



LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE October 12, 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 October 12, 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
Arnold Dahlke
Nancy Hiestand

Excused:
Wesley Eisenga, FSA Member
Ken Bates

Staff Present: Todd Morris
Heidi Weishaar

Others Present: Dave Terrell, Wildlife Services Al Weckwerth
Mike Arrowood Aaron Anderson

MINUTES

Motion/second (Boutwell/Hiestand) to approve and file the September 14, 2023 meeting minutes Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

Motion/second (Boutwell/Dahlke) to move up item 8 for Wake Boats ahead of the Wildlife Damage Program. Motion Carried.

Motion/second (Boutwell/Hiestand) to suspend the rules to allow the audience to participate in the discussion. Motion carried.

WAKE BOAT DISCUSSION

Discussion held on the potential damage to the lake shore and lake bottom from wake boats.

- Kavanaugh, Green Lake County LCD, gave his input on what he has heard from the Wisconsin Association of Lakes Wake Boat Committee. Some of the information that is being discussed is minimum lake size of 1500 acres, depth of 40 feet to operate, and 700 feet from shoreline. A depth may be easier for operators to figure out than a distance from shore. Kavanaugh also discussed the invasive species issue, particularly with spiny water flea, which is currently not in Green Lake. The wake boats are not able to empty all their ballast water when moving between lakes, so this creates a way from these species to move between water bodies. Need additional information on what can be done to address this issue.
- Reas, Green Lake Sanitary District, also agreed with Kavanaugh that Green Lake is a big lake and there is room for everybody that wants to recreate, just need to come up with something that works for everyone. From the district standpoint their main concerns are safety, shoreline erosion, and aquatic plant impacts.
- Anderson, Walleyes for Tomorrow Chapter Chairman, expressed concern over loss of aquatic habitat and the potential for introduction of invasive species through the ballast tanks.
- Arrowood, Walleyes for Tomorrow and Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Fisheries Committee, expressed his concern with the disturbance of the bottom sediments in shallow water and covering the aquatic vegetation with silt which blocks the photosynthetic process, killing the plant. Stated plants are essential for fish populations.
- Representatives from local marina's will be invited to the next meeting.

WILDLIFE DAMAGE BUDGET AND CROP APPROVAL

1. **Motion/second (Dahlke/Boutwell)** to approve the 5-year Cooperative Service Agreement (CSA) for Green Lake County
2. **Motion/second (Boutwell/Dahlke)** to approve the 2023 budget in the amount of \$ 29,027.72 . Motion carried.
3. **Motion/second (Boutwell/Dahlke)** to approve the 2023 crop price proposal. Motion carried.
 - Alfalfa \$162.58/Ton
 - Alfalfa/Grass-mix \$111.08/Ton
 - Corn, Field \$5.75/Bushel
 - Oats \$4.00/Bushel
 - Soybeans \$14.33/Bushel
 - Wheat \$6.80/Bushel
4. **Motion/second (Boutwell/Dahlke)** to adopt December 1, 2023 as the 90% day that the crops have been harvested. Motion carried.
5. No action taken on the Venison Donation Program since this would be for reimbursement to a participating processor. Green Lake County does not have any processors that participate.

9:54 AM – Bill Boutwell left the meeting.

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.

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.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

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

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 9:59 AM .

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Weishaar
Recorder