

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

SOIL & WATER CONCERNS

October 10, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Esser at 9:50 a.m. Esser verified the posting of the agenda. Members present for roll call were Henry Esser, Dave Olson, Don Dudenbostel, Harriet Behar and Wade Dull.

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

DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION

Youth Conservation Day was held on September 21st with over 200 students attending on a beautiful sunny day with six different stations to attend; DNR Wardens, DNR Fisheries Crew shocking fish, DNR Forester and SW Badger RC & D Forester, Reptiles with Nedrelo Lectures; USFWS Crew with Stream life and NRCS with Soils. Donations were received for treats from Turkey Ridge Orchard, Peoples State Bank, Crawford County Dairy Committee, Nichols Water, Piggly Wiggly, Prairie Farms and Cabela's. A County Nurse was on site in case of any accidents and assisted throughout the day.

Troester did a couple of farm inspections for the Farmland Preservation program in preparation to sign SEG contracts for Nutrient Management Plans and he attended a Wisconsin Land & Water area meeting in LaCrosse. Had a problem with one financial assurance not being returned timely on a quarry and worked with Corporate Council on this issue. Clean Sweep plans are being finalized for October 27th and the Skills USA class from Steuben/Wauzeka will be helping as well as the North Crawford/Seneca wrestlers. Townships and villages will be coming on Thursday from noon to 3 with their loads; still waiting for donations from 4 townships and fliers' villages. Received word yesterday from LaCrosse County that they will not take light bulbs this year and fliers have been distributed stating we will accept; the committee stated we will have to cover the cost for this year and possibly increase television cost next year to help cover additional costs. Working on DATCP staffing reimbursement funds for 2017 and the final grant payment has been requested for the Farmland Preservation Plan.

A discussion on Gordon's Bay and the Highway Department would like LCD to look into future financial assistance opportunities to maintain and improve the landing. Lots of questions to be answered by DNR, etc. on funding sources and who is paying for what at the landing.

The past two months Troester distributed information sheets on the CAFO Resolution re: a statewide CAFO Moratorium and a fact sheet distributed through the Sustain Rural Wisconsin Network and its concerns of how the state is dealing with these problems; allowing violations or notice of noncompliance for high nitrate levels not being issued, little oversight, etc. Forest Jahnke, Crawford Stewardship, discussed the concerns. Discussion led to presently not approving the CAFO Resolution to present to County Board.

Motion by Behar to set aside the CAFO Resolution for future discussions and not to present to County Board at the October meeting, second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously.

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

GREG CERVEN, 2018 WILDLIFE BUDGET

Cerven presented the 2018 Crawford County WDACP Budget in the same amount as last year, \$14,500 for administration and abatement and \$60,000 for wildlife damage claims.

Motion by Dull to approve the WDACP Budget in the amounts as presented, second by Olson. Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS

Bunting stated he would like the committee to motion a total cost share for Land & Water Projects as it would be much easier to present to landowners than stating a project cap of \$10,000.00 (some are cost shared at 50% and some at 70%). He also would like to put a cap on well decommissionings of \$2,000.00.

Motion by Dull to cap Land & Water Projects at \$7,000, second by Dudenbostel. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion by Behar to cap well decommissionings at \$2,000.00, second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Bunting is working on CREP contracts for this year and has 7 or 8 renewals for next year. The dam is cleaned out and needs to put back up posts and the fence and will be burning logs and brush piles this winter. A new water pump was installed in the truck this past week.

KARYL FRITSCHÉ, NRCS

Fritsche stated they are trying to get contracts funded all the way through 2016 applications. Currently have 135 applications and average contract cost is \$15,000.00. Almost all the cover crops have germinated and looking very good. It has been 12 weeks since the office has been up and running due to the damage from tornado and getting back in order after repair work is finished. Farm Services is still short staffed with only 2 employees. October 20 is deadline for eligibility for EQIP, will be ranked in December and funding in January and February.

DNR FORESTER, Christine Walroth

Walworth stated she is still getting acclimated with Crawford County. She participated in Youth Conservation Day. Fifteen landowners have gotten written approval for Wisconsin Forest Landowner Grant Program (WFLGP).

VANCE HAUGEN, UW Extension (not present)

FSA (not present).

Public Comment

Forest Jahnke invited everyone to a Citizen Science Pizza Party on Friday, November 3, 7 to 9 p.m. at Prairie du Chien City Hall concerning the karst landscapes and groundwater susceptibility study and verifying sinkholes via aerial imagery.

Next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017.

Behar made the motion to adjourn at 11:10 a.m., second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harriet Behar
Secretary

DT:cjw