

GRANT COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

November 5, 2013

9:00 a.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, Vince Loeffelholz, Roger Guthrie, Myron Tranel, and Dale Hood. Others present were, Larry Wolf, 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 Dale Hood to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve the October 1, 2013 minutes. Motion carried.

Bills: Annette Lolwing

Motion by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Cost Share Transfer of SEG Funding Lynda Schweikert

Lynda reported that she had sent out letters to those landowners that were spot checked for Farmland Preservation needing to complete a NMP to see if anyone was interested in the SEG Funding. There were no landowners that were interested. Lynda sent out an email to the Southern Area Counties to see if they were in need of the SEG Funding. Green County responded 1st and said that they could use the entire \$20,924.00. Motion by Myron Tranel, second by Dwight Nelson to approve the transfer of \$20,924.00 to Green County. Motion carried.

County Cost Sharing Requests: Lynda Schweikert

Lynda presented a 6 month cost share extension for 6 landowners to June 2014. Those landowners are; Ray Bruner, Hickory Grove Twp., well decommissioning; David John Vosberg, Clifton Twp., storage abandonment; Dan Reynolds, Potosi Twp., grade stabilization structure; Ken Kunkel, Jamestown Twp., rip rap; Ron Kunkel, Hazel Green Twp., rip rap; and Doug Schauff, Waterloo Twp., rip rap. Motion by Dale Hood, seconded by Vince Loeffelholz to approve the 6 extension requests to June 2014. Motion carried.

Lynda presented 2 cancellation requests; Carl Abing, Waterloo Twp., on a grade stabilization structure. Carl received 75% through EQIP and SWRM funding and Pat Yelinek, Clifton Twp., cover crop did not plant the rye cover crop this year. Motion by Dwight Nelson, seconded by Lester Jantzen to cancel both requests. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$185.75 on a well decommissioning for Hi-View Shorthorns, Doug Raisbeck, South Lancaster Twp. Motion by Dale Hood, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$734.25 on 3rd year rye cover crop for PL & P Hog, Pat Yelinek, Clifton Twp. Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Dwight Nelson to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$810.00 on 2nd year rye cover crop for Tim Napp, Fennimore Twp. Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, 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 \$2,431.30 on a storage abandonment for Jeff Engbretson, Potosi Twp. Motion by Myron Tranel, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$904.92 on a storage abandonment for Nick Mumm, Glen Haven Twp. Motion by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Myron Tranel to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$3,500.00 on a storage abandonment for Larry Mumm, Little Grant Twp. Motion by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$2,464.61 on a grade stabilization structure for Francis Droeszler, Jamestown Twp. Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by Dale Hood to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$1,177.12 and 2012 DATCP cost sharing of \$13,999.00 on a grade stabilization structure for Bode Brothers, Paris Twp. Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Dwight Nelson to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$1,541.92 on a grade stabilization structure for Mike Schauff, Waterloo Twp. Motion by Myron Tranel, 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 \$320.07 and 2012 DATCP cost sharing of \$4,480.96 on a grade stabilization structure for Chaffie Hollow Farm, Joe Ploessl, Waterloo Twp. Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Myron Tranel to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$593.80 and 2012 DATCP cost sharing of \$8,313.17 on a grade stabilization structure for Brook Grinde, Potosi Twp. Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Myron Tranel to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing of \$2,925.00 on rip rap repair for Alan Neises, Patch Grove Twp. Motion by Dale Hood, seconded by Vince Loeffelholz to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented a tentative approval request for county cost sharing on a well decommissioning for Paul Hartman, Waterloo Twp., \$431.25. Motion by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Dwight Nelson to approve Paul's request. Motion carried.

SWRM Cost Sharing Requests: Lynda Schweikert

Lynda reported a cancellation request for Wayne Junk, Cassville Twp., on a grade stabilization structure. Wayne was tentatively approved for \$2,773.00, 2012 DATCP cost sharing and is requesting to cancel the full amount. Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Myron Tranel to approve Wayne's cancellation request. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for 2012 DATCP cost sharing of \$2,852.72 on a grade stabilization structure for Pete Neis, Paris Twp. Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by Dale Hood to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for 2013 DATCP cost sharing of \$4,722.13 on a grade stabilization structure for Carl Abing, Waterloo Twp. Motion by Myron Tranel, seconded by Vince Loeffelholz to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for 2013 DATCP cost sharing of \$4,722.13 on a grade stabilization structure for Tom Reynolds, Potosi Twp. Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Dale Hood to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Carryover Resolution: Lynda Schweikert

Lynda reported that each year the executive committee approves the carryover resolution. The Land Conservation has 5 carryover accounts; 1. County Cost Sharing used for those practices that are extended into the next year. 2. Tree Program - the funds that are made in one year supplements the next year expenses. It funds itself. 3. Vehicle Fund – a fund to set aside \$5,000.00 for maintenance and to budget for a replacement vehicle every 5 years. 4. Computer Funds are used to fund the computers and for office equipment. 5. NRCS Tech Pro is the money we receive through NRCS contribution agreements and is used for cost sharing the following year. Also, there will be a SWRM Admin and a SWRM Training account, which is restricted to DATCP funds. Motion by Myron Tranel, seconded by Dwight Nelson to approve the 5 carryover accounts. Motion carried.

