

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
SOIL & WATER CONCERNS
February 14, 2019

Chairman Esser called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. Esser verified the posting of the agenda. Members present for roll call were Henry Esser, Dave Olson and Harriet Behar. Wade Dull and Don Dudenbostel were excused.

Motion by Olson to approve the minutes as mailed, second by Behar. Motion carried unanimously.

GREG CERVEN, WILDLIFE DAMAGE CLAIMS

Cerven presented the 2018 Wildlife Damage Claims. Motion by Olson, second by Behar to pay the Wildlife Damage Claims as presented; West Ridge Orchard \$2,486.80, Jeff Werthwein \$4,583.60 and Star Valley Flowers \$10,000.00. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION

The conservation poster and speaking contests were held; Esser and Olson helped judge the posters at the local level. The poster winners received a kid's meal and frozen custard coupons donated by Culver's and drawing supplies from LCD, the speaking contest winner received a kid's meal and frozen custard coupons donated by Culver's. At the area contest, Crawford Co. had two posters that took 3rd place in their age divisions and the speaker was unable to attend due to the weather. We are still receiving orders for the tree sale. The snowmobile trails opened up again on Wednesday. The office has been receiving nutrient management checklist and calls about the farmland preservation credit.

Well Water Testing Update

Troester gave an update on well water testing; he has spoken with Vernon & Richland Counties, and Public Health regarding possible testing in the future.

Conservation Awards at the Fair

Troester asked for recommendations for the Conservation Awards. He would like to decide at next month's meeting who is going to receive the awards so he can get the benches built by the shop class at the Prairie du Chien High School.

Membership Dues

Discussion on yearly annual dues. Motion by Olson, second by Behar to approve the payment of the following annual dues: Southwest Badger \$1,200.00. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Bills were presented. Behar made the motion to pay bills as presented, second by Olson, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS (not present)

He has been working on surveying.

KARYL FRITSCHKE, NRCS

Fritsche stated they are in a holding pattern and cannot obligate funds yet. The Cover Crop follow up meeting is planned for March 5 in Gays Mills. They will be reaching out again this year to Vernon County. Black Sand Granary has been working with the Grant Co. Cover Crop program and they will be attending the meeting also. Fritsche spoke about the future of the cover crop program in Crawford Co. and feels the program is strong enough to turn it over to the private industry. Fritsche introduced Mark Cooley her supervisor, he works out of the Richland Center NRCS office. Cooley gave a brief background history regarding his career. He stated there is a soil conservationist vacancy but was not sure, when that position would be filled.

DNR FORESTER, Christine Walroth, Brandon Sieck

Walroth was not present; Sieck indicated he has been meeting with landowners, writing tree-planning plans, and working on cost share. There will be a landowner workshop on Feb 19, 23 and March 5.

UW Extension (not present)

Troester read a report submitted by Adam Hady and handed out a copy of his scholar profile. Hady started Jan 1 as the 50% Ag Agent. He has conducted a workshop on the USDA Dairy risk management tools. A pesticide applicator class will be held in Seneca tomorrow.

FSA (not present)

Public Comment

Forest Janke, Crawford County Stewardship, stated he attended the WI Land & Water Conservation Board meeting and gave a brief update on the SWIGG water testing. He stated Crawford County Stewardship is going to be doing some of their own water testing and is offering 80% cost share for people in Crawford County.

Next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2019.

Olson made the motion to adjourn at 11:00 a.m., second by Behar. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Becky Nagel
Administrative Assistant

DT:bn