

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE April 14, 2016 - MINUTES

The meeting of the Green Lake County Land Conservation Committee was called to order by Chairman Michael Stoddard at 9:00AM on April 14, 2016 in the Committee Room #0903 of the Green Lake County Government Center in Green Lake, WI. The requirements of the open meeting law were certified as being met. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Excused:

- Present: Michael Stoddard, Chair Joanne Guden Maureen Schweder David Richter Patricia Garro Arnold Dahlke, Jr., FSA Member
- Staff Present: Paul Gunderson Heidi Weishaar

Others Present: Harley Reabe Jack Meyers

AGENDA

Motion/second (Garro/Guden) to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Motion/second (<u>Guden/Garro</u>) to approve and file the March 10, 2016 meeting minutes with noted change to 2016 Committed Funds. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

APPEARANCES

None

MONTHLY STAFF REPORT & UPCOMING PROJECTS

Written report was reviewed.

LAKE AND RIVER REPORT

Gunderson explained new accounts requested for Twin Lakes and Grand Lake grants to aide in accurate tracking of income and expenses. The accounts were already approved at the March 2016 Finance Committee with the stipulation of LCC approval.

Motion/second (<u>*Garro/Richter*</u>) to approve revenue and expense accounts created for Twin Lakes and Grand Lake grants. Motion approved.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Gunderson explained Transcendent Technologies coming April 26, 2016 to give presentation of their software program which will greatly help organize and aide Land Conservation in the Farmland Preservation Program, as well as Land Use & Zoning in tracking permit information.

EQUIPMENT REQUEST

Gunderson informed committee of a trail camera being purchased for use in recording conservation practices in action. The time lapsed video will be available for viewing on our website.

ARBOR DAY

Gunderson gave a current reservation list of 62 people and noted phone calls are still coming in. Advertising is in the local papers, Michael Starshack will be the guest speaker, and everything is in place for another fun and successful celebration.

DEPARTMENT MERGING DISCUSSION

Gunderson gave a handout of his pros/cons on merging Land Conservation with Land Use Planning and Zoning. He stated several financial and practical reasons why he felt it would not be a benefit. Gunderson was seeking feedback from the committee. The conversation will be ongoing next month.

DEPARTMENT VACANCY DISCUSSION

Motion/second (<u>Guden/Garro</u>) to send the position filling vacancy and to approve the changes of the job description for Soil Conservation I position to the personnel committee. Motion carried.

Motion/second (*Richter/Guden*) to modify the Soil Conservation I job description to read "employee exercises independent judgement" to "employee demonstrates professional judgement". Motion carried.

SOIL CONSERVATION POSITION RE-CLASSIFICATION

Gunderson explained the positions and gave handouts showing his proposal of changes and differences. The committee stated that some of the description words were too vague. Clarifying the specific criteria necessary to advance from one step to the next needed to be made more clear, so Gunderson will update and re-present. The conversation will be ongoing in the next meeting.

VOUCHERS

Motion/second (*Garro/Richter*) to approve vouchers totaling <u>\$8,590.25</u> as presented. Motion carried.

Excused Patti Garro from the meeting at 10:38AM.

CORRESPONDENCE

Gunderson read a letter from Hunter Neubauer requesting sponsorship to the WI Land + Water Conservation Camp.

Motion/second (<u>*Guden/Dahlke*</u>) to approve sponsoring Hunter Neubauer to attend the WI Land + Water Conservation Camp.

Gunderson read a card from WI Land + Water Conservation Association congratulating Green Lake County on their poster contest success, as well as showed the committee an article that highlighted our efforts in the April 2016 Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine.

Gunderson read a letter from Jim Hebbe, former County Conservationist, complimenting and thanking Mike Stoddard for all his dedication and years of service on the Land Conservation Committee.

COMMMITTEE DISCUSSION

- Future Meeting Dates: May 12, 2016 at 9:00AM in the Committee Room #0903 of the Green Lake County Government Center in Green Lake.
- LWLWCA Meeting upcoming in May
- LCC Training Meeting will be announced as soon as we know
- Future Agenda items for action & discussion

ADJOURN

Motion/second (*Richter/Schweder*) to adjourn at <u>10:46AM</u>. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Weishaar Recorder