

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

SOIL & WATER CONCERNS

January 14, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Dull at 9:35 a.m. Dull verified the posting of the agenda. Members present for roll call were, Wade Dull, Dave Olson, Kim Moret and Bob Standorf was introduced and welcomed to the committee as the temporary FSA representative replacing Don Dudenbostel. Henry Esser was excused.

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

DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION

Troester stated he has been working on a lot of end of the year stuff; Farmland Preservation certificates and tax credits for 2019. The poster contest deadline was Friday, Seneca School was the only one that participated. Posters will be judged later in the week and winners will move on the area contest which will be in early February. No schools participated in the speaking contest. The annual tree sale is being held orders are due by March 15, 2020. A new contract for SEG funding was signed. The DNR set the 80% harvest date for January 1, 2020. Started working on the annual DATCP report that is due in March. The Non-Metallic Mining fees and reports are coming, continuing to assist with calls on septic systems.

Membership Dues

Annual membership dues were discussed. Motion by Olson to pay WI Land & Water Conservation \$1,422.00 the National Association of Conservation Districts \$250.00 and the Western Area Association \$25.00. Second by Dull. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Approval of WLWCA Conference

Motion by Moret to allow Troester and Bunting to attend the annual WLWCA Conference March 4-6 in Green Bay, second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

CAFO Study Group

The committee discussed members of the study group, and meeting times. It was decided that members of the study group would consist of; LCD & LCC members Dave Olson & Kim Moret, Cindy Riniker, Public Health Officer, and Jessica Spayde, Community Development Agent. The ordinance also state that the County Board Chair could appoint members. Two citizens, Sandy Collins & Janet Widder, asked to be considered. After an in-depth discussion, it was decided Crawford Stewardship Project would not be on the study group but would be invited to meetings as an advisory roll/speaker along with potential groups such as DATCP, DNR, Farm Bureau, WI Dairy Council, etc. Troester will contact County Board Chairman Tom Cornford and discuss these potential study group members and work on scheduling the first meeting.

DAWS Update

Troester gave a brief update on the tentative water testing for the spring and fall of 2020. He stated there was no money for the study allocated in the 2020 budget. At the next finance meeting later this month he will see if any funding is available. The next DAWS meeting will be in February.

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

TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS

Bunting stated he has been busy surveying, the weather has been good this year. Working on designs for EQUIP sign-ups, and CREP. Waiting on Mike Dreschmeir for the cost estimates to file the dam.

KARYL FRITSCHKE, NRCS – Not Present

Troester stated Fritsche is busy going through the annual NRCS review and couldn't make it.

DNR FORESTER, Christine Walroth – Not Present

Troester read a brief report from Walroth. The Viroqua office is being remodeled and many are working from home or sharing offices out of La Crosse. They are hoping to be back in the office by February.

UW Extension – Not Present

Dull indicated hiring will take place towards the end of the month for a part-time Ag Agent. They will be sharing the agent with Richland County.

FSA (not present)

Standorf stated at the March meeting it will be decided who the new FSA representative will be. The ballots are just starting to come in.

Public Comment

Gillian Pomplun, Crawford County Independent stated she will be writing an article regarding the CAFO Study Group and how she felt it is an unbalanced group.

Ellen Brooks, Crawford Stewardship Project, distributed handouts on the upcoming Love the Land fundraiser on Saturday, January 25, from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. at the Community Room, Gays Mills.

Next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Becky Nagel
Administrative Assistant

DT:bn