

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, January 4, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Jeff Williams, Kristi Leonard, Art Carter, Erica Roth, Betty Grotophorst, Tonya Gratz, Teresa Zimmer, Chris Newberry, Jason Thomas, Todd Jenson, and members of the public.

The minutes of the December meeting were approved on a motion by Leonard, second by Williams. Motion carried.

The December bills were audited in the amount of \$3126.53. A motion was made by Carter, second by Williams to approve the bills. Motion carried. The January bills were audited in the amount of \$1605.75. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Williams to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Poster contest winners were announced. First place in K-1 was Caroline Riemer. First place in grades 2-3 was Telina Gratz. First place in grades 4-6 was June Hawley. First place in grades 7-9 was Ellie Riemer, with second place being Dex Hawley.

Jenson handed out a list of cost-sharing applications for the upcoming year. There is \$65,250 to allocate. Some of the applications have not been looked at yet, so no action needed on them now.

Jenson handed out information on the annual Land and Water Conference to be held March 14 – 16 in Lake Geneva. He will ask at the next meeting if anyone wishes to attend.

Dudley Timm entered the meeting. Jenson responded to a request from Pinnacle Dairy to remove the existing monitoring wells and install sand points on the north and south face of each of the manure storage structures, in order to attempt to meet condition #2 of their permit. He denied the request, but would be open to listening to other options.

Gratz gave an educational demonstration on how duck weed algae grow in different types of solutions mixed with distilled water, such as DAP, urea, river water, manure, and phosphorus laden soil.

Zimmer informed the committee the County Committee Election was held and Dudley Timm was re-elected to serve on the Committee representing Local Administrative Area # 3 which includes Cadiz, Clarno, Jefferson, Jordan and Monroe Townships. Interest rates for the month of January have increased. For Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL's) the rate is 2.625 percent, an increase of 1/8th of a percent from December. Farm Stored Facility Loans (FSFL's) interest rate for 3 and 5 year loans also increased by 1/8 percent, to 2.125 and 2.250 percent respectively. The 7, 10 and 12 year loans interest rate did not change and remain at 2.25, 2.375 and 2.375 percent. New 2018 imagery that was flown in the summer of 2017 is being worked on and should be here within the next few weeks. There were a total of 33 Margin Protection Program (MPP) contracts signed for the 2018 contract year. 2018 ARCPLC signup has started. They have had a few appointments this week, and are booked through the middle of April.

Thomas informed the committee he has made 54 EQIP payments since October 1. They are working on 18 new contracts.

Gratz informed the committee this will be the 11th year of nutrient management classes. They will be held at our office this year. She is working with the producer led Farmers of the Sugar River group. She is lining up a bus for farmers to attend a cover crop conference in Stevens Point on February 27.

Newberry informed the committee he has taken 152 tree orders, with 6900 trees ordered. Groundwater Awareness Week is March 12 – 17.

There was nothing in committee concerns.

In the public comment/question period, it was asked when Pinnacle's permit expires.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2018, beginning at 9:30 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Timm, second by Williams to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM.