

**CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
SOIL & WATER CONCERNS
JANUARY 14, 2010**

The January 14, 2010 meeting of the Soil & Water Concerns committee was called to order by the Chair, Pete Flesch. Pete verified the posting of the agenda. Members present for roll call were Pete Flesch, Chair; Henry Esser; Mike Kilburg; Wade Dull; and Sharon Marley. Harriet Behar and Don Daentl were excused.

Others present: Ellen Brooks; Bill Howe.

A motion was made to approve the agenda and minutes as mailed made by Mike Kilburg, second by Sharon Marley. Motion carried.

The Crawford Stewardship Project

Ellen Brooks spoke briefly regarding the Karst Study. Russ spoke with Ken Bradbury regarding the Karst Study training sometime in 2010. This will be a multi county training opportunity for the staff of 4 to 5 counties.

ROGER MARTIN, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The All Hazards Mitigation Plan was discussed. A survey was distributed. A Public Hearing will be held.

RUSS HAGEN, LCD

Russ attended: the WLWCA Conference in LaCrosse; Career Day at Bluffview School; the Rotary Club meeting & gave a presentation regarding Rain Gardens; RC & D meeting in Richland Center; Russ received the Legacy award from the RC & D group

The annual report is at the printers and should be out by the end of the month.

Applications are being accepted for the Summer Student position.

Oxbow Lake Report was submitted.

Upcoming dates set: Summer tour July 8 with DNR Fish Manager Pat Short.
Youth Conservation Day September 14, 2010

Revision of the Animal Waste Storage Ordinance was discussed. A motion was made by Wade Dull, second by Sharon Marley to present the revision to the County Board February 16, 2010. Motion carried. All replied "aye."

The Conservation Awards program was discussed. Nominations will be taken in February.

A motion was made by Buzz Esser, second by Mike Kilburg that Pete sign the SWRM grant reimbursement for \$45,615.24. Motion carried. All replied "aye."

A Non-metallic mining application was submitted for Bindl-Bauer Limestone Company of Spring Green.

Bills: A motion was made by Buzz Esser, second by Wade Dull to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried. Mike abstained. Everyone else replied "aye".

ADAM ACHENBACH, LAND & WATER PROJECT

Adam's report: three CREP contracts have been completed, and incentive payments received. The contracts are for Puchter; O'Connell and Gorman

The ranking of the 2010 cost-share projects have been completed. A motion was made by Wade Dull, second by Sharon Marley approving the cost-share projects for 2010. Motion carried.

There are several training dates that Adam would like to attend, they are:

AutoCad civil 3D training Jan 19-21 in Richland Center.

Engineering Roundtable Jan 26 in Richland Center

Streambank protection/crossings February 11 in Richland Center

Grade Stabilization/Access Road/Animal Trails Feb 16 in Richland Center.

A motion was made by Buzz Esser, second by Mike Kilburg that Adam attend these training sessions. Motion carried. All replied "aye."

A motion was made by Mike Kilburg, second by Buzz Esser approving the cost-share payment for the Matt Shilts manure storage closing project. Motion carried. All replied, "aye."

RICK LANGE, NRCS

Signup for EQIP and WHIP will be held January 19 through February 19, 2010.

There will not be state wide competition for manure storage projects this year.

A local practice list will be maintained. There will be one new practice this year, it is a seasonal high tunnel.

Six CSP (Conservation Security Program) contracts have been approved for \$26 to \$41 per acre.

A new soil Conservationist will be coming to Richland/Crawford County. Carol Fritche has been appointed.

A ten acre plot owned by 3M will be turned into a prairie plot this spring.

GARY HARDEN, FORESTER

Gary is not available today. Vance spoke with Gary and he is working on the Managed Forest Law Contracts.

VANCE HAUGEN, UWEX

The Grazing Lands Initiative grant is promoting the relocation of operators who wish to use grazing as a major part of their operation.

Vance expressed that 2009 was a difficult time for a lot of farm operators, the difficulties with the growing season and the economic difficulties.

JOHN BAIRD, FSA

Jerry Achenbach has been elected to the Farm Service Agency Committee.

John has set up several information meetings to inform landowner/operators of the programs available through the Farm Service Agency. They will be held January 19 & 20 and January 26 & 27.

The next meeting will be held February 11, 2010 @ 1 p.m. at the Crawford County Administration Building.

Motion to adjourn made by Buzz Esser, second by Sharon Marley. Motion carried.

Submitted by Deanna Baker, Land Conservation Department Secretary