

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
SOIL & WATER CONCERNS
June 10, 2010

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Henry Esser at 1:02 p.m. Esser verified the posting of the agenda. Members present for roll call were Henry Esser, Harriet Behar, Wade Dull, and David Olson.

Dull moved and Olson seconded to approve the minutes as mailed. The motion carried.

Others present: Edie Ehlert, Robert Vavra, Dale Klemme, and Greg Cerven

Robert Vavra, Maiden Voyage Tours, spoke to the committee asking permission to partner with the Crawford County Land Conservation office to help promote educating youth about the river. There will be no cost to the board for this program. The board verbally agreed.

Dale Klemme presented information about a grant that was awarded to the county in the amount of \$418,000. This grant will be used to remove log jams in the Kickapoo from the northern county line to Wauzeka. The county will have to consider disposal of the logs. There will be no cost to the county. He will present a public hearing in Steuben on June 23 at 6:30pm. No contract has been signed.

Edie Ehlert informed the board that they will have a booth at the fair and sell Karst posters. She also asked for information on the partners meeting with the Driftless Area Initiative.

RUSS HAGEN, LCD

Greg Cerven informed the board that the black bears are present in the county and that the wildlife program only helps when damage is done. The Transect survey was finished on June 9. Hagen will be reporting to the finance committee June 16. Christine Pitzen, summer intern and Hagen will be attending WLWCA Youth camp as counselors, June 22-25. LiDAR has flown. Summer tour will take place July 13 at noon.

Russ made suggestions for conservation awards. The board requested the forestry award be decided by Hagen and Harden. The nominated were: Eugene Fritche Family – Conservation Farm Family; Andrea Christopherson – Water Quality Educator; Tim Eisele – Conservation Writer; The Nature Conservancy – Wildlife Habitat; Ron Leys – Conservation Legacy. Dull moved and Behar seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Dam inspection report will be moved to the next meeting. A side-hill mower for sale by Vernon County was inspected and purchase was not recommended.

Ron Leys was nominated for the RC & D council. Behar moved and Dull to approve. The motion carried.

Dull moved and Olson seconded to pay the LCD departmental bills as presented. Motion carried upon roll call.

ADAM ACHENBACH, LAND & WATER PROJECT

Achenbach was not present

RICK LANGE, NRCS

Lange was not present

GARY HARDEN, FORESTER

Harden was not present.

VANCE HAUGEN, UWEX

Haugen report he co-sponsored a No till field day. Haugen will be speaking at Mid-west Renewable Energy fair about small scale anaerobic digesters. He will be attending Agri-forestry in-service event.

JOHN BAIRD, FSA

Baird informed the LC board members about a possible Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) general sign-up scheduled for later this summer. Baird also informed the members about a “new” program called the Transition Incentive Program (TIP). Signup for this program began mid May, 2010. Baird also mentioned that the crop reporting deadline was July 15, 2010, farmers participating in FSA programs are required to report planted acreage. He also stated that the deadline for the 2010 farm program signup of June 1, 2010 had past and that signup went pretty well.

The committee set their next meeting at Tuesday July 13, 10:00 p.m. in the county Administration Building.

Dull moved and Olson seconded to adjourn. The motion carried.