

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, April 6, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM. Those present were Kristi Leonard, Sue Nelson, Peg Sheaffer, Dudley Timm, Jeff Williams, Nick Hartwig, Tonya Gratz, Tess Wallner, Jason Thomas, Teresa Zimmer, Matt Schenk, Alex Aurit, and Todd Jenson.

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

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$7067.39. A motion was made by Williams, second by Hartwig to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Matt Schenk and Alex Aurit informed the committee they are in the Green County Leaders Program. Part of the program is to have a community project. They would like to plant and showcase the trees that are part of the terrace tree program in Monroe. The project would be in Twining Park. There are three tree species that are needed to be planted yet. A motion was made by Scheaffer, second by Nelson, to purchase the three tree species at a cost not to exceed \$550. Motion carried.

Jenson reviewed the new per diem and expense form with the committee.

The 2024 joint DATCP/DNR nonpoint source grant application was presented in the amount of \$205,970 for staff and support and \$120,000 in cost-sharing funds. A motion was made by Timm, second by Williams to approve the application. Motion carried.

Jenson shared a map of the Allen Creek, Liberty Creek, and Cold Spring Creek watersheds to show where the department intends to utilize the \$50,000 in ARPA money.

Jenson discussed the 2022 non-lapsing funds that will be on the next County Board agenda. The \$80,000 is for the purchase of 2 trucks. There is also \$9700 for the Farmers of the Sugar River.

The summer intern position was approved by the Personnel Committee and will now go to the County Board.

Gratz gave an educational demonstration comparing a sponge and a brick, acting as healthy and unhealthy soil. The sponge has air pores and can absorb water, like healthy soil, while the brick, or unhealthy soil, doesn't show the same characteristics.

Jenson informed the committee he has done 10 CRP contracts this month. Construction has started on a streambank job near Juda, and he has been working on DNR permits.

Thomas informed the committee he has been working on CRP contracts and has ten EQIP contracts. There is a small batch of CSP contracts and a lot of prescribed burn plans.

Zimmer informed the committee ARCPLC ended March 15. The CRP general signup ends tomorrow. To date, there are no applicants. There is a payment for the month of February for the DMC program. Map pickup is next week. She recently had a staff member turn in their resignation.

Gratz informed the committee she has been working on surveys and designs. The youth conservation day is scheduled for May 3.

Wallner informed the committee she attended the Wisconsin Land and Water conference. She also attended soil mechanics training. The trees are being delivered next week, with sales the following week. The Green County Clean Water field day is scheduled for April 17.

There were no public comments.

There was nothing in any other business.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 4, beginning at 9:30 AM.

A motion was made by Timm, second by Sheaffer 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.

A motion was made by Williams, second by Nelson to reconvene into open session. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Williams, second by Timm to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 PM.