

# **GRANT COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

September 7, 2010  
9:00 a.m.  
Ag Services Building  
Lancaster, Wisconsin

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vince Loeffelholz at 9:00 a.m. Present in addition to Chairman Vince Loeffelholz were, Donald Splinter, Lester Jantzen, Steve Adrian, Mark Stead, Marvin Kettler, and Grant Loy arrived at 9:37. Others present were, Bob Middendorf, John Patcle, Jared Reuter, Brian Pillsbury, Lynda Schweikert, and Annette Lolwing.

Motion by Steve Adrian, seconded by Marvin Kettler that the Committee was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law. Motion carried.

Approval of the minutes: Mark Stead commented that the minutes show John Patcle as present at the last meeting when in fact he was absent. Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by Marvin Kettler to approve the minutes from the August 3, 2010 meeting with a change that John Patcle was not present as reported in the roll call. Motion carried.

Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by Mark Stead to approve the Agenda as printed. Motion carried.

## **Bills: Annette Lolwing**

Motion by Steve Adrian, seconded by Grant Loy to approve the bills. Motion carried.

## **County Board Chairman Report: John Patcle**

John reported that they are working on the 2011 budget and also getting ready to go into negotiations with the unions.

## **County Cost Sharing: Lynda Schweikert**

Lynda reported that Robert Page, Muscoda Twp. is asking for an extension until December 1, 2010 to install his grassed waterway for \$2,450.00 of County cost sharing. Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by Steve Adrian to approve the extension until December 1, 2010. If it is not installed by that date his cost sharing will be cancelled. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing on 3 well decommissioning projects for Burr Oak Farms Inc., C/O Ivan Bendorf, Liberty Twp., \$255.00 on well #1, \$500.00 on well #2, and \$500.00 for well #3 for a total of \$1,255.00. Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Don Splinter to approve the payment on all 3 well decommissionings. Roll Call: 6 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented tentative approval request for county cost sharing on well decommissioning projects for Walter Bausch, East Cassville Twp., \$87.50; Bruce Fischer, Mt. Hope Twp., \$262.50; Jeanette Clark, Mt. Hope Twp., \$350.00; Rodney LaBarge, Ellenboro Twp., \$462.00; Lavern Hrubes, Castle Rock Twp., \$280.00; Jeff Udelhofen, Platteville Twp., \$500.00; and Roger Frommelt, Jamestown Twp., \$87.50. Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Steve Adrian to approve all 7 well decommissioning requests. Motion carried.

Lynda presented tentative approval request for county cost sharing on a grade stabilization structure for Gary Kirschbaum, East Cassville, Twp., \$3,500.00. Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by Mark Stead to postpone Gary's request until December 1, 2010 due to lack of county cost share funds. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for DATCP cost sharing on a grade stabilization structure project for Mark Hudson, North Lancaster, Twp., \$2,716.18. Motion by Steve Adrian, seconded by Mark Stead to approve payment. Roll Call: 6 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for DATCP cost sharing on a streambank protection project for Ole Seim, Boscobel Twp., \$7,500.00. Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by Marvin Kettler to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

#### **2011 SWRM Allocation Plan: Lynda Schweikert**

Lynda reported that DATCP has sent out their tentative allocation plan to the counties. The maximum allocation for eligible counties is \$40,931 for cost sharing which is \$25,000 less than 2009. This is bonded money that can only be spent on structural practices; such as dams, waterways, rip rap, and storage. The SEG funds are for soft practices; such as NMP's, contour strips, contour buffer strips. Tentatively there will be \$3,500 to spend on 125.0 acres worth of NMP's in 2011. The base SWRM allocation is at \$85,000. The \$107,861 staff and support allocation will cover the 1<sup>st</sup> staff position of \$85,000 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> staff position of \$22,869 with no funds for a 3<sup>rd</sup> position. This is DATCP's proposal to the state, and the numbers can change.

#### **2011 Budget: Lynda Schweikert**

Lynda presented the 2011 budget with the instructions of no across the board wage increases, only step increases, 2011 retirement based at 11.6%, health insurance increase of 12%, and to show a 0% increase in the budget. Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by Grant Loy to send the projected 2011 budget to the finance committee. Motion carried.

#### **Grant Applications: Lynda Schweikert**

Lynda presented 2 grant applications that are not required to go to county board for approval. Lynda followed the grant application procedure by notifying Nancy Scott, finance director, of the grants. The first grant is the UWEX Nutrient Management Farmer Education Grant Program, located under the Malweg Grant on the budget sheet. This grant of \$12,000.00 would provide farmers an incentive to be able to write their own Nutrient Management Plans if the grant gets approved. The second grant is for the USDA – NRCS Contribution Agreement of \$2,870.00, no county match is required. The \$2,870.00 is the reimbursement for the LWCD staff working only on NRCS - CREP projects. Motion by Steve Adrian, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve both grants that Lynda had applied for. Motion carried.

