

Agenda
REVISED
Jefferson County Land & Water Conservation Committee (LWCC)
Jefferson County Courthouse
320 South Main Street – Room 202
Jefferson, WI 53549
Wednesday, March 20, 2013
8:30 A.M.

Committee Members: Sarah Bregant, Walt Christensen, Matthew Foelker, Carlton Zentner, Scott Zimmerman

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call (Establish a Quorum)
3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law
4. Review of the Agenda
5. Review and Approval of the February 20, 2013 Meeting Minutes
6. Communications
7. Citizen Comments
8. Introduction New Staff – Kim Liakopoulos
9. Natural Resources Conservation Service Report (NRCS) – Dennis Vollmer
10. Notice of Noncompliance – Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)
11. Cancellation of Noncompliance – Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Highway Facility
13. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Values Study
14. Monthly Financial Report
15. Set Next Meeting and Possible Agenda Items
16. Adjournment

Note: If committee members are not able to attend please notify the LWCD

The committee may discuss and/or take action on any item specifically listed on the agenda. Individuals requiring special accommodations for attendance at the meeting should contact the County Administrator at 920-674-7101 24 hours prior to the meeting so appropriate arrangements can be made.

**Land & Water Conservation Committee
Minutes
March 20, 2013**

1. Call to Order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Walt Christensen at 8:32 a.m. Committee members Sarah Bregnant, Matthew Foelker, Carlton Zentner (@ 8:35 a.m.), and Scott Zimmerman (@ 8:34 a.m.) were present. Also in attendance were Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD; John Molinaro, County Board Supervisor; and Dennis Vollmer, NRCS.

2. Roll Call (Establish a Quorum):

A quorum was established.

3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law:

It was determined that the committee was in compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

4. Review of the March Agenda:

The March agenda was reviewed by the committee members.

5. Review and Approval of the February Meeting Minutes

Matthew Foelker made a motion to approve the February meeting minutes as written, Sarah Bregnant seconded. Motion carried, 5/0.

6. Communications

There were no communications at this time.

7. Citizen Comments:

There were no citizen comments.

8. Introduction of New Staff – Kim Liakopoulos:

New staff was introduced to the Committee.

9. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

Dennis Vollmer discussed the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) report. See attached.

10. Notice of Noncompliance with Soil and Water Conservation Requirements – Farmland Preservation Program (FPP):

Noncompliant: Alan B & Jodi L Stout, Whispering Prairie Farms, LLC c/o Alan B & Jodi L Stout
Voluntary Non-Participation: Donald & Judith Meschke Trust, Eleanor C Rupprecht Trust c/o Margaret A Wendt

Matthew Foelker made a motion to approve the notices as a group, Walt Christensen seconded. Motion carried, 5/0.

11. Cancellation of Noncompliance – Farmland Preservation Program:

Robert L McIntyre, John F McNally, Erwin C Poeppel

Matthew Foelker made a motion to approve the notices as a group, Sarah Bregnant seconded. Motion carried, 5/0.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Highway Facility:

Update given by John Molinaro. The possibility of asbestos is still under review. The asbestos may or may not be in a service shaft under the building and it may be contained by concrete. The bank is discussing alternative remediation companies. Jefferson County is asking that an escrow account be established to pay for said remediation.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Land Values Study:

Land value study was included in item #12.

14. Monthly Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) Financial Report

The 2012 Year End financial statement was slightly above budget as a direct result of grant reductions. Mark Watkins indicated the overage was approximately \$6,000.

15. Set next meeting and possible agenda items:

It was decided by the members that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee will be held on April 17, 2013 at 8:30 in Room 202.

16. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Matthew Foelker and seconded by Sarah Bregnant at 9:18 a.m. Motion carried, 5/0.

**Land & Water Conservation Committee (LWCC) Minutes
February 20, 2013**

- 1. Call to Order**

The monthly meeting was called to order by Walt Christensen at 8:30 am. Committee members Carlton Zentner and Matt Foelker were present. Also in attendance were Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Patricia Cicero, LWCD; Gerry Kokkonen, LWCD; John Molinaro, County Board Chairman; Dennis Vollmer, NRCS; Greg David, County Board member; Earlene Ronk, Town and Country RC&D Board member; and Laurie Koeck, APHIS. Sarah Bregant arrived at 8:33 am and Scott Zimmerman arrived at 8:37 am.
- 2. Roll Call (establish a quorum)**

A quorum was established.
- 3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law**

It was determined that the committee was in compliance with the Open Meetings Law.
- 4. Review of the December Agenda**

The December agenda was reviewed by the committee members.
- 5. Review and Approval of the November Meeting Minutes**

Foelker made a motion to approve the December meeting minutes as written, Zentner seconded. Motion carried, 3/0.
- 6. Communications**

There were no communications at this time.
- 7. Citizens Comments**

Greg David, Jefferson County Board member, spoke to encourage the use of biomass plantings on County land holdings. Christensen requested that David send him an e-mail with more information so that he can determine if the item should be on a future agenda.
- 8. Non-Metallic Mining Report**

Gerry Kokkonen presented his report on the Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Program that is administered by the LWCD. Report is attached.
- 9. Animal Damage Claims**

Laurie Koeck, APHIS, presented the 2012 claim summary for the Wildlife Damage Program. Handout is attached. There was one payable loss for abatement of geese. Foelker motioned and Zimmerman seconded the motion to approve the damage claim for Jaeckel Brothers of \$433.91. Motion carried, 5/0.
- 10. Town and Country RC&D Membership**

Greg David and Earlene Ronk presented information on the activities and County membership dues for the Town and Country RC&D. Two handouts are attached. Foelker motioned and Bregant seconded the motion to renew the County's membership in the Town and Country RC&D for \$150. Motion carried, 4/1, with Zentner dissenting.
- 11. Personnel Changes and Update**

Watkins reported that Beth Klotz resigned her position as Administrative Clerk. The position was advertised and interviews will be held in the afternoon of February 20, 2013.