Storage Ordinance Permits: Lynda Schweikert

Lynda reported that Alvin Newswanger, Ellenboro Twp., applied for a permit to construct an earthen manure storage facility for 50 head of Holstein dairy cows. Larry Austin designed the manure storage facility and was approved by Ralph Hemling, DATCP engineer. Lynda approved the permit on October 21, 2013. Motion by Myron Tranel, seconded by Dale Hood to concur with Lynda's permit approval. Motion carried.

NACD Dues: Lynda Schweikert

Lynda reported that the National Association of Conservation Districts dues of \$775.00 are up for renewal. Motion by Myron Tranel, seconded by Roger Guthrie to approve paying the dues. Motion carried.

Land & Water Conservation Report

Lynda asked Vince Loeffelholz, Dale Hood and Dwight Nelson for a report of the Southern Area Tour that was held in Dane County. They visited a manure digester and rain garden. Lynda mentioned that the Southern Area Tour in 2014 will be in Sauk County, and is scheduled for Grant County in 2017. There will be no Fall Southern Area Meeting to judge the posters. It was suggested that a committee be selected within the Southern Area Counties to judge the posters in February and then taken to the WLWCA Conference in March for the state judging. The Spring SAA meeting needs to be scheduled after the elections on May 20 to June 20.

Lynda reported that the WLWCA Youth Education Committee is looking for volunteers. If anyone is interested they must be available for group emails. Dale Hood expressed an interest but will contact Jim Vandenbrook to discuss the possibility of providing Dale with a hard copy of the information instead of via email.

Lynda reported that there is a new bill out there called LRB 3146 and is aimed at Frac Sand Mining. It is eliminating the local contract of; air quality, water quality, highway use and contracts by local government. There is a resolution being proposed to oppose this law and the Counties are opposed to it because of all the local authority that is being taken away.

Lynda reported that she has purchased a paper shredder for the office.

Lynda reported that she has passed her Soil Tester exam. David Reuter has passed his POWTS test and will be taking the Soil Tester exam in December.

Lynda reported that she will be on FMLA leave from November 21st through December 6th.

FPP Report: Kevin Lange

Kevin reported that the Southwest WI Land Judging contest was on October 11th. Kevin would like to express his appreciation to John Schindler, Doug & Shannon Wolf and Chuck Rasmussen for all their cooperation. Cuba City won 1st place, Monticello 2nd place, Monroe 3rd place, Potosi 4th place and River Ridge 5th place

- Will be working on Farmland Preservation Spot checks.
- Has started to lay out some contour strips
- He was going to start working on some new CREP signups, but with no farm bill FSA says not to work on any.
- Will be working on the 2014 Tree Sale order forms and hopes to have them ready to mailed out in December

NRCS Report: Joe Schmelz

Lynda presented a written report from Joe. See attachment.

FSA Report: Jared Reuter

No report

Motion by Dwight Nelson, seconded by Lester Jantzen to adjourn until, Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Annette Lolwing for Lester Jantzen

The furlough obviously set us back, especially when it pertained to certifying and making payments for people involved in our cost sharing assistance programs. All of our software is up and running again and we are now in the process of getting caught up on payments and modifications.

The EQIP program is actively taking applications for projects that would occur in 2014. The cookbook of practices has not been released but we are anticipating that within the next few days. The cutoff date for eligible applicants has been set at December 20th, 2013. We have already begun completing field investigations and taking applications.

Our state has made changes to the ranking process in regards to applications that have practices which require permitting in order to commence. There will now be a priority system. Applications that have no practices requiring permits or have all needed permits in place at the time of ranking will be considered high priority. Any applications that contain practices requiring permits which are not attained yet but have been applied for will be medium priority and applications that contain practices requiring permits which nothing has been done on will be considered low priority. Regardless of ranking scores all high priority applications will be funded prior to medium priority and all medium priority applications will be funded prior to low priority ones.

We have been given authority to review and start making payments for both CSP programs and have been making contact with program participants.