

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

SOIL & WATER CONCERNS

November 15, 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 Dull. Motion carried unanimously.

DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION

Troester distributed a 2017 Collection Totals sheet from the Clean Sweep held on October 27. A very successful day of collection and residences were very happy to be able to have an event such as this. Discussion on increasing cost of TV's and charging for all bulbs next year. The cost overrun was due to LaCrosse County discontinuing the collecting of all the bulbs, due to the grant specifications, and they did not notify us until only 2 weeks before the event; Dynamic picked them up at a much higher cost (ads for the Clean Sweep had already been distributed and advertised for \$.25 per bulb over 50 bulbs).

Cover Crop money is starting to come in and the project seems to have been very successful. Troester has signed 2 SEG Contracts with landowners for Nutrient Management Plans in the last month and has been contacting interested landowners to promote interest for the remaining funds. The LCD received a letter of approval for the 2017-18 Conservation Aids Grant money of \$1,451 (with a county match of the same) and we will be advertising for applications.

A continued discussion of the Gordon's Bay Landing was held with pros and cons; problems involved with collecting revenues seem to be the main issue. We will be working with the Highway Department on renewing the lease for the landing and applying for grant money for improvements or letting it go back to the DNR. The county ordinance is very clear on what department does the work involved in keeping up the landing, paying bills and receiving revenues. Esser stated they would be discussing the issue at the Highway Department Committee meeting tomorrow. Olson felt there was a great deal of work, time and money spent on maintaining the landing and not much revenue.

All information on the Youth Speaking and Poster contest has been sent to all schools participating.

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

TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS

Bunting stated that the sprayers had been winterized and will be housed at the Highway Department. Doing a lot of survey work and working on EQIP applications. He has one more CREP contract to complete and is working on renewals for next year.

KARYL FRITSCHKE, NRCS

Fritsche stated they are trying to get contracts funded all the way back from 2016 applications; have a 2 year back log; looks like 32 dams will be done. Almost all the cover crops have germinated and looking very good. All cover crop payments have been approved and money should be generated to Crawford County LCD shortly. CSP payments will be going out soon.

DNR FORESTER, Christine Walroth

Walroth introduced Rebecca Vasquez, DNR Forester, who will be handling the public land and wildfire responsibilities in both Crawford and Vernon Counties. She has been working with many landowners on various issues.

VANCE HAUGEN, UW Extension (not present)

FSA (not present).

Public Comment

Ellen Brooks informed the LCC that they have now identified 156 probables and 52 possible sinkholes in Crawford County. This is key in being recognized as a sensitive area for karst geology. This information will be verified by the geologist they are working with, Dr. Kelvin Rodolfo, and more sinkholes will probably be identified as well. Their progress is on website: <http://apps.legiongis.com/karstography> . The Driftless Area Wetlands Center in Marquette has a field trip scheduled for Saturday, November 18 at 12:30 p.m. The Fall/Winter 2017 Crawford Stewardship Project newsletter was distributed and celebrates their 10th anniversary.

Next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2017.

Olson made the motion to adjourn at 10:50 a.m., second by Behar. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harriet Behar
Secretary

DT:cjw