

GRANT COUNTY CONSERVATION, SANITATION, & ZONING COMMITTEE MEETING

April 1, 2014
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, Dale Hood and Chuck Raisbeck. Others present were; Joe Schmelz, Lynda Schweikert, Kevin Lange, Annette Lolwing, Larry Wolf, and Jared Reuter.

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 Center Building. Media notices were sent to Karla Schwantes, Herald Independent, Tri County Press, Platteville Journal, and the Muscoda Progressive.

Motion by Dale Hood, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by Dwight Nelson to approve the March 4, 2014 minutes. Motion carried.

Bills: Annette Lolwing

Motion by Dwight Nelson, seconded by Vince Loeffelholz to approve the bills. Motion carried.

County Cost Sharing Requests: Lynda Schweikert

Lynda presented tentative approval request for county cost sharing on 4 well decommissioning requests for Nickie Pitzer, Potosi Twp., \$224.25; Sunset Farm, Kevin Wilson, Fennimore Twp., well #1 - \$195.00; Sunset Farm, Kevin Wilson, Fennimore Twp., well #2 - \$500.00; Doug Wiedenbeck, Beetown Twp., \$150.00. Motion by Dwight Nelson, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve the 4 well decommissioning requests. Motion carried.

Lynda presented tentative approval request for county cost sharing on a closure of waste impoundment for Todd Wiest, Cassville Twp. \$3,500.00. Motion by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Vince Loeffelholz to approve Todd's request. Motion carried.

Lynda presented tentative approval request for county cost sharing on the construction of a manure storage facility for Marvin Shirk, Clifton Twp. \$3,500.00. Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Roger Guthrie to approve Marvin's request. Motion carried.

Lynda presented tentative approval request for county cost sharing on a grade stabilization structure for Francis Droeszler, Jamestown Twp. \$3,219.00. Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by Dale Hood to approve Francis's request. Motion carried.

SWRM Cost Sharing Requests: Lynda Schweikert

Lynda reported that DATCP has approved the extension of the \$24,492.31.

Approval of Joint DATCP/DNR Grant Application for 2015

Lynda reported that she will be requesting \$197,276 for staff and support and \$150,000 for cost sharing through the 2015 Joint DATCP/DNR Grant Application. Motion by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Lester Jantzen for approval of the 2015 DATCP/DNR Grant Application. Motion carried.

Nutrient Management Farmer Education Grant

Lynda reported that she will be requesting \$5,000 in farmer stipend and \$3,000 for staff support costs for a total of \$8,000 through the Nutrient Management Farmer Education Grant. Motion by Dale Hood, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve Lynda's request of \$8,000 for the Nutrient Management Farmer Education Grant from DATCP. Motion carried.

Land & Water Conservation Report

Lynda reported that on March 10th – 12th, was the WLWCA conference in Appleton at the Paper Valley Hotel. There were 2 items from Grant County that were donated for the silent auction. The tractor went for \$23.00 and the basket went for \$33.00. The money raised from the silent auction goes to youth education programs in Wisconsin. There were some good breakout sessions at the conference. There were 2 posters that were taken on to the state level; Michaela Runde and Matthew Winch placed second at state.

FPP Report: Kevin Lange

Kevin reported that the tax season must be slowing down, has not had as many calls from the tax preparers for FPP tax credits. Has been receiving questions asked by the farmer regarding their tax preparer.

Kevin has issued 1 Certificate of Compliance with Conservation Standards for FPP Tax Credit for Tony, Janice, Maurice and Leary Fischer, Millville Twp. Fischer's bought a new farm and has met all the FPP requirements.

- March 19th was a day that 4-5 previous students came in to receive assistance from our office for updating their NMP's.
- Has been looking over a lot of Nutrient Management Plans that are being brought in by the Agronomists. Some NMP's look good and some are missing vital parts and will be sent back.
- Will be reading up on the Planning and Zoning issues along with spending more time with Jeff on Planning and Zoning. Will be attending a sanitation meeting in Holmen with David and Jeff.
- April will be a busy time laying out Contour Strips.
- UW Platteville will be having their High School land judging contest on April 17th. Will dig pits and pre-judge them on April 14th with Chris Baxter.
- In April, we have the Arbor Day tree delivery, litany delivery, and also the tree sale pickup that is tentatively scheduled for April 23rd to pick up trees in Plainfield, 24th to pick up trees in Cascade and bag them, and on the 25th to be the pickup day.

NRCS Report: Joe Schmelz

Joe reported that they are sitting idle on the Farm Bill Programs.

- Just closed a bee pollinator habitat sign up. Had 15 to 20 people inquire, ended up with 3 applications. May be targeting the Apiaries to see if they may be eligible and/or interested.
- There may be a cover crop sign up like there was in the drought year of 2012. Possible sign up will be this summer.
- Will be starting the annual compliance reviews. Have 46-50 tracts to check out for meeting the HEL and Wetland provisions of the Farm Bill.
- In the future there will be some changing around in the local work group policy. There were 50 to 60 workgroups around the state; it will be reduced down to 20. Grant County will be combined with a few other counties; such as Iowa and Lafayette County.

FSA Report: Jared Reuter

Jared reported that he has hired 2 internal technicians. Marjean Addison transferred from Iowa County, and Jeanna (Burggraf) Hampton transferred from Columbia County.

- Jared reported that on April 15th will start a sign up of a couple of livestock disaster programs; the livestock indemnity program that pays for livestock in weather related losses, and the LFP program (Livestock Feed Program) which will include 2012 crop and pasture losses.
- Jared mentioned the replacement of the DCP program, ACRE program, ARC (Ag Risk Contract program) and the PLC (Price Loss Contract program), just waiting – don't know when it will come out. The yield and acreage updates may not be available until fall of 2014.
- There is a dairy program coming out, possibly in the fall.
- Have heard no word on a CRP sign up.
- Building report: Dennis Hottenstein's office has gotten a new 3 pane window that does not open. There has been some new carpeting installed in some areas, new tile in the computer room, had some mold issues by Sue's front desk. Joe Schmelz contacted Pitzen Dry Wall Service to see if plugs had been pulled behind the baseboard, next to the floor. Pitzen's had taken 2" blocks taken out to check for the mold. There was no mold on the inside of the wall, but was mold on the outside of the wall. Dave informed us that he is considering putting in a grate drainage system instead of some blacktop work.
- Had lots of water come in the East door of the NRCS/CSZD office.
- In 2008 there were 938 CRP contracts; payments in 2008 of just shy of \$3.9 million
- In 2013 there were 725 CRP contracts; payments a little over \$3.1 million.

Lynda mentioned that since May 6th will be the first combined committee meeting of the combined committees. April 17th was tentatively scheduled to be the next planning and zoning committee meeting, now that it is after the county board meeting there will not be an official committee meeting. April 17th will be a public hearing; there will be 3 comprehensive plan changes. If anyone that intends to be on the new combined committee is encouraged to attend this meeting. There will be no action taken.

Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Vince Loeffelholz to adjourn until, May 6, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room

Respectfully Submitted by
Annette Lolwing for Lester Jantzen