

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Green County Courthouse
County Board Room
1016 16th Avenue
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, April 7, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Jeff Williams, Kristi Leonard, Oscar Olson, Nick Hartwig, Dudley Timm, Erica Roth, Tess Wallner, Tonya Gratz, Teresa Zimmer, Meaghan Rafferty, Sue Nelson, Norma Olson, and Todd Jenson.

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

The committee reviewed the 2022 cost-share applications. A motion was made by Roth, second by Olson to approve the applicants recommended by Jenson. Motion carried.

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$4677.55. A motion was made by Hartwig, second by Williams to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Jenson presented the 2023 DATCP/DNR staff and support application in the amount of \$189,096 for staffing, \$85,000 for bonding, and \$20,000 for nutrient management. A motion was made by Roth, second by Timm to approve the application. Motion carried.

Jenson reviewed the 2021 annual report with the committee. A motion was made by Williams, second by Timm to approve the report. Motion carried.

Gratz gave an educational demonstration with cocoa puff cereal (soil) and milk (rain). Whole cocoa puffs were placed in one jar, while crushed cocoa puffs were placed in a different jar. Milk was poured over each. The milk flowed through the whole pieces, showing how no-till soil can have rain infiltrate. The crushed pieces, mimicking tillage that destroys aggregation, did not infiltrate, and sat on the top of the surface, showing sick soil.

Jenson informed the committee he has been working on a new contribution agreement with NRCS, reviewing the manure storage plans for Spring Grove Dairy, working on CRP contracts, the annual workplan, and doing designs.

Gratz informed the committee she has been working on setting up Youth Conservation Days, which will be May 4 for mainly fifth grade, and May 11 for sixth grade. She is also working with the Famers of the Sugar River, trying to get a video of revamping old planters to do no-till.

Wallner informed the committee she attended a watershed leaders conference. The new producer led watershed group had their first meeting with 15 attendees. They plan to have a field day in early May. Tree sales are coming up soon.

Rafferty informed the committee the last batch of EQIP is completed and the next limited signup period goes until May 20. The CSP deadline is the end of April.

Zimmer informed the committee ARCPLC enrollment is going on. They are cleaning up farm records. They will be trying assigned days for landowners to pick up their maps. They recently have two new hires, while one staff retired, and another left for a different position. They currently have a job posting for an additional staff.

There were no committee concerns.

There were no public comments.

In any other business, Jenson told the committee Symdon Motors cancelled the truck order as they are not building fleet vehicles. Jenson went to Dearth Motors and ordered a V6 Ram 1500, which should arrive this fall. Jenson handed out groundwater monitoring levels around the manure pits at Pinnacle Dairy for the years of 2018 – 2021. Jenson thanked Roth and Olson for their service on the committee.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 5, beginning at 9:30 AM.

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

Jenson returned the meeting to go through the evaluation.

The committee reconvened into open session.

A motion was made by Williams, second by Olson to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.