

MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023 – 8:30 AM
LAND & WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE
OF OCONTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
301 WASHINGTON STREET, COURTHOUSE BUILDING “A” ROOM #3041
OCONTO WI 54153
www.co.oconto.wi.us
(Draft minutes, not approved by Committee)

COMMITTEE PRESENT: Tim Cole, Chris Augustine, Wayne Kaczrowski, Patrick Scanlan, and Keith Schneider

OTHERS PRESENT: Monty Brink, Forest, Parks & Recreation Administrator; Ken Dolata, County Conservationist; Dave Poffinbarger, GIS/LIO/LIS Administrator; Patrick Virtues, Planning, Zoning and Solid Waste Administrator; Michelle Seefeldt, Administrative Assistant; Al Sleeter, County Board Chair; Erik Pritzl, County Administrator; Amy Brehmer, Extension Program Assistant; Joy Campshure, Homemakers Association; Steve Kaufman, DNR Liaison; Chris Firgens, Assistant Forester; Steve Heimerman, OCLAWA; Floyd Schmidt, Chute Lake District and others present.

1. Call to Order

Chair Cole called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1. Change of Sequence – None

2.2. Removal of Items – None

Motion by Schneider/Kaczrowski to approve the agenda. Motion voted on and carried.

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Motion by Scanlan/Augustine to approve the minutes of April 4, 2023. Motion voted on and carried.

4. Previous Months Vendor Payments

Motion by Scanlan/Kaczrowski to approve the previous month's vendor payments. Motion voted on and carried.

5. Communications

5.1. DNR Wildlife Mgmt Program Letter – Thank you for longstanding working relationship and support in Wolf trapping/tracking efforts

5.2. News from the Pond – Chute Pond Newsletter

5.3. State of WI Budget Update - Monty Brink reported on the different grant sources that are affected by the State Budget.

6. Extension

6.1. Home and Community Education (HCE) Update

Joy Campshure, Home and Community Educator, gave a presentation on the program and passed out the 2023 newsletter.

6.2. Department Report

The department report was enclosed. This was information only and no action taken.

7. LIS/Land Records Department

7.1. Approval Purchase of Non-Budgeted Plotter

Dave Poffinbarger stated he is requesting to use non-budgeted funds to replace the plotter. Discussion held. Moved by Scanlan/Schneider to approve the purchase of a plotter using up to \$10,000 of non-budgeted funds. Motion voted on and carried.

7.2. Department Report

The department report was enclosed. This was information only and no action taken.

8. Land & Water Conservation Department

8.1. Lake Michigan Area Conservation Association Spring Meeting, May 19th, Door County

Ken Dolata handed out the Lake Michigan Area Conservation Association Spring meeting agenda. Discussion held on attendees.

8.2. White Potato Lake Inland Lake District Formation Public Hearing Report

Discussion held on the enclosed White Potato Lake Inland Lake District formation public hearing minutes. Moved by Scanlan/Kaczrowski to recommend forwarding the hearing report to County Board and recommend approval of the establishment of the White Potato Lake Inland Lake District. Motion voted on and carried.

8.3. White Potato Lake District County Representative Recommendation

Ken Dolata stated that the Committee needs to recommend a representative to the White Potato Lake Inland Lake District, if the County Board approves the formation of the district. The member can be a committee member, a member from the County Board or a person from the public. Discussion held on appointment requirements. Moved by Scanlan/Kaczrowski to recommend to County Board the appointment

of Keith Schneider contingent on the formation of the White Potato Lake Inland Lake District. Motion voted on and carried.

8.4. Department Report

Ken Dolata reported on the following:

- Northern Pike trapping is complete, only three traps set because of the high water.
- Construction started on a manure storage facility
- Assisting the Highway Department on an erosion issue in the Town of Chase
- Wildlife damage report on a wolf taking dead animals;
- Installing lake leveling gauges on 5 