

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

SOIL & WATER CONCERNS

August 10, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dave Olson at 9:33 a.m. Olson verified the posting of the agenda. Members present for roll call were Bob Standorf, Wade Dull, Kim Moret and Gary Koch.

Motion by Standorf to approve the minutes as mailed, second by Moret. Motion carried unanimously.

DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION

Troester stated he attended the virtual County Con meeting last month and had a virtual Farm Land Preservation audit with DATCP. On August 30th the Town of Freeman will be having a meeting with DATCP reps to hear options/requirements regarding zoning for Farm Land Preservation. Troester will be there to answer questions relating to the producers and compliance requirements to receive the tax credits. Last week Troester met with Collins to discuss possible projects for the five year land records grant. LCD is busy preparing for the upcoming awards at the fair, Youth Conservation Day and the fair booth.

Ryan Redman the AIS intern gave the committee his last summer update. So far he has logged 45 hours at area boat landings, spoke to over 485 people, visited with 8 bait shops and completed 71 FPP site inspections. Inspected boat landings throughout the county for proper AIS signage and discovered 3 or 4 need signs. The signs are ordered and should be arriving soon. He also discovered a few aquatic invasives while at the landings.

Budget

The LCPZD Budget was presented and the budget will be similar to last year but when Dave presents it to the Finance Committee he will also be discussing the financial ramifications of trying to hire an additional full time employee. Motion by Standorf to approve the increased LCPZD Budget as presented, second by Dull and motion approved by roll call vote.

Approve Snowmobile Payments

Motion by Dull to pay the Hillbilly and Cliffhangers Snowmobile Clubs for maintaining trails, second by Koch. Motion carried by roll call vote

Bills

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

TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS (not present)

Troester stated Bunting is on vacation but busy in the field with construction projects.

KARYL FRITSCH, NRCS

Fritsche joined the meeting via zoom and stated CSP sign up has been taking up a lot of time. The cover crop planes will be going up in the next couple of weeks, seeding at least 10,000 acres in Crawford and Grant Counties. She also attended a field day event in Iowa where cover crop was applied using a drone.

DNRFORESTER, Christine Walroth

Walroth introduced Brian Zweifel to the committee. Zweifel stated he will be working on public lands in Crawford and Vernon. Some of his other duties will be fire protection and prescribed burns in the SW part of the State. He will also be filling in for forest rangers out of Boscobel and Richland Center.

UW Extension Carolyn Ihde (Not Present)

No report

FSA – Bob Standorf

Standorf stated FSA will be meeting this Thursday. He reported due to the D2 drought determination Crawford County is eligible for emergency grazing on CRP acres.

Public Comment

Ellen Brooks - Crawford Stewardship Project thanked the committee for the ability to attend the meetings virtually and inquired on the American Rescue Plan Act funding in regards to conservation. She also informed the committee that State Geologist Ken Bradbury is interested in updating the 1867 bedrock mapping. CSP has not yet received a noticed of final determination for the Roth Feeder Pig 2 operation from the DNR. Senator Brad Pfaff is urging the DNR to conduct an environmental impact statement.

Gillian Pomplum from the Crawford County Independent informed the committee the Tainter Creek Farmer-led Watershed Council announced they will be having speaker Dr. Stanley Trimble come to Viroqua on Sunday, September 12, 2021.

Kirk & Jen Beers spoke to the committee about the recent loss of their son due to a tragic accident in a rock quarry near their residence. He gained access to the quarry because there isn't a law or an ordinance requiring inactive quarries to have a locked gate at the entrance. They would like to prevent this from happening again and asked the committee if an ordinance or law could be put in place requiring inactive quarries to be lock and access roads to the top blocked. Dave updated the committee at this time that he had reached out to DNR and to corporate counsel and was unable to find similar ordinance examples anywhere in the state. Dave will keeping looking into this.

Next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021.

Dull made the motion to adjourn at 10:23 a.m., second by Moret. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Becky Nagel
Administrative Assistant
DT:bn