

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
SOIL & WATER CONCERNS
November 10, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Esser at 9:55 a.m. Members present for roll call were Harriet Behar, Henry Esser, David Olson, Wade Dull and Jerry Achenbach.

Motion by Behar to approve the agenda as posted and the minutes as mailed with the addition of "cumulative impacts monitoring" in the minutes under the CSP Report by Forest Jahnke, second by Behar. Motion carried unanimously.

Crawford Stewardship Project Report

Ellen Brooks distributed copies of Crawford Stewardship Project Newsletter for the Fall & Winter 2015. She stated that neither of the groundwater bills passed.

Additional Disaster Recovery Money for the Kickapoo River Clean-Up

Carol Wolcott distributed information from Dale Klemme pertaining to applying for additional funding to finish the debris clean-up on the Kickapoo River; Hurricane Ike Supplemental Funding Request. Monies are funded through the CDBG-Disaster Recovery Program; the total Ike Budget would be \$232,850.00. Target area would be the Kickapoo River from the Crawford/ Vernon line to the mouth of the Kickapoo in the Village of Wauzeka. The proposed activity relates to damages sustained from the 2008 storms and flooding.

Motion by Dull to approve Klemme applying for the Hurricane Ike Supplemental Funding, second by Olson and motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION

The Clean Sweep was held on Friday, October 30 at the Highway Department and was a tremendous success. Approximately 400 vehicles came through along with several dump trucks from the towns and villages. Weights are not in, but 5 semitrailers were loaded compared to 3 semitrailers last year. We are thinking we may possibly need an additional \$5-6,000 more to pay for the clean sweep. Dave thanked everyone who had anything to do in with the Clean Sweep. He has been working on Nutrient Management Plan monies and contracts. He indicated he may have to extend 2 contracts into 2016. Farmland Preservation visits are being completed so compliance checks can be generated to participants for their tax deductions. The office is working on getting Conservation Aides projects paid and reimbursed.

The Highway Department had contacted our agency to discuss funding to repair Gordons Bay Boat Landing as it needs to be fully resurfaced. We will be looking into grant monies that might be available to apply to help fund this project.

Motion by Olson to grant Dave Troester permission to attend the County Con Meeting, December 3rd & 4th in Wisconsin Rapids if he decides to attend. Second by Behar. Motion carried unanimously.

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

DAVE BONIFAS, MRRPC

Dave Bonifas distributed copies of Section 4.0 Goals and Polices/Objectives to Guide Farmland Preservation in which he incorporated those goals from the County Comprehensive Plan. 90% of the work is done on the plan. He needs statistics and numbers for Farmland Preservation, Non-Metallic Mining, pictures, etc., and will get all of this information from the Land Conservation Department and then will be working on the mapping process with the local municipalities to complete the plan.

Motion by Dull to make partial payment to MRRPC for work completed this year in the amount of \$12,296.50, second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS

Travis indicated all but 2 projects are completed. He stated it looks like we will be extending only one project into 2016. He sprayed the willows at the dam and hopes to get surveying done before it gets too cold.

KARYL FRITSCH, NRCS

Karyl distributed pictures of several cover crop fields and discussed the varying results of mixes. She distributed a copy of the proposed MRBI Watersheds Plan 1 map for the Kickapoo 8-Digit Watershed (with Jeff Hastings). It is a huge project for 2016. It is kind of like the Grazing Initiative of 5.3 million over 3 years. It has been approved with no provision for additional staff and the LCD/NRCS offices are working at their maximum capacity now. She is going to attend a meeting in Vernon County for discussing the need for additional staff in order to carry out this project. She currently has 105 applications on file. CSP payments are going out right now and she has been marking strips.

Esser suggested perhaps a letter from County Board Flesch may help in requesting funding for additional staff for the MRBI project. Two individuals are trying to get on board with Dennis Rooney to help with the grazing project.

DNR FORESTER – Kobby Antwi

Kobby has been working on relocating his office from Gays Mills to the Prairie du Chien DOC Office. He is very interested in forming a good relationship with the county. Due to workload issues and extra travel time in Crawford County, townships are being realigned in order to get things done more efficiently. The Boscobel Forester will be taking over the townships closest to him in Crawford County.

VANCE HAUGEN, UW-Extension

Vance indicated he participated in the Clean Sweep and it was a great success – tax payer dollars at work and supports the program. He has one more pasture walk in November and one in December.

JOHN BAIRD, FSA, Not PRESENT

Ben Wegleitner, Southwest Badger, informed the committee of his activities in the last month. He is writing a grant for Citron Creek as Japanese Hops has been found in that area. He has been working on the Clean Boats/Clean Waters Program in Prairie du Chien at the boat landings.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 8, 2015.

Dull made the motion to adjourn at 11:05 a.m., second by Behar. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harriet Behar, Secretary

DT:HB:cjw