



LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE July 13, 2023 - MINUTES

The meeting of the Green Lake County Land Conservation Committee was called to order by Robert Schweder, Committee Chairman, at 9:00AM on July 13, 2023 in the County Board Room #0902 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.

Present:
Robert Schweder
Bill Boutwell
Ken Bates (via Teams)
Arnold Dahlke
Nancy Hiestand

Excused:
Wesley Eisenga, FSA Member

Staff Present: Todd Morris
Heidi Weishaar

Others Present: Shelly Rothman
Hannah Niewoehner,
Kenneth Stephani
Jeffrey Mann

MINUTES

Motion/second (Boutwell/Hiestand) to approve and file the June 8, 2023 meeting minutes Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

APPEARANCES

- **Federal Agencies**
None
- **Hannah Niewoehner**, Watershed Coordinator, provided a written update on the projects within the Green Lake Watershed that she is working on as well as updates from the Green Lake Sanitary District. See report attached.
- **Shelly Rothman** – Fox Head RAP
 - A Conservation Alliance Partnership Meeting was held on June 7th, and the outcome of the meeting was to have each organization fill out a Conservation Easement Planning Form so that moving forward the Alliance knows everyone's commitment to the project.
 - Results of a spring informational meeting showed interest from landowners in pursuing conservation easements. Another fall meeting is being planned.

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES REPORT

- **Staff Report**
Written report was reviewed.
- **AIS Update**
Written report was reviewed from Chris Hamerla, Regional Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Coordinator.
- **Lake and River Report**
Written Report was reviewed.
- **Representative Plumer legislation regarding foreign ownership of land**
Reviewed recently released legislation authored by Rep. Plumber and Senator Rob Stafsholt that would make various changes to statutes regarding foreign ownership of land, including reducing the number of allowed acres, reducing the time period for divestiture from four years to two, and transferring the enforcement of the statute from the Department of Justice to the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

DISCUSSION and ACTION ON THE AG ENTERPRISE AREA (AEA) PROPOSAL IN THE TOWN OF MARQUETTE

LCD is working on petition with landowners in the town of Marquette for AEA designation. Part of the petition is support from the County Conservationist and Green Lake County.

Motion/second (Boutwell/Dahlke) to approve Cate Wylie to sign for the County and Todd Morris to sign as the County Conservationist to support the Ag Enterprise Area application.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM PLANNING FORM

LCD completed the Conservation Easement Planning Form. Committee reviewed the responses, and no changes were made. Morris will return the planning form to the Conservation Alliance on behalf of the LCD.

Motion/second (Boutwell/Hiestand) to follow Morris's suggestions on the Conservation Easement Program Planning Form. Motion carried. Ken Bates abstained from the vote.

DISCUSSION ON THE 4-YEAR FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM COUNTY REVIEW

Morris informed the committee of a meeting he had with DATCP on July 12th regarding the Farmland Preservation Program 4-year review wherein they inquire/review how we're doing on compliance. Everything is looking good and meeting requirements.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

- Future Meeting Date: August 10, 2023 at 9:00 AM
- Future Agenda items for action & discussion

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 9:43 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Weishaar
Recorder