

GRANT COUNTY CONSERVATION, SANITATION, & ZONING COMMITTEE MEETING

August 01, 2017

9:00 a.m.

Grant County Board Room (#264)

Lancaster, Wisconsin

The Grant County Conservation, Sanitation & Zoning Committee meeting was called to order on August 1, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. by Dwight Nelson, the Conservation, Sanitation, and Zoning Committee Chairman, in the Grant County Board Room #264, 111 S. Jefferson St., Lancaster.

Board members present: Dwight Nelson, Mark Stead, Lester Jantzen, Grant Loy, Dale Hood, and Gabe Loeffelholz. Roger Guthrie Absent. Others present: Lynda Schweikert, Annette Lolwing, Kevin Lange, Justin Johnson, and Bob Keeney.

Certification of Open Meeting Law

Annette Lolwing sent the agenda to Karla Schwantes and Linda Gebhard 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, Linda Gebhard, Herald Independent, Tri County Press, Platteville Journal, Muscoda Progressive, and the Boscobel Dial.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Grant Loy to approve the August 1, 2017 agenda with changing the day from Thursday, August 1st to Tuesday, August 1st. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion by Dale Hood, seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve the July 6, 2017, minutes with the change of adjourning to August 1, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., not 9:00 p.m. as printed in the minutes. Motion carried.

Approval of the Bills

Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Gabe Loeffelholz to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Public Hearing for Rezones

Chairman Nelson opened the Public Hearing:

#17-16 Cathman Revocable Living Trust, Hickory Grove Twp. is requesting to change the zoning classification on PIN: 024-00784-0000 of +/- 3.0 ac. from FP to A2. To allow for the use of a non-farm residence.

In Favor: Hickory Grove Twp. approved on July 13, 2017.

In Opposition: None.

In Interest: Justin mentioned that this would have been eligible under the blanket rezone, however it got missed. It is being corrected at this time.

Committee Discussion: None

Dwight Nelson closed the Public Hearing:

Motion by Mark Stead to recommend approval of the rezone to the full County Board, seconded by Grant Loy. Motion carried.

Grant County LEC, SS, ADRC Zoning Permit Fee Issue

Lynda reported that Bob Keeney came in to apply for the zoning permit for the Law Enforcement Center, Social Services, and the ADRC. The estimated cost of the project is \$19 million, the permit fee would be

+/- \$19,000. Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Dale Hood to request the County to pay the permit fee and to take it out of the General Fund. Motion carried.

GCS 2018 Maintenance Fee Approval

Lynda reported that the \$3,490.00 is the yearly GCS maintenance fee for the GCS permit tracking for the zoning and sanitation permits. This is the same amount as 2017. Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Grant Loy to approve the \$3,490.00 GCS Maintenance fee. Motion carried.

Zoning and Sanitation Report

Lynda reported that the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance has been sent out to all the Zoned and Unzoned Townships with information on how to adopt. There are 9 Townships that have adopted the Updated Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance to date. Castle Rock Township is the only unzoned Township that is showing any interest to accept the Ordinance.

No Board of Adjustments scheduled at this time.

Lynda reported that the maintenance fees collected in 2016 were at 843, and in 2017 they are at 1122. Permit fee totals are down; 2016 there were 75, and in 2017 there are 63. Zoning permit totals are also down; in 2017 there were 64, and in 2016 there were 73. Zoning fee reduction could be partially from the blanket rezones. August 31st is the deadline for 2017 maintenance forms. In 2016, we sent out 400 second notices, hope to see less than that in 2017. Motion by Lester Jantzen, seconded by Gabe Loeffelholz to accept the Zoning/Sanitation Report. Motion carried.

DNR Forestry Staffing Plan

Lynda drafted a letter with 15 questions that she had addressed to Jake Elder at the July 6th, 2017 Conservation, Sanitation, and Zoning Committee meeting. Jake was unable to answer these questions and he stated that he would run them up the chain of command to provide us with the answers.

