

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
SOIL & WATER CONCERNS
July 14, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Esser at 10:00 a.m. Members present for roll call were Wade Dull, Henry Esser, David Olson, and Jerry Achenbach. Harriet Behar had an excused absence.

Motion by Olson to approve the minutes as mailed (2nd set) and agenda as posted, second by Achenbach. Motion carried unanimously.

Crawford Stewardship Project Report

Ellen Brooks gave the report for the CSP. Ellen encouraged all citizens and committee members to attend the Public hearing on the proposed reissuance of the Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permit WI-0063878-02 for Roth Feeder Pig, Inc. Roth Feeder Pig, Inc. is a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) located in SEQ SWQ T7N R4W Section 2, Town of Wauzeka, Crawford County that is scheduled for Friday, July 24 at 1:00 p.m. at the Wauzeka Town Hall. Discharge is to the surface water and groundwater within the Boydtown Creek in the Lower Wisconsin River Basin. She also encouraged everyone to attend Harriet Behar's farm for a Field Day on Tuesday, July 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; call MOSES for reservations.

DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION

All the NMM financial assurances are in; the Summer County Con Meeting starts tomorrow in Wisconsin Rapids; MRRPC contract for the Farmland Preservation Plan was received and signed; he indicated he has a PdC Library presentation next week; Japanese Hops project is moving forward; we are receiving donations from townships and villages to help with the Clean Sweep bills; and Nutrient Management Certifications need to be into the state by Friday.

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

Hill-N-Vale Manure Storage Permit

Dave indicated the plan meets all standards and was signed off by DATCP and the compliance report has been completed. Dull made the motion to approve the Manure Storage Permit for Hill-N-Vale, second by Achenbach and motion carried by roll call vote.

AERIAL COVER CROP SEEDING BID OPENING

Dave stated he received only one bid and that was from Ag Tech Air. Dave and Karyl decided to offer 2 options for mixes this year and hope to start to fly by mid-August; Mix1) came in at \$52.45 an acre and Mix 2) came in at \$59.39 an acre. Motion by Dull to approve the bid submitted by Ag Tech air, second by Olson and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Dave indicated there are approximately 2,000 acres to be flown and 11 operators this year.

Motion by Dull to add \$5.00 per acre on to the bid amount for administrative fees, second by Olson and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

We plan to use all cost share funds to help fund a fourth year of aerial cover crops and will be sure to inform the public where the cost-share money will be used for. At this point it was decided only those operators participating in the program will be able to apply for these additional fourth year funds.

Karyl suggested advertising in newspapers and radio – news releases, PSA, etc., more than we did last year informing the public of what areas the plane will be flying low in and on what days so the public is more aware of the Aerial Cover Crop Seeding going on and they don't become alarmed by the low flying plane.

CONSERVATION AWARDS, FAIRGROUNDS

Dave presented the award winners to be recognized at our Conservation Awards Program on August 26th at the Fairgrounds in Gays Mills at 5:30 p.m.:

Conservation Farm Family – Crestview Acres – Manning Family
Water Quality – Swede Knutson
Wildlife – Joe and Judy Deuster
Forestry – Ken Childs
Education of the Year – Dennis Rooney
Legacy Award – Russ Hagen

We plan to again present recipients with a Leopold Bench and hope to get the engraving completed and possibly even built by the Boy Scouts this year.

TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS

Travis indicated he has been helping with the hops project, checking on projects currently going on and working on new designs.

KARYL FRITSCH, NRCS

Karyl stated they have \$300,000 more in contracts funded than last year on various projects; CSP contracts were funded on 9,000 acres; and on August 6 they will be hosting a tour of the Honey Bee pollinator project. She thanked the department and committee for letting Travis help out, especially this week as Adam is at training.

Dave and Karyl indicated that the RCPP grant they were looking into ended up to be a 1:1 money match instead of any in-kind match and the group they were working with decided not to include Crawford County in their grant application process.

DNR FORESTER (Hiring put on hold)

VANCE HAUGEN, UWEX (Not Present)

JOHN BAIRD, FSA (Not Present)

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 11th at 10:00 a.m. or immediately following the Land Use Meeting.

Dull made the motion to adjourn at 11:00 a.m., second by Achenbach. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Wolcott, Secretary

DT:cjw