

GRANT COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

August 7, 2013
1:00 p.m.
Ag Services Building
Lancaster, Wisconsin

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Stead at 9:00 a.m. Present in addition to Chairman Stead were; Dwight Nelson, Lester Jantzen, Roger Guthrie, Myron Tranel, Dale Hood, and Vince Loeffelholz. Others present were, Larry Wolf, Jared Reuter, Steve Bertjens, Kevin Lange, Lynda Schweikert, and Annette Lolwing.

Certification of Open Meeting Law: Annette Lolwing

Annette Lolwing sent the agenda to Karla Schwantes to post in the Administration Building and at the Courthouse, also sent an agenda to Bob Middendorf, WGLR, and was posted in the front of the Ag Service Building. Media notices were sent to Karla Schwantes, Herald Independent, Tri County Press, Platteville Journal, and the Muscoda Progressive.

Motion by Dwight Nelson, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by Dale Hood to approve the July 2, 2013 minutes with a change that Roger Guthrie and Myron Tranel were excused not absent. Motion carried.

Bills: Annette Lolwing

Motion by Dwight Nelson, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve the bills. Motion carried.

2013 Wildlife Damage/Deer Donation Program Approval

Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Dwight Nelson to approve \$6,000.00 to participate in the Deer Donation Program. Motion carried.

Motion by Myron Tranel, seconded by Dwight Nelson to approve \$17,000.00 for the Wildlife Damage Budget which is the same from 2012. Motion carried.

County Cost Sharing Requests: Lynda Schweikert

Lynda reported that there was an error on the July cost sharing spreadsheet. Tim Clare was entered on the cost sharing sheet twice. The \$3,500.00 will go back into the county cost sharing account leaving the county cost sharing with a balance of \$3,920.00.

Lynda presented a cancellation request of \$3,500.00 county cost sharing and \$3,894.00 DATCP cost sharing for Tim & Michelle Hilvers, Paris Twp., for a grade stabilization structure and grassed waterway. They no longer wish to do their project. Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Myron Tranel to approve the cancellation request. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$247.50 on a well decommissioning for Nobleland Beef, North Lancaster Twp. Motion by Dale Hood, seconded by Vince Loeffelholz to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$500.00 on a well decommissioning for Peter Heberlein, Wingville Twp. Motion by Dwight Nelson, seconded by Roger Guthrie to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$500.00 on a well decommissioning for Mike Padrutt, Watterstown Twp. Motion by Vince Loeffleholz, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented tentative approval request for county cost sharing on 2 well decommissionings for Ryan Flesch, Waterloo Twp., \$500.00 on well decommissioning #1 and \$413.00 on well decommissioning #2 (stove pipe casing). Motion by Dale Hood, seconded by Myron Tranel to approve both of Ryan's requests. Motion carried.

Lynda presented tentative approval requests for county cost sharing on 4 cover crop application requests for Jerimiah Collins, Fennimore Twp., 1st year cover crop request on 32.5 acres, \$487.00; Tim & Jane Napp, Fennimore Twp., 2nd year cover crop request on 66.43 acres, \$996.00; PL & P Hog, Pete Yelinek, Clifton Twp., 3rd year cover crop request on 28.5 acres, \$428.00; and Pat Yelinek, Clifton Twp., 3rd year cover crop request on 70.19 acres, \$1,000.00. Motion by Myron Tranel, seconded by Vince Loeffleholz to approve the 4 cover crop requests. Motion carried.

SWRM Cost Sharing

Lynda presented tentative approval request for DATCP cost sharing on a streambank protection project for Bryan Tippet, Hazel Green Twp., \$1,963.00. Motion by Myron Tranel, seconded by Vince Loeffelholz to approve Bryan's cost sharing request. Motion carried.

Animal Waste Storage Permit Approvals

Lynda reported that Dennis Crapp, South Lancaster Twp. applied for a permit to construct a concrete manure storage facility for a 130 cow dairy herd. He has paid his \$200.00 permit fee. Facility was designed by Ralph Hemling. Lynda approved the permit on July 12, 2013. Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Dale Hood to concur with Lynda's permit approval. Motion carried.