- 12. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report**

Dennis Vollmer presented the attached Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) report.
- 13. 2012-2013 Tree Seedling Program Update**

Watkins reported that almost all of the trees have been sold and the distribution will be in April.
- 14. Infrastructure Committee Update Regarding the Purchase of Old Countryside**

Molinaro stated that the City of Jefferson passed all of the required zoning changes on February 19, 2013. The Infrastructure Committee received a summary of the final inspection report – there was nothing unusual reported. The RFP for a site plan and building design was approved and sent out. It is expected that the selection of contractor for that work will be done at the April County Board meeting. The City of Jefferson requires that the final site plan be submitted in January 2014. The site and building plan will also include the projected amount of money needed for implementation of the plan. Once this is known, the County Board will discuss the Bond issue.
- 15. Discussion and Possible Action on Highway Facility Study**

Please see item 14.
- 16. Discussion and Possible Action on Information Land Values Study**

Please see item 14.
- 17. Notice of Noncompliance with Soil and Water Conservation Requirements – Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)**

The list of landowners up for consideration of a notice of noncompliance (voluntary and non-voluntary) with the Farmland Preservation Program is attached. Foelker moved and Zimmerman seconded to removal all of the landowners on the attached list from the Farmland Preservation Program. Motion carried, 5/0.
- 18. Cancellation of Notice of Noncompliance with Soil and Water Conservation Requirements – Farmland Preservation Program**

William L. Laird requested that his notice of noncompliance be cancelled and that he be reinstated into the Farmland Preservation Program. Foelker moved and Bregant seconded to cancel William L. Laird's notice of noncompliance and reinstate him into the Farmland Preservation Program. Motion carried, 5/0.
- 19. Monthly Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) Financial Report**

The most current revenue and expenditure sheets were distributed. See attached. The LWCD was \$1,800 over budget for 2012 due to a reduction in expected contract revenue from NRCS.
- 20. Set Next Meeting and Possible Agenda Items**

It was decided by the members that the next scheduled meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 20, 2012 at 8:30 am in Room 202. Possible agenda items include: monthly financial report, and discussion and possible action on issues related to new highway facility.
- 21. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Foelker and seconded by Zimmerman at 9:55 am. Motion carried, 5/0.

Jefferson County Board Report
3/20/2013

2013 EQIP applications/proposed applications

- 27 applications were received as of 1/18/2013
 - 21 applications were pre-approved for contracts
 - 14 contracts have been signed into place
 - 5 additional contracts will be signed into place shortly
 - 2 pre-approved contracts have/will be cancelling
 - Funding groups:
 - Cropland – 9
 - Pastureland – 4
 - Farmsteads – 4 (2 are Beginning Farmers)
 - Forestland – 1
 - Organic - 1

EQIP practices in progress

- Received Nutrient Management Plans
 - ~7 new plans to review for payment
- Working on Rosy Lane Cover Crop payment (Error in computer system is delaying payment)
- Spring work list has been reviewed and Brendon is busy completing designs
 - Contacts are being made to prepare for the work

Conservation Stewardship Program (CStP)

- 3 payments are left to be made by April 3rd
 - 2 payments will be completed by April 1
 - 1 payment cannot be made do to computer program error (unsure when this will be resolved)
 - All contracts will have status reviews completed upon payment

Conservation Security Program (CSP)

- Completed all 2013 status reviews

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

- General CRP sign up will occur from May 20th thru June 14
 - This includes Highly Erodible Land
- Continuous CRP – should be a sign up in 2013, but FSA has not been given approval to start the sign up
- Calling Mid-Management participants to verify work that needs to be completed and documented to FSA in 2013

General

- Wetland/HEL Determination requests to complete:
 - ~2 have yet to be looked at
 - Many are being reviewed, but not yet completed (number unknown)
 - 1 are waiting to be digitized
 - 0 are waiting to be approved/signed
 - No more field determinations can be made on 'Adverse' decisions (IE – Wetlands) due to being outside of the growing season. Will resume in Spring
- The past month has largely consisted of ranking applications, conservation planning of pre-approved applications and contracting. This should be completed in the next 2 weeks
 - The next month will largely consist of preparing designs for 2013 field work needed and completing payments on existing NMP's
- The SE Area will be reviewed by the NRCS state office during the first 2 weeks of April
 - The State Office will be visiting Jefferson on April 5
- There have been many trainings occurring over the past month
- 2/28/13 – SE Area All Employee meeting
- 4/8-12 – Brendon Construction Inspection training in Texas
- Sequestration – Has had minor impact on NRCS
 - Money was taken back from the EQIP obligation fund
 - No furloughs are expected
 - Day to day operation of WI NRCS is still in OK shape