

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, June 6, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Erica Roth, Ken Hodgson, Jeff Williams, Dudley Timm, Tonya Gratz, Teresa Zimmer, Jason Thomas, and Todd Jenson.

The minutes of the April meeting were approved on a motion by Hodgson, second by Roth. Motion carried.

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$3104.00. A motion was made by Hodgson, second by Timm to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Jenson informed the committee he is in the process of filing for a phragmites grant with the DNR. He received a quote from Applied Ecological Services to herbicide the phragmites for \$4994. There are eleven sites to be treated.

Jenson and Gratz discussed the findings of their checks on CREP perpetual easements. Fifteen checks have been done on contracts that have expired from FSA, but still have a perpetual easement on them. Some contracts are good or only need to have some monumentation stakes installed. However, there are some with problems, such as: box elders/willows, machinery, rubble/junk piles, gravel road, tree stands, missing needed trees, and crop encroachment. Guidance was requested from the committee on how to proceed with follow-up. The committee asked if DATCP would ask for money back on easements? The committee decided to notify the non-compliant easement owners to get them back into compliance. A letter should be sent after the nesting season by certified mail with a timeframe to get things done.

Green County is hosting the SAA summer tour. Jenson asked for quotes from four bus companies. The low quote was from Flying L Transit in the amount of \$550. Jenson discussed possible stops and lunch options. He will try to finalize the itinerary soon. Timm said we could use his son's shed for lunch if need be. Williams and Timm said they would get cheese trays. Each committee member was requested to furnish two door prizes for the day.

Gratz gave an educational demonstration showing how residue cover reduces erosion.

Zimmer informed the committee the dairy signup will begin June 17. The CREP/CRP signup started June 3 and will go to August 23. Crop certification started last week and are booked through July 17. The Market Facilitation Program II added alfalfa as a program crop.

Thomas informed the committee that all EQIP contracts are signed for this year. He is encouraging farmers with small and difficult to farm fields along streams to enroll into CREP. He has about 25 random status reviews to inspect. He discussed planting cover crops on prevent planting acres.

Gratz informed the committee she has a few Farmland Preservation status reviews to do. There are a couple of waterways to go in yet.

In committee concerns Olson asked if everyone had received the email regarding Grande's permit. Jenson gave a brief update on the Speakers Task Force On Water Quality hearing in Janesville.

There was no public.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 8, beginning at 10:00 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Hodgson, second by Williams to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM.