

CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
SOIL & WATER CONCERNS
December 13, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Esser at 10:05 a.m. Members present for roll call were Henry Esser, Dave Olson, Harriet Behar, Don Dudenbostel and Wade Dull.

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

GREG CERVEN, WILDLIFE PROGRAM

A list of commodity crop prices for 2016 was distributed as follows: Corn \$3.32/bu., Soybeans \$9.21/bu., Alf Hay \$102/ton, Mix hay \$77.00/ton, Bittersweet \$9.90/plant and Apples \$38.00/bu.

Motion by Dull to approve crop prices as follows: Corn \$3.32/bu., Soybeans \$9.21/bu., Alf Hay \$102/ton, Mix hay \$77.00/ton, Bittersweet \$9.90/plant and Apples \$38.00/bu., second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously.

Cerven suggested a December 1, 2016 date for 80% harvest date.

Motion by Olson to set December 1, 2016 for the 80% harvest date, second by Behar. Motion carried unanimously.

DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION

Dave indicated the Clean Sweep was a success and distributed a sheet with collection totals. LCD has been working on maps to complete the Farmland Preservation Plan. Dave met with Dale Klemme and Stan Kaiffors, Emergency Assistance Program Manager, on Wednesday, November 16th: we were informed we may need to hold one more public hearing.

Discussion concerning the damage done at the dam caused by a neighbor using a 4 wheeler and going through wet ground several times causing deep ruts, etc. A gate or cable (30 to 40 ft) will be placed in 2 different locations to keep individuals from driving on the property. The neighbor has offered to help repair the damage and the department will work with him to see if that is possible or if it is best just to let it be. The NRCS engineer has looked at it and will give us a determination as to what needs to be done to properly repair the area.

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

NMP REVIEW ISSUES

Sue Porter will be coming in early January and go over information for the LCD to do basic reviewing of nutrient management plans and ideas on what to look for. We need to decide what we will be doing as far as checking NMP for manure storage permits, cost-sharing programs, Farmland Preservation (approximately 75 plans that we get checklists yearly), and approximately 2 to 3 new FPP plans yearly, etc. Discussion will continue after Porter has met with the LCD.

Behar suggested checking into surrounding counties and seeing if they have the personnel to assist us in the process and what do other counties do that have limited staff. The majority of the counties do have an agronomist on staff to do this checking of NMP.

NRCS staff is being housed in the LCD office this week due to their office being carpeted and painted.

Southwest Badger hired a new Aquatic Invasive Specialist that will be living and working in the Viroqua LCD office, so Brandon, SW Forester, will be housed in our office.

TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS

Currently it is the surveying season and design. Will be surveying whenever possible. Several cost share projects from 2016 will need to be extended into 2017. This next year we will begin making all checks out to landowners and the contractors (two party checks). Our county has not had problems with contractors not being paid; however, some surrounding counties are doing this to eliminate issues with payment to contracts.

KARYL FRITSCH, NRCS

NRCS thanked the LCD & LCC for allowing them to be housed this week in the LCD office during their office upgrading. They are diligently working on redoing the maps to generate the money to the LCD for the cover crop project and hope to have it to us by the first of the year. Applications and sign-ups are ongoing.

Kobby Antwi, DNR (not present)

VANCE HAUGEN, UW Extension (non present)

JOHN BAIRD, FSA (not present)

Public Comment - Crawford Stewardship Project

Ellen Brooks discussed a new farm cooperative in the area that they hope to see forming for those pasturing pigs and led by Mike Mueller. CSP is working on the Karst Study for Crawford County; an essential step towards maintaining our clean water.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2017 10:00 a.m.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Harriet Behar
Secretary

DT:HB:cjw