

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

SOIL & WATER CONCERNS

April 9, 2019

Chairman Esser called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Esser verified the posting of the agenda. Members present for roll call were Henry Esser, Dave Olson, Don Dudenbostel, Wade Dull and Harriet Behar.

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

DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION

Troester stated he was at the NRCS office this morning; they were working on getting the Ag Leader GPS system set up to lay out the contour strips. Snowmobile trails are closed for the season. The clubs have been entering claims into the SNARS system for approval by our office; then LCD will submit for reimbursement of the state grant funds. The tree sale ended a couple of weeks ago but we are still receiving calls for tree orders. The final tree order was submitted and pick up date is scheduled for April 24 weather permitting. The fire clean-up event has been set for June 8; at the Hwy shop in Seneca from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Troester attended a meeting last Friday in Dodgeville with Black Sand Granary to discuss a small grains grant project. This Friday Troester will be attending a well water-testing meeting in Gays Mills. Next Tuesday Troester will be giving an update to the County Board on the POWTS maintenance program and the cover crop program. Troester stated he went to the finance committee last week regarding the POWTS maintenance fees. The finance committee wants the fees to stay in the department.

Well Testing

Discussion took place regarding well water testing in Crawford County. Dan McWilliams, Health & Human Services Director was present. McWilliams stated he wanted to be a partner in the well water testing. We need to determine our goal, what we will be testing for and how to provide help/education for contaminated wells. The committee suggested meeting with Richland and Vernon counties to see if they are on board and determine how/when to proceed.

Facebook Page

Discussion on future plans of developing a Facebook page for the LCD department. This would help the LCD notify the public on upcoming events such as tree sales, fire clean up, clean sweep, snowmobile trail updates etc... The committee advised the LCD to implement a Facebook page.

Annual Report

Motion by Dull to approve LCPZD Annual Report as presented, second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously.

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

TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS

Bunting handed out to the committee the construction plan from Mike Dreschmeir on the dam. He explained to the committee the repairs that are needed to the drainage system. He is waiting for an estimate for the cost of the repairs. Repairs many need to be implemented over a two-year span due to cost. Bunting also suggested marking the primary inlet with a long pole so it can easily be located if it becomes plugged. Bunting has been receiving calls for well decommissioning. Starting to get out into the field, it is starting to dry up and frost is out of the ground. He attended a soils training last week and has a continuation of soils training coming up in May. Worked on getting the guidance system set up this morning and will be testing it this afternoon with Karyl.

KARYL FRITSCHKE, NRCS

Fritsche stated a new sign up for cover crops will be available on May 17. She is looking at an additional 2,500 acres of cover crops to go through this year. CSP signup deadline will be May 10 and no information on CRP yet. Working on the small grain grant with Black Sand Granary. Fritsche met with Pete Huff last week the Tainter Creek Watershed was awarded an EPA grant for a nonpoint source phosphorus reduction. Jacob Hawes, Grazing Specialist/Soil Con is going to help with coordinating some grazing to help with phosphorus reduction.

DNR FORESTER, Christine Walroth, Brandon Sieck

Walroth distributed a map to the committee to show where the Guy & Karen Williams property is located for the forestry award. She indicated she has started doing property walk-throughs. The rest of her team is working on wildland fires and controlled burns. There is something in the works for the DNR private forestry initiative more info to come in the future.

UW Extension (not present)

In the process of hiring a part-time CONRED agent.

FSA (not present)

Dudenbostel stated they are looking at the dairy program.

Public Comment

Forest Jahnke, Crawford Stewardship Project, distributed a flyer on the upcoming Public Drinking Water Forum at the Crawford County Highway shop in Seneca on Saturday, April 27 from 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. to go over the results of the 53 wells they tested in February. The water samples taken were tested at the UW-Stevens Point Lab. Testing consisted of the homeowner's package & metals test. Jahnke stated out of the 53 wells tested one well-tested positive for E. coli, two tested high in nitrates and six tested positive for coliform bacteria. The results will be discussed more in depth at the forum.

Next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2019.

Behar made the motion to adjourn at 11:20 a.m., second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Becky Nagel
Administrative Assistant

DT:bn