

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
SOIL & WATER CONCERNS
May 12, 2020

The Zoom/Teleconference meeting was called to order by Chairman Dave Olson at 9:45 a.m. Olson verified the posting of the agenda. Members present for roll call were Wade Dull, Kim Moret and Bob Standorff and Edward Hayes-Hall was introduced and welcomed to the committee.

Motion by Standorff to approve the minutes as mailed, second by Dull. Motion carried unanimously.

DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION

Troester introduced himself to Edward Hayes-Hall and gave a brief overview of the department, duties and employees. The department is staggering the staff as much as possible. Tree pickup was last Thursday & Friday at the Administration Building. Customers stayed in their vehicles and the trees were taken to them to load. Everyone followed the social distancing guidelines. Troester informed the committee AV Roth submitted his application and plans for the new proposed facility in Marietta Township to the DNR. Troester gave brief reports on the deer council meeting and webinars he has attended. The Tire Clean Up is tentatively scheduled for June 13th at the Highway Dept. Town & Country Sanitation will be handling the event. Continuing to make plans for the upcoming events; Conservation Awards, Clean Sweep and Youth Conservation Days. Troester thanked Bunting for making the benches for Conservation Awards and dropping them off at the High School. With the school being closed Ron Kucko, the PDC shop teacher, agreed to engrave the benches for us.

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

TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS

Bunting stated he has been working on projects and helping landowners with permits for streambank construction. All permits that were applied for streambank projects were approved. Construction can start on May 15th. Will be starting a 2018 project later this week. Should easily be able to get extended funds used this year. No funding has went through yet for NRCS projects.

KARYL FRITSCH, NRCS

Fritsche stated all of the CRP contracts that were submitted were funded, 51 for the general signup. Taking continuous CRP applications. All CSP renewal that were eligible also got funded. Money is slowly coming in through EQUIP signups. Equip signup deadline is June 5th. Jacob Hawes the grazing specialist took a new position with the Waukon NRCS field office. There will be a new employee coming Jacob Johnson, not sure of his start date. Fritsche gave a brief update on cover crops and expects it to double in size this year.

DNR FORESTER, Christine Walroth, Brandon Sieck

Walroth stated she is continuing to work remotely and occasionally going into the office. Getting into the woods and checked on a few completed practices. Speaking with landowners via email/phone. Held a Facebook live class last month with the UW-Extension and it's available on Youtube.

UW Extension (not present)

Nothing new to report, Carolyn Ihde the new Ag agent and will start mid-May.

FSA – Bob Standorff

Standorff stated FSA held the April meeting, Emily Schildgen will be replacing Joanne Cooley as Director. At the April Farm Bureau meeting Standorff was elected as the new Chairman of Farm Bureau and appointed as the new representative for the Land Conservation Committee.

Dave Olson requested a Crawford Stewardship Project update from Ellen Brooks, she thanked the committee and the LCD for all of the conservation work that is taking place during these difficult times. Brooks informed the committee they could find more information on the DNR website regarding the AV Roth's application for the proposed CAFO in Marietta Township. She asked Olson when the CAFO study group would resume. Olson recommended to wait a couple weeks and see what happens with the stay at home order. Troester and Olson will be looking into the possibility of setting up meetings via Zoom if the order continues. On Saturday, August 15 from 1-4:30 pm at the Wauzeka Village Hall CSP will be hosting Karst Exploration 2020. Brooks shared with the committee the spring Crawford Stewardship newsletter is available on the CSP website.

Next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2020.

Dull made the motion to adjourn at 10:36 a.m., second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Becky Nagel
Administrative Assistant

DT:bn