

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, December 8, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Kristi Leonard, Sue Nelson, Nick Hartwig, Dudley Timm, Jeff Williams, Tonya Gratz, Teresa Zimmer, Tess Wallner, Jason Thomas, Kristin Fischer, Emily Colson, and Todd Jenson.

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

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$22,521.05. A motion was made by Nelson, second by Hartwig to approve the bills. Motion carried with Williams abstaining.

Jenson gave a report on the Southern Area Association meeting that was held in October.

The committee discussed how to use the ARPA funds that were recently approved. It was decided to focus on the NE part of the county on Liberty Creek, Allen Creek, and Cold Spring Creek watersheds, doing streambank and upland conservation practices.

Gratz discussed with committee how to use the WiWiC funds. \$4000 is to be offered to Michael Fields for planning and hosting a regional summit. Other options mentioned were pollinator practices, tools for lending out, and machine rental for invasive removal.

Jenson informed the committee he helped with the Southwest Wisconsin land judging contest. He has been working on CRP and CREP contracts and field staking. He told the committee the truck order may be cancelled. He is going to try to purchase a truck off the lot.

Thomas informed the committee the EQIP signup ended November 4. There were 29 applications. He has two new staff members. They have done 4 CSP contracts. They have finished checking cover crops.

Zimmer informed the committee fall crop certification ended November 15 for fall seeded crops. CRP payments were issued in October, with over \$1 million going out. DMC signup has been extended to January 31. She will be starting shared management responsibilities with Rock County starting January 1. She has offered the open position to a candidate with hopes to have them start in early January.

Wallner informed the committee she has been GPSing CREP and helped with the Southwest Wisconsin land judging contest. The producer led watershed she is working with, Green County Clean Waters, were approved for a DATCP grant. The tree sales run until the end of the month and 6 of the 16 species offered are sold out.

Gratz informed the committee next Tuesday is the cover crop conference and the Discovery Farms conference is on Wednesday. February 21 is the annual meeting for the Farmers of the Sugar River. The Farmers of the Sugar River were also approved for a DATCP grant.

There were no committee concerns.

There were no public comments.

There was nothing in any other business.

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

The committee went on a tour of Green County. They learned about streambank improvement done along Buckskin School Creek, toured the Oasis Game Farm and Hunt Club, viewed streambank work done along Pioneer Valley, stopped at Sugar River Pizza for lunch, visited Green's Prairie Cemetery, listened to Pete and Travis Leonard talk about what they have done on their farm, viewed streambank work done on Dougherty Creek, and visited the cemetery at the former Green County Insane Asylum.

A motion was made by Nelson, second by Timm to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:45PM.