

**CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT**  
**SOIL & WATER CONCERNS**  
**February 9, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Esser at 10:00 a.m. Members present for roll call were Harriet Behar, Henry Esser, Dave Olson, Wade Dull was excused at 10:25 a.m., and Don Dudenbostel the new FSA Representative on the Land Conservation Committee.

Motion by Olson to approve the agenda as posted and the minutes as mailed, second by Behar. Motion carried unanimously.

**Crawford Stewardship Project Report**

Ellen Brooks discussed a puppet show that will be presented to children on Wednesday, March 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the Gays Mills Library concerning KARST. THE CSP is very excited about the MRBI Watershed project.

**DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION**

Dave discussed the month activities which included the second meeting for MRBI in Viroqua and the need for additional staff. NRCS has had a Soil Conservationist position approved for the PdC Office but no idea when it will be filled and this was to help with the existing workload before the MRBI. Conservation Poster & Speaking Contest went well with good participation and the winners will be judged at the regional level. Crawford County's 2016 Land and Water Resource Management Plan is on the LWCB's August agenda to get approved. Discussion on including MRBI in the work plan and how much time county employees should plan on spending on this new project. The committee indicated it should be left up to Dave to handle and determine what the department can handle. Continuing to update the snowmobile tourist maps and phone hotline.

Upcoming activities include the spring tree sale & orders are coming in, Water Quality Trading Meeting with MRBI Villages on March 24 at Kickapoo Valley Reserve, and preparing the annual report. NRCS Cover Crop wrap up meeting will be held tomorrow. Travis and Dave will be attending the annual WLWCA Meeting March 2, 3, & 4 at Elkhart Lake.

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

**Membership Dues**

Motion by Dull to approve the following membership dues: Southwest Badger RC & D \$1,200.00, Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association \$1,318.00 and the National Association of Conservation District \$250.00. Second by Behar, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**Greg Cerven, Wildlife Program Claims**

Greg present damage claims and discussion followed. Motion by Dull to approve the following wildlife damage claims; Norm Werthwein \$5,057.71, David Shihata \$1,897.04, John Zehrer \$10,000.00 and Gaylon O'Neal \$6,865.44 with a waiver to meet the hunting requirement on O'Neal's claim. Second by Olson, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS**

He stated he is currently working on dam and pipe line designs for NRCS. He will be attending several trainings for Audio CAD and Engineering this month and then the annual conference the first week of March.

**KARYL FRITSCH, NRCS**

MRBI project will be \$847,000 to spend for Vernon and Crawford County. No TA funds for additional help; however, would like to work on a Contribution Agreement between LCD and NRCS for additional help being paid to LCD on a 50%/50% (LCD can be in kind hours, office space, etc.) She stressed to use caution and not to overload the department workload and only anticipate as much as can be handled by the LCD staff. A Soil Conservationist position has been approved for her office but no idea when it will be filled. She has been receiving assistance from staff from other NRCS office coming to PdC to help with contracts and finish up projects. Cover crop meeting wrap-up is tomorrow, CSP is open and increased funding and CRP is ongoing.

**Kobby Antwi, DNR Forester**

Kobby indicated he has been busy with the Managed Forest Law new enrollments and re-enrollments. He distributed an inventory of trees available.

**VANCE HAUGEN, UW-Extension**

UW-Extension Roller Crimper demonstration will be held in Vernon County. Vance indicated the UW-Extension re-organization is progressing and agents will be serving several counties and there will be staffing changes.

**JOHN BAIRD, FSA**

John stated the FSA board members are Don Dudenbostel, Swede Knutson, Dean Roth and Rosemary Hall as advisor. The 2016 enrollment cards are working out well, CRP general sign up is going on and the MRBI is causing additional work in the office for aerial maps and producer eligibility.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2016.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Harriet Behar, Secretary

DT:HB:cjw