#### **Animal Waste Ordinance Permit: Lynda Schweikert**

Lynda reported that Steve Adrian, Glen Haven Twp., has paid his \$234.00 permit application fee to construct a manure storage facility that was designed by Ralph Hemling and approved by Mike Dreischmeier, area engineer, in Richland Center. Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve Steve's permit application. Motion carried. Steve Adrian abstained.

Lynda reported that Ken and Marland Bode, Paris Twp., has paid their \$2.00 permit application fee for the closure of a manure storage facility. Al Neises completed the design for the pit closure with an estimated cost of \$2,000.00. Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Marvin Kettler to approve the Bodes' permit application. Motion carried.

#### **Watershed Project Discussion: Lynda Schweikert**

Lynda shared more information on the TRM grants per further discussion with Jim Amrhein, WI DNR. Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Marvin Kettler to not pursue a watershed project and keep our clients coming to us on a voluntary basis vs. a regulatory basis. Motion was unanimous in favor of.

**Storage of ATV: Lynda Schweikert**

Lynda reported that there is no room in Craig Hollingsworth's shed to store the county's ATV. He now has the DNR's ATV stored in the shed. It was recommended to leave it at the Grant County Fairgrounds.

**Fair Display Review: Lynda Schweikert**

Lynda ordered 200 reusable grocery bags to hand out at the fair. All 200 bags were handed out with conservation literature inside. The bags were a very popular item and would recommend ordering them again next year with the LWCD logo printed on them.

**FPP Report: Kevin Lange**

Lynda presented Kevin's report.

Lynda reported that she has 1 cancellation of notice of noncompliance. Herman Meier, Liberty Twp., returned his self certification postcard. Motion by Steve Adrian, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve the cancellation of the notice of noncompliance. Motion carried.

Lynda reported that they are working on FPP spot checks. Approximately 20 have been completed, and so far there are no cancellations. The FPP participants are either all in compliance or are working toward their NMP's. The incentive for the FPP participants are the increased tax credits. Around 40% of the FPP participants have dropped out of the program in the past.

Lynda also mentioned that Grant County is hosting the tri-county land judging contest on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Pits will be dug on October 5<sup>th</sup>, by Al Wepking. Cost of digging the pits usually runs around \$350.00 and is taken out of the Information/Education account.

**NRCS Report: Brian Pillsbury**

Lynda introduced Brian Pillsbury. He is the acting DC for the next 2 months. The LWCC introduced themselves to Brian. Brian is from Baraboo has been with the agency for 26 years. He was a DC in Iowa, has been a state agronomist, and his latest job has been the state grazing land specialist.

Brian reported that the NRCS will be having a local workgroup meeting for the 2011 EQIP sign up and to review the new cookbook. The LWGM (local workgroup members) will be meeting at the October 5<sup>th</sup> LWCC meeting to go over current priorities and if there are any changes. There are some options in the local ranking process. All practices this year will be eligible. There will not be any options to drop or limit any of the practices.

Brian mentioned that the application deadline for the DC position closed on September 1, 2010.

**FSA Report: Jared Reuter**

Jared reported during the county cost sharing report about a new USDA loan program for natural resource conservation. This is a Conservation Loan program that will provide farm owners and farm-related business operators access to credit to implement conservation that will conserve the natural resources.

Jared reported that they have just finished up with the CRP sign up #39. FSA had 68 offers, with 2,087.8 acres. Of those 68 offers there were 1,073.5 acres of CRP that will be expiring on September 30, 2010. These have not been accepted offers.

Jared reported on the TIP, transition incentive program. This is where producers that are not accepted into the Conservation Reserve Program this year and for those producers that have expired CRP are able to have a beginning farmer rent/operate the farm for 5 years and the landowner would then receive an additional CRP rental payment for 2 years.

Jared reported that the disaster program ends this month.

Jared reported that the DCP and CRP payments will be issued in October.

Jared mentioned the Grant & Iowa County Farm Loan Departments are combining together; they will be locating in Lancaster. September 13th will be the first work day with the 2 counties being combined.

ECP, emergency conservation program, will do land leveling, debris removal, fence repair, dam and terrace repair from the flooding that has occurred. Rip rap, culverts, flood gates are not an eligible practice for the ECP as they are located within the streambanks, which are classified as being in harm's way.

**Call for Agenda Items for Next Months Meeting**

NONE

**Other Business**

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Marvin Kettler to adjourn until October 5, 2010. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Annette Lolwing for Grant Loy