Lynda reported that Leibfried Dairy Farms, Hazel Green Twp., applied for a permit to construct an earthen manure storage facility for a 220 cow dairy herd. They have paid their \$200.00 permit fee. A private engineer is designing the facility and will be checked by Ralph Hemling. The permit is contingent upon them developing a NMP before use. Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve their permit. Motion carried.

Lynda reported that Andy Buttles, South Lancaster Twp., applied for a permit to construct a concrete manure storage facility for a 210 cow dairy herd. He has paid his \$200.00 permit fee. Ralph Hemling designed the facility. Motion by Myron Tranel, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve the permit. Motion carried.

Land & Water Conservation Report

Lynda reported that she attended a Land and Water Conservation Board meeting on August 6, 2013 to request a 5 year extension for the Land & Water Resource Management Plan. The request was unanimously approved by the LWCB.

Lynda reported that she put in for a Contribution Agreement for \$44,528 for reimbursement of time spent on NRCS projects. We are able to ask for 50% reimbursement of the time spent on their projects.

Lynda reported that the 2014 SWRM proposed allocation is \$104,378 for staff and support, \$67,000 for cost sharing, and \$25,000 for nutrient management plans. This is an increase of \$8,416 from 2013. In 2013 we had 2% cost sharing funds that we had given back to DATCP. The increase of the proposed cost sharing is a result of Grant County having larger farming participation.

Lynda reported that she has been invited to the Ag Research Station on August 21, 2013, to talk with the WI Cattleman's Association regarding the new performance standards and how they relate to the Farmland Preservation Program.

Lynda reported that the merge of Zoning/Sanitation and the Land and Water Conservation Department has been completed. Having some computer issues, taking a long time to boot up.

FPP Report: Kevin Lange

Kevin presented 1 Voluntary Notice of Noncompliance for Richard and Nancy Sedbrook, North Potosi Twp.

Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Dwight Nelson to approve the Voluntary Notice of Noncompliance. Motion carried.

Kevin reported that he will be working on the expiring continuous CRP contracts and rolling them over into new CREP contracts.

Kevin reported that he and Lynda will be traveling to Pewaukee on August 20, 2013 to test on their credentials for certification on the POWTS (Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Septic Systems).

Kevin reported that they will be doing approximately 100 FPP spots checks in 2013, and the final 100 FPP spot checks in 2014. The final 100 spot checks in 2014 will complete the first cycle of contacting all the FPP participants that are in the program.

NRCS Report: Steve Bertjens – Acting DC

Steve Bertjens reported that Friday, August 9th will be his last day for Acting DC. On Monday, August 12th Joe Schmelz will start as our permanent District Conservationist in Grant County.

- Steve reported that NRCS is to move away from assisting and completing any permits for the landowners. It is the landowners' responsibility to complete the permits.
- There were 3 more Driftless Area Land Conservation Initiative EQIP applications that were approved.
- There are a lot of projects that are under construction at this time.
- The final CRP field reviews are almost complete and are working on CRP contracts for the 20 landowners that were accepted in the 45th General CRP sign up.

FSA Report: Jared Reuter

Jared reported that they have lost 2 employees lately; Sue Funk, that worked with the CRP has retired; and Nancy Fink took a partial retirement and has taken a new job in Darlington.

- Tammy Reynolds has been selected as a Farm Loan Trainee. There will be reductions in FSA staff. Some of the staff will be shifting to different desk and will be taking on different responsibilities. Colleen Landon will now be the individual working with the CRP. May be possibly getting some assistance from Iowa and Crawford County to help out with the CRP workload.
- Crop reporting is 80% complete and they have appointments booked through September 6th.

- DCP is also 80% complete, and are still taking applications.
- There were 18 contracts for the 45th General CRP Sign Up. Approximately 80 expiring contracts that did not enroll in the general CRP sign up have opted to enroll in the HELI (Highly Erodible Land Initiative). The HELI is based on erodibility index, no food plots allowed, enroll large fields, and is not associated to any point value competition. There are approximately 50 expiring Continuous CRP contracts that will be rolled over in to the CREP.
- New signs for the departments will be ordered for the interior and exterior of the building, adding Sanitation & Zoning.

Motion by Dwight Nelson, seconded by Lester Jantzen to adjourn until, Tuesday, September 3, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Annette Lolwing for Lester Jantzen