

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
SOIL & WATER CONCERNS
February 10, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Chair Esser at 9:45 a.m. Members present for roll call were Wade Dull, Henry Esser, David Olson, and Jerry Achenbach. Harriet Behar had an excused absence.

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

Greg Cerven – Wildlife Damage Claims

Greg presented two wildlife damage claims for the 2014 year; Gaylon O'Neal in the amount of \$3,856.00 and Norm Werthwein in the amount of \$4,572.94. Motion by Olson to approve the Wildlife Damage Claims for Gaylon O'Neal for \$3,856.00 and Norm Werthwein for \$4,572.94, seconded by Dull, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Crawford Stewardship Project Report

Ellen Brooks gave the report for CSP. She had presented copies of the revised resolution regarding Groundwater Legislation and Current and Future Reviews of High-Capacity Well Applications at the last meeting and it was decided to wait and look at the wording once Dane County has approved the resolution; it is still in the process of going before their county board. Esser indicated we would need to have our Corporate Counsel look it over before we bring it before our LCC. Concerning the law suit brought before Judge Day regarding Pattison Sand Mine Operation, that the CSP and mine neighbors brought against Bridgeport Township officials, the judge did agree that Flansburgh had a conflict of interest and should have refrained from voting; however, the administrative appeal could have been filed but was not filed timely so he threw the law suit out, so Pattison Sand can operate with no conditions for 60 years. The CSP is looking into contacting other LCD's for a larger study group for the karst study of SW WI and then will be looking at the granting process and funds available for this type of study.

She invited everyone to attend a Farmers Forum organized by CSP on March 10th being held at Century Hall in Wauzeka starting at 9:00 a.m. and going until around 3:00 p.m.

DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION

Dave indicated he and Travis attended the Driftless Symposium in LaCrosse and attended several very good sessions on various conservation practices. Travis attended the Southwest Wisconsin Invasive Species Coalition. Dave also attended the Southwest District Area Meeting in Baraboo. This morning he spoke with Jennifer Nelson, Haney Township, regarding them moving forward with their zoning plan and wanted to be in compliance with our new plan being written; discussed getting the LiDAR information copied and to Haney Township for their use. On February 24th he will attend a NRCS refresher meeting in Richland Center and Karyl and he will do a presentation on the Aerial Cover Crop Project in Crawford County. March 9-10-11 Travis and he will be attending the WLWCA Annual Conference in Appleton and all board members are encouraged to attend if interested. Dave distributed a flier he received from Ed Ruff on the Farm Management course being offered at Southwest Tech Campus starting February 18 from 7 – 9 p.m. and will meet once a month for 12 months. Dave presented the winning posters from the county poster contest and the speakers from the county speaking contest. Tonight would have been the regional speaking/poster contest but it has been cancelled due to the weather and will be rescheduled at a later time. Our spring tree sales have started and we are slowly receiving orders.

A discussion of LCD/LCC yearly dues to organizations and the amounts to be paid. Motion by Olson to pay annual dues as follows: Southwest Badger - \$1,200.00, WI Land & Water Conservation District - \$1,318.00 and the National Association of Conservation District - \$250.00. Seconded by Achenbach, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

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

DNR GRANT RESOLUTION

Dave presented a 2015-2018 Crawford County Land Conservation Dept. – Wisconsin DNR Partnership Resolution to participate and carry out the Conservation Aides Grant Program and the Snowmobile Trail Maintenance Program. Motion by Dull to sign the 2015-2018 Crawford County Land Conservation Committee/Dept. – Wisconsin DNR Partnership Resolution and present to the county board, seconded by Olson. Motion carried.

TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS

Travis indicated he has several meetings coming up in the next month, has his new computer up and running at the NRCS Office so will be busy working on projects. He will be attending some training meetings on fencing and grazing. He stated he has 3 projects that need to be investigated.

KARYL FRITSCH, NRCS

Karyl indicated every 5 years the office needs to be reviewed and tomorrow is the day. No funding information is available yet, CSP sign up is currently going on. The Aerial Cover Crop Follow Up meeting was held Wednesday, January 28th at the Seneca Town Hall at 1:00 p.m. She indicated she has a lot more sign-ups for this year's cover crop program and many interested individuals attended the meeting.

GARY HARDEN, FORESTER (NOT PRESENT)

Gary has retired as of 02/06/2015. A discussion was held concerning the Forestry Account in the Gays Mills Bank and the check book that needs to be retrieved from the DNR Forestry Office.

VANCE HAUGEN, UWEX

Vance informed the group he attended the Cover Crop meeting and also one of the Farm Services Meeting held on the new farm bill. He stated he is working on getting another scale and then there will be 2 available for use as the Land Conservation Department has one.

JOHN BAIRD, FSA

John indicated that Jackie will be retiring on February 19th and a retirement party is being held on Friday, February 13th at their office for all to attend. Yesterday the posting of her job went out. He felt the three meetings held in Crawford County were well attended by farmers to help them understand the new Farm Bill and make informed decisions. Their office is getting very busy with individuals wanting to make appointments and get signed up by the February 27th deadline with base allocation and yield updates. A mailing will be going out shortly to everyone to let them know they need to get signed up this month or as of March 13th they will have no choice in the matter.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3rd at 10:00 a.m. or immediately following the Land Use Meeting.

Dull made the motion to adjourn at 10:55 a.m., second by Achenbach. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Wolcott
LCD Secretary

DT:cjw