County Cost Sharing

Starting out with \$8,961.41. No Extension or Cancellation Requests.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing on a well decommissioning for Fenn-Lange Farms, Platteville Twp., \$1,000.00. Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Dale Hood to approve payment. Roll Call: 6 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented 5 tentative approval requests for county cost sharing on cover crops for Eli Bontrager, Clifton Twp., \$322.14, 1st year; John and Kristen Adams, Beetown & Waterloo Twp., \$767.45, 1st year; Joshua Peer, Marion Twp., \$126.00, 1st year; Ricky Clark, Mt. Hope Twp., \$400.26, 2nd year; and Dan Hershberger, Fennimore, Wingville, & Clifton Twp., \$488.15, 3rd year. Motion by Dale Hood, seconded by Mark Stead to approve the 5 cover crop requests. Motion carried.

Lynda presented 3 tentative approval requests for county cost sharing on well decommissionings for Les Johns, Harrison Twp., \$600.00; Kenneth & Joyce Zenz, South Lancaster Twp., \$160.00 for the home well, and Kenneth & Joyce Zenz, South Lancaster Twp., \$200.00 for the barn well. Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Grant Loy to approve the 3 well decommissioning requests. Motion carried.

Ending Balance - \$5,497.41

SWRM Cost Sharing

2016 DATCP Cost Sharing – Beginning balance is \$23,298.00.

Lynda presented final approval request for 2016 DATCP cost sharing on a waste storage abandonment project for Steve Adrian, Glen Haven Twp., \$2,796.50. Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Gabe Loeffelholz to approve payment. Roll Call: 6 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent. Motion carried.

Ending Balance for 2016 DATCP Cost Sharing - \$20,501.50

2017 DATCP Cost Sharing – Starting Balance - \$13,883.75.

Lynda presented tentative approval requests for 2017 DATCP cost sharing on a grade stabilization structure for Strye LLC, Glen Haven Twp., \$10,000.00. Motion by Dale Hood, seconded by Grant Loy to approve Strye's request. Motion carried.

Ending Balance - \$3,883.75.

Storage Permit Approval

Lynda reported that Tranel Family Farms, Hazel Green Twp., is altering an existing storage facility. They are adding an additional 4.3 feet to the top, 16 foot sloped wall. They have 492 cows and will increase the capacity from 6 months to 8 months of storage. Plans have been submitted and approved by their private engineer with concurrence by Ralph Hemling, DATCP engineering specialist. Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Grant Loy to approve the permit. Motion carried.

Lynda reported that Jason Wachter, Woodman Twp., has an earthen storage facility that was installed between the years 2000 to 2003 without a permit. The Storage Ordinance went into effect in 1999. Had complaints come in that manure was out letting into a drainage ditch. The manure storage facility had breached and was leaking manure. Erik drew up the storage abandonment plan, and they have paid their \$50.00 closure permit fee. Mark inquired if we need to charge double the permit fee for an after the fact permit. Lynda explained that would apply if he abandoned the facility without a permit. We have no penalty fees for abandoning an illegal facility but will look into that for the Ordinance. Mark believed we charged double for a previous violation. Lynda said she would look into that. Motion by Dale Hood, seconded by Mark Stead to postpone the approval of the permit until the September meeting when more information will be available. Motion carried.

2018 Budget

Lynda reported that she has been working on the budget and will be meeting with all the department heads. Three issues came up: 1st is the rent increase. Since 2010, we have been renting 1,200 sq. ft. at \$15.00 sq. ft. for \$18,000 per year. In March, 2017, rent was negotiated for an increase of \$2.75 sq. ft. coming to \$17.75 sq. ft. totaling \$25,932.75 per year. At that time Dave Bainbridge proposed a ten year lease for \$21.76 for 1461 sq. ft. totaling \$31,791 per year. This is an additional \$13,791 that was not in the budget at that time. So in the 2018 budget, if we pay the price of rent that Dave Bainbridge had proposed it will be an additional \$5,858.25 per year over the March increase.

