

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
SOIL & WATER CONCERNS
July 11, 2017

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

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

DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION

Report

The Farmland Preservation Plan was approved by DATCP and will be presented for approval at the August County Board Meeting. The Annual Report for Electronic Collections was submitted to DNR. The department has been working on the conservation award winners for presentation at the Crawford County Fair; donations for Youth Conservation Day and the Clean Sweep in the fall. The NRCS local working group met this past month. Troester will be attending the County Con Meeting in Wisconsin Rapids on Thursday and Friday of this week. The following Saturday he will lead a hike on Sugar Creek Bluff in Ferryville.

Cover Crops

Only one bid was received for the Cover Crop Aerial Seed and Application and that was from Ag-Tech Air; they have been doing the previous applications. Their bid was Seed Mix A – \$48.37 per acre and Mix B - \$45.93. Motion by Dull to award the Cover Crop Aerial Bid to Ag-Tech Air as submitted, second by Olson. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Troester indicated last year we charged a flat \$55 an acre to landowners for the cover crop application. Motion by Dull to set a flat rate of \$55 per acre for the cover crop application, second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Currently we have approximately 2,300 acres contracted, but there may be a few hundred more by the time we are ready to apply in late August or early September.

Wolf Resolution

After much discussion concerning the resolution that was presented at the meeting last month and tabled, along with negative comments received from the public recently, the Crawford County Land Conservation Committee decided they were **NOT** in favor of approving the resolution at this time, but may look at it in the future if local problems arise.

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

TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS

Bunting indicated that the seedings on projects are not taking hold right now as well as he would like them to. Waiting to hear on a rip-rap project that should be starting soon. The spillway was sprayed at the dam and trying to get ahold of David Jones, Highway Department, this week. He is working on getting two CREP contracts approved. Bunting stated they hope to start spraying the Japanese hops in August.

KARYL FRITSCH, NRCS

Another run of funding has been approved for approximately \$300,000. CRP is slowing down. Adam is back full time. Discussion of the Cover Crop Project and how working with a third party (Black Sand Granary-Kramer) has had a few challenges and if we will continue the project in this manner or not in future years.

DNR FORESTER (not present)

VANCE HAUGEN, UW Extension (not present)

JOHN BAIRD, FSA.

Baird indicated August 4 will be his last day of work as he is retiring. There is a hiring freeze on and the office is already short staffed so no idea how this will be handled. One of the two staff members will be going on maternity leave and hopefully some help from other counties will be coming into the office. Baird stated he has enjoyed working in this beautiful county and the LCC has always been easy to work with. Esser thanked Baird for his 11 years of service to Crawford County residents.

This week is the last week of crop reporting for farmers and the end of August is the end of sign up for ARC.

Public Comment

Ellen Brooks, Crawford Stewardship, invited all to attend the Karst Geology Exploration on July 15, 2017 starting at the Prairie du Chien City Hall.

Next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, August 8, 2017.**

Olson made the motion to adjourn at 10:45 a.m., second by Dull. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Wolcott
Administrative Assistant

DT:cjw