attached report).

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

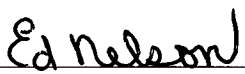
**COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS:** Bill Foley reported that the Beaver Dam Lake Improvement Association held their annual meeting on August 22, 2015 where the lake management plan was presented and discussed. Dale Macheel reported that the Fox Lake Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held its annual meeting on August 1, 2015. Based on decisions at the annual meeting, a special budget meeting was subsequently held on August 13<sup>th</sup>. Bill Muche and Bill Foley reported on sites seen during the Southern Area Land & Water Conservation Association's summer tour that was held in Richland County on August 6, 2015.


**CORRESPONDENCE:** Correspondence shared with the committee included copies of a letter from Marc Bethke to members of the Dodge County Drainage Board providing guidance on areas of authority granted to a county drainage board under ATCP 48. Also, copies of a news release regarding recent actions taken by the Wood County Board of Supervisors to further address manure and nutrient management issues were also distributed.

**PER DIEMS:** Motion by Muche, seconded by Bischoff to approve the regular per diems, plus the following: Bill Muche – Lake Sinissippi Improvement District Meeting on August 8, 2015 – per diem and 15 miles. Dale Macheel – Fox Lake Inland Lake District Meeting on August 1, 2015 – per diem and 22 miles. Bill Foley, Howard Kriewald, Bill Muche – Southern Area Land & Water Conservation Association Summer Tour in Richland County – Per Diem for each; 230 miles for Muche; regular miles to Juneau for Kriewald and Foley. Ed Nelson, Dale Macheel, Howard Kriewald, Bill Muche, Larry Bischoff, Bill Foley – Special Land Conservation Committee Meeting on August 19, 2015 to discuss a conservation buffer ordinance – per diem for each and mileage to Juneau for each. Motion carried.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, September 28, 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 10:00 AM, seconded by Foley. Motion carried.

  
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Ed Nelson, Chair

  
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Gerald Adelmeyer, Secretary

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

**LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT BILLS & REVENUE**

(BILLS)

**No Operating Costs / Bills to Report**

(REVENUE)

Twenty seven (27) Farmland Preservation Program Participants – 2015 Service	
Fee Payments	= \$ 675.00
DNR – 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarters 2015 Wildlife Crop Damage Program Expense	
Reimbursement	\$11,624.57
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>= \$12,299.57</b>

**LAND & WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM REPORT**

July 28, 2015 - August 24, 2015

**Cost Share Agreements Signed**

<u>(Name)</u>	<u>(Cons. Practice)</u>	<u>(\$ Committed to Agreements)</u>
Nehls Brothers Farms LTD	Well Decommissioning	\$500.00
LeMar LLC	Barnyard Runoff Control	\$15,576.05
<b>Total</b>		<b>16,076</b>
<b>Uncommitted Balance for 2015 =</b>		<b>\$762.70</b>

**Cost Share Payments to Landowners**

<u>(Name)</u>	<u>(Cons. Practice)</u>	<u>(\$ Expended)</u>
<b>Total</b>		

## AUGUST 2015 COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST REPORT

### SIGNIFICANT WORK ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS:

- Spent considerable time researching relevant information regarding the effectiveness of grass buffers – prepared a “thoughts and recommendations” document for committee consideration.
- Continue to receive/process Farmland Preservation Program annual conservation certification reports
- Prepared the 2015 SWRM Grant Reimbursement Request to DATCP and submitted the request through County Administrator Jim Mielke
- Finalized and mailed Farmland Preservation Program Certificates of Compliance to participants in the Town of Trenton
- Worked on preparing the proposed 2016 Land Conservation Department budget
- Worked with Traci Guse on start-up of her new duties as the ½ time Administrative Secretary III for the Land Conservation Department