Lynda reported that we do not have a contribution agreement with NRCS for 2018. For many years we were able to receive anywhere from \$10,000 to \$15,000 a year. This was money that could be used anywhere. Lynda generously offered out \$30,000 from a carry-over account to help balance the 2017 county budget.

Lynda reported on the health insurance changes that had occurred, will increase our department budget by \$20,000. Bringing our expenses to an increase of \$78,000 over 2016

Nancy had asked the departments to do a wage study, to figure a 2.8% increase average overall to get everyone on the first step of the wage study. It would be between \$5,000 to \$10,000 to get the staff up to the first step on the wage study.

The DATCP budget for staff and support has not been approved for 2018. Lynda did enter the base line funding from DATCP in her 2018 budget. If this does not get approved by the state budget this will increase the budget by \$10,000, this would be an \$88,000 increase from 2017 budget.

SAA Tour

Lynda reported that we have 47 people that have RSVP'd. This is not counting the committee members or staff. There were 11 possible staff members, and 7 committee members that are planning to attend. We have received donations from the Lancaster Vet Clinic – Pet friendly door prize, Pat Schroeder - Prairie Farms Milk, SoCore – \$500.00 for bus transportation and sunglasses, Martha's Hot Mustard – door prizes, Brand L Imprints – Bags, Adrian Farms – Ice Cream Treats, Rural Route 1 Popcorn – popcorn samples, and Tower Junction – Coffee and Registration space.

CSZD Administrator Report

Lynda reported that Hammer Law Firm has requested a Public Records Request. Lynda responded to the public records request by sending them all the documentation for the public notices that were issued from our department. Have not heard anything back from them.

Lynda reported that Dan Bohlin brought "The Wisconsin Veterans Farm Bill of 2017 to assist and promote an Outreach Program through DATCP to help Veterans transition into the field of agriculture. Has gone through the Assembly Bill 302. Passed unanimously on June 22, 2017. Senate Bill 224 received a public hearing in the Senate Committee on June 28, 2017. Dan is asking for a resolution coming from Grant County in support of this Farm Bill. Lester suggested that Lynda work on a resolution in support of the "The Wisconsin Veterans Farm Bill of 2017".

Lean Update

Lynda reported that the next Computerized Capital Maintenance Project meeting will be held on August 2nd. She is also assisting with Social Service Lean project. Have got this to the data collection stage, will collect data for the next 3 months.

FPP Report

Kevin reported that he has been working on CREP. Continuing to work on Farmland Preservation Spot Checks.

NRCS Report – Joe Schmelz

Joe sent a report for Lynda to present to the committee:

EQIP

- Application deadline is October 20th.
- Had numerous projects being installed but rains have slowed construction considerably.
- Joe and Erik attended the Cover Crop field day August 9th at the Ag Research Station. Joe and Erik will be talking about our cover crop programs.

CSP

- Obligating new applications.
- Started working on the planning for renewals.

CRP

- Have all in hand CRP monarch applications have been completed – possibly more coming.
- Completing managed haying requests as they come in.

FSA Report

Gabe Loeffelholz reported that they will be having interviews at FSA this month for the new CED. They will be interviewing 3 applicants and hope to have someone on board by Labor Day.

Gabe reported that the crops look good.

Gabe reported that there were a few late certifications being completed.

RC&D & WLWCA Report – Dale Hood

Dale spoke with the chairman (Dave Solan) with the state forestry. They have lots of new people and still lots of vacancies in the DNR.

- Minnesota Land Conservation has lots of money, lots of employees, do a lot of planning, but do not have enough engineers to get the practices on the land.
- The land, food, and water is going quite well.
- Had a session on irrigating with manure. Working pretty well, with restrictions as to how often you can apply to the land. They are required to have drop nozzles and they can't be over 18" off the ground. Restriction on the wind speed is another factor to consider.

Dale got to meet the new State Conservationist, Angela Biggs, she was born and raised in Iowa. She replaced Jimmy Bramblett.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Lester Jantzen to adjourn to September 5, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by Annette Lolwing for Lester Jantzen.