

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, April 4, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Erica Roth, Kristi Leonard, Ken Hodgson, Jeff Williams, Dudley Timm, Chris Newberry, Tonya Gratz, Tyler Newcomer, Teresa Zimmer, Jerry Guth, Mark Kulig, Todd Jenson, and David Schenk.

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

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$5885.92. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Williams to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Southwest Badger RC&D is going to dissolve. Jenson is attempting to have the phragmites eradication grant transferred from Southwest Badger to Green County.

The joint DATCP/DNR nonpoint source grant application for 2020 was presented in the amount of \$212,090 for staff and support, \$100,000 for bonding, and \$20,000 for SEG funds. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Roth to approve the grant application. Motion carried.

The committee was informed of a notice of prehearing conference for an appeal between Sylvester township residents and DNR regarding the permit issuance to Pinnacle Dairy.

The 2018 annual report was presented to the committee. A motion was made by Hodgson, second by Roth to approve the report. Motion carried.

Gratz gave an educational review of nutrient management planning in Green County and across the entire state. Green County is sixth in the state in spending nutrient management dollars. She is planning to work with Dusty Williams of Blackhawk Tech in getting students to work with farmers on nutrient management plans.

Zimmer informed the committee of the retroactive dairy margin contracts with LGM can now sign up for 2018. Farmers have a choice of 75% of payment toward credit for premium or 50% direct cash repayment based on previously paid premiums. Dairy signup begins June 17. ARCPLC will start in mid to late August. A general CRP signup is planned for December.

Gratz informed the committee she has been working on nutrient management plans, has been out laying contour strips, and working on a Notice of Intent DNR grant application.

Newcomer shared a report written by Jason Thomas. NRCS has been given approval to sign 41 EQIP applications. Currently there are five eligible applications that ranked below the current

funding cutoff levels. These could be funded if some of the 41 approved contracts decline funding or if additional funds are received. Contract signing deadline is May 3. Additionally, 31 applications are in pending status awaiting planning. A third sign-up is ongoing with an application deadline of May 17.

Newberry informed the committee he has been working on designs and GPSing wells.

In committee concerns, Leonard stated she attended a portion of the Wisconsin Land and Water Conference and encouraged others to attend in the future. Williams brought up the flooding issues in the area of Town Center Road and Cty. T.

Mark Kulig introduced himself. He is the Area Conservationist for NRCS located in Richland Center. He has been there for two years and covers eleven counties. He plans on attending at least one LWCC meeting per year.

In public comments, Dave Schenk asked if the LWCD staff would give him input on what the staff would have done differently if they could have had more regulation or more inspection authority on Pinnacle Dairy.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 2, beginning at 10:00 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Williams, second by Timm to convene into closed session under S.S.19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of considering performance data on a public employee for the annual performance evaluation of the County Conservationist. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Leonard, second by Hodgson to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.