

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, October 6, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 AM. Those present were Kristi Leonard, Sue Nelson, Nick Hartwig, Dudley Timm, Peg Sheaffer, Jeff Williams, Dave Tarrell, Lisa Kivirist, Tonya Gratz, Teresa Zimmer, and Todd Jenson.

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

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$85,140.88. A motion was made by Nelson, second by Sheaffer to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Tarrell presented the 2023 Wildlife Damage budget in the amount of \$5582.81. A motion was made by Sheaffer, second by Timm to approve the budget. Motion carried.

Tarrell presented the 2022 crop damage prices. A motion was made by Timm, second by Williams to approve the prices as presented with one change of increasing corn to \$7.00/bushel and to set the 90% harvest date of December 15. Motion carried.

Kivirist explained women specific programming that is happening throughout the state. Green County is leading the charge. The committee discussed some options for using the money earned by Gratz for doing land walks with women landowners. She currently has 23 plans to do with each earning \$500 for the department.

The committee discussed having a composting dead animals field day. It was decided to have one next spring. Gratz will try to find a landowner this fall that is willing to host the field day.

Gratz gave an educational demonstration on Johnson grass. It was recently brought to our attention of what it really might be. It is one of the top ten worst weeds in the world. Unfortunately, it is widespread around the county, mostly in field boundaries. UW weed scientists are confirming the identity.

Jenson informed the committee the department was approved for \$50,000 in ARPA funds for installing conservation practices. The county land judging contest had 18 schools and 135 students. He also attended the state land judging contest. The next two years of state land judging will be hosted by Blackhawk Tech. CRP contracts were signed this past month for those with an October 1 start date.

Gratz informed the committee that Youth Conservation Day was held yesterday with 68 students attending. Statewide there were 45 applications for Producer Led Watershed Protection grants. There was \$1.5 million requested. We should know in November who is approved. She has completed 14 land walks, 4 are in the process, and 5 to be started yet.

Zimmer informed the committee fall crop certification is underway with a November 15 deadline. There was an August dairy payment of \$1.42 at the \$9.50 level. The DMC signup will be October

17 – December 9. CRP payments are going out this month in two batches. She had one retirement, one new full-time staff started, and one new temporary staff started. They have been authorized to hire another person as well. There was nothing in committee concerns.

There were no public comments.

In any other business Jenson informed the committee the staff is planning a bus tour for the committee during the November 3 meeting.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, November 3, beginning at 9:30 AM.

A motion was made by Nelson, second by Williams to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM.