

GRANT COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

December 1, 2009
9:00 a.m.
Ag Services Building
Lancaster, Wisconsin

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Paul Landon at 9:00 a.m. Present in addition to Chairman Landon were Don Splinter, William Biefer, Vince Loeffelholz, David Klar, Marvin Kettler, and Dwight Nelson. Others present were, Greg Cerven, Karyl Fritsche, Lynda Schweikert, Jared Reuter, John Patcle, Craig Hollingsworth, Kevin Lange, and Annette Lolwing.

Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by William Biefer that the Committee was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law. Motion carried.

Motion by Dwight, seconded by David Klar to approve the minutes from the November 3, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Dwight Nelson, seconded by William Biefer to approve the agenda with a change that the Grant County LWCD Webpage will be moved up before the sale of the 2000 Dodge Grand Caravan. Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by Dwight Nelson to approve the agenda change. Motion carried.

Bills: Annette Lolwing

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

New Cooperators and Cancellations: Annette Lolwing

Annette presented 1 cancellation. The cancellation was from Billy Wilkinson who owned land, 130.0 acres in Mt. Hope Twp., Sec 32, was sold to Tim Wilkinson. Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by David Klar to approve the cancellation. Motion carried.

Lynda mentioned we have purchased a voice recorder and is now being used.

Wildlife Damage Commodity Prices: Greg Cerven

Greg Cerven handed out a list of 2009 crop prices. Greg stated that these are the market prices that are around our area. He asked the Committee to set the commodity prices for the 2009 Wildlife Damage Program. Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by William Biefer to approve the current prices listed on the handout. Price set for Corn is \$3.64 / bushel; Soybeans at \$10.20 / bushel; Oats at \$2.09 / bushel; Alfalfa Hay at \$107.50 / ton; Mixed Hay \$65.00 / ton; and Organic Corn at \$5.50 / bushel. Motion carried.

Wildlife Damage Appraisal Deadline: Greg Cerven

Greg reported that we need to set a deadline date for the 2009 Wildlife Damage Crop Appraisals. Committee agreed that 80% of the crops have been harvested. A deadline date of December 1, 2009 was set so that no more 2009 Wildlife Damage Crop Appraisals will be done. Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by Marvin Kettler to approve the deadline date. Motion carried.

County Board Chairman: John Patcle

John reported that they will be having a Strategic Planning meeting on December 3, 2009 to go over the 2 proposals regarding the County Highway Department. The UW Platteville students will be working on another project next semester.

Cost Sharing: Lynda Schweikert

Lynda asked for the committees' guidance on the possibility of cost sharing on small dams with large cost estimates. Al Neises has been out on dam sites that are very small with 2 – 3 acres of drainage area. They are smaller dams but have very steep back slopes and require a large amount of fill. Dams would be costly, probably between \$16,000 to \$20,000. Al Neises came in to report on a couple of dams that are along the river bluffs. He is asking the committee if they would oppose or be in favor of piggybacking county cost share funds with SWRM (DATCP) cost share funds. Committee was in favor of piggybacking county and DATCP funds for these types of projects.

Lynda reported that Alan Lumley, Jamestown Twp., \$3,500.00, is requesting an extension until January, 2010 for his grade stabilization structure. Project is near completion. Motion by William Biefer, seconded by Marvin Kettler to grant Alan's request. Motion carried.

Lynda reported that Kathy Ragatz, Beetown Twp., \$3,500.00, is requesting an extension until June, 2010 for her rip rap repair. Kathy would like to do her EQIP rip rap project at the same time as the rip rap repair. Motion by William Biefer, seconded by Marvin Kettler to approve Kathy's request. Motion carried.

Lynda reported that Kerwin Killian, Ellenboro Twp., \$2,055.00, is requesting an extension until January, 2010 for his underground outlet. Project is near completion. Motion by William Biefer, seconded by Marvin Kettler to grant Kerwin's request. Motion carried.

Lynda reported a cancellation request of county cost sharing for Jeremy Winkers, Wingville Twp., \$3,500.00 for a manure storage facility. Jeremy will reapply for cost sharing in the year that they plan to build the facility. Facility has been designed by Ralph Hemling. Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by Dwight Nelson to cancel the cost sharing request. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing on a well decommissioning project for Steve and Diane Schneider, South Lancaster, Twp., \$218.72. Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by Dwight Nelson to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda reported that Kevin Prill's rip rap project and Tom Patzner's rip rap are both carryovers from 2008 into 2009. In the past we were unable to transfer any DATCP funds to a different project. This year we are able to transfer money from one extension project to another extension project. Kevin Prill's rip rap came in over cost what he was tentatively approved for, and Tom Patzner's project came in under cost what he was tentatively approved for. Lynda will be doing the transfer of \$898.43 from Tom Patzner to Kevin Prill's DATCP cost sharing. This will leave a \$0.0 balance for DATCP funds.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing on a rip rap project for Kevin Prill, Ellenboro Twp., \$1,583.90; and DATCP cost sharing of \$4,406.31 for a total of \$5,990.21. Motion by David Klar, seconded by Vince Loeffelholz to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing on a manure storage facility for John Mulrooney, Mt. Hope Twp., \$3,500.00. Motion by William Biefer, seconded by Marvin Kettler to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for county cost sharing on 2 grade stabilization structures for Donald Brandt, Jamestown Twp., of \$2,034.39, and DATCP cost sharing of \$4,410.00 for a total of \$6,444.40. Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by William Biefer to approve payments. Roll Call: 8 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda presented tentative approval request for county cost sharing on a streambank protection project for Stan Hampton, West Beetown Twp., \$1,500.00, Stan is asking for an additional \$2,000.00 to bring his cost sharing up to \$3,500.00. Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by William Biefer to approve the additional \$2,000.00 county cost sharing for Stan. Motion carried.

Lynda presented tentative approval request for county cost sharing for a well decommissioning for Janet Vosberg, Harrison Twp., \$500.00. Motion by Marvin Kettler, seconded by David Klar to approve Janet's request. Motion carried.

Lynda presented final approval request for DATCP cost sharing on rip rap repair for Tom Patzner, South Potosi Twp., \$2,275.57. Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by William Biefer to approve payment. Roll Call: 7 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent. Motion carried.

Lynda mentioned that she has 3, 2009 projects that will be extended into 2010. Stan Hampton for \$7,500.00; Gary Klein, NMP of \$1,661.00; and Alan Lumley, \$3,040.00. Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by William Biefer to approve the extensions to 2010. Motion carried.

Grant County LWCD Website Page

Lynda reported that she was in contact with Jeff Anderson, Computer IT person to see if he would give her permissions to enter information on our website. Jeff was in favor of it. Lynda gave a very interesting presentation to the committee what the LWCD website looks like and what a useful tool it will be for our office. Committee appreciated all the good work Lynda had done to get the webpage updated.

Sale of 2000 Dodge Grand Caravan

Lynda reported that the brakes froze up on the rear passenger side of the 2000 Dodge Grand Caravan. Lynda asked the committee if they wanted to repair the vehicle before selling it. Motion by Dwight Nelson, seconded by David Klar to get the brakes repaired. Motion carried.

Lynda asked how the committee would like to sell the 2000 Dodge Grand Caravan. Motion by Don Splinter, seconded by William Biefer to advertise the request for sealed bids on the 2000 Dodge Grand Caravan to all Grant County Departments. If there is no interest by December 18, 2009, then advertise the request countywide. Sealed bids are to be opened January 5, 2010 at the LWCC meeting. Motion carried.

WLWCA Resolutions

Lynda reported that Don, Bill and Vince are going to the WLWCA Conference in LaCrosse. There will be 2 resolutions on the table. Resolution #1 – Require comprehensive well water testing prior to real estate transfer. Resolution #2 – Whitetail deer herd management in Wisconsin.

WLWCA Conference Donated Items

Lynda asked if anyone generated any items to donate. Fairboard will donate a 154th Grant County Fair commemorative tractor; an Allis Chalmers "G" with plow.

WALCE

Lynda reported that Annette and Kevin will be attending the WALCE Conference in March. The money is in the budget.

2010 Tree Sale List: Kevin Lange

Kevin presented the 2010 Grant County's tree sale order form. Kevin is working with Leo Frueh at IAWISIL (Iowa Wisconsin Illinois) nursery, the previous Cascade Nursery. We will still be getting our evergreen trees from Laura's Lane Nursery by Plainfield. A copy of the order form will be on our website. Motion by Vince Loeffelholz, seconded by Dwight Nelson to accept the 2010 Tree Sale Order Form. Motion carried.

Poster Contest Photos: Annette Lolwing

Annette asked for some committee member/members to go to the local schools to have photos taken. We had 3 posters that won at the state level. We had a great showing of poster winners in Grant County this year. Paul Landon offered to go to St Clements School, William Biefer offered to go to IGEMS, Vince Loeffelholz offered to go to Cuba City High School, St Mary School, undecided.

FPP Report: Kevin Lange

Kevin reported that he has been out on some contour and contour strip jobs, mostly on land that has expired from CRP.

Kevin reported that he is catching up on plan revisions and sodbusting plans.

Kevin reported that he has a couple of Notices of Noncompliance, they are voluntary Notices of Noncompliance that were sent out to the landowners.

NRCS Report: Karyl Fritsche

Karyl reported that they are still working at getting their projects permitted through the DNR.

Karyl reported that they will be changing the EQIP allocations. National Office states that we need to rank like application by like applications, only cropland will compete with cropland.

FSA Report: Jared Reuter

Jared reported on the lease of the building and is actively working on the solicitation package. Jared does have the month to month lease signed by landlord.

Jared reported on the Dairy Economic Loss Assistance Program, deadline was last Wednesday to collect and verify the amount of pounds of milk from February through July. The milk payment may be \$.07 per hundred weight. National is hoping to have payments out by the middle of December.

Jared mentioned that he does have a County Emergency Board meeting set up for next Tuesday, December 8, 2009, where the LWCD, NRCS, and UW Extension come together to discuss different issues pertaining to crops in the county. They will be documenting some of the mold issues that were seen this crop season. It is a very important step in preparing for a disaster program. They will continue to collect information into the Spring.

Jared reported that they should have a handbook here in the near future for the disaster program. Should open in December to start going through the 2008 losses.

Jared mentioned that they have most of their payments out. This is the latest that FSA is making payments, they are usually all out in mid to late October. Milk loss for November is \$.64. For the October payment every year, the producers need to complete an Adjusted Gross Income form, producers are not able to self certify anymore.

Jared mentioned that Grant County pays out between 10 and 11 million dollars for all their programs.

Jared asked everyone to keep Virginia Peake and husband in their prayers.

Jared asked what is going on that FSA employees are not able to get finger printed at the Grant County Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's Department is not allowed to charge for finger printing. City police departments are allowed to charge for finger printing, they charge from \$20.00 to \$25.00.

Jared reported that Marvin Kettler is up for election. Ballots must be postmarked by December 7, 2009, and will be opened on December 10, 2009.

Call for Agenda Items for Next Months Meeting

1. Van bid opening
2. WLWCA conference report

Other Business - None

Motion by Dwight Nelson, seconded by Marvin Kettler to adjourn until January 5, 2010. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by
Annette Lolwing for Dwight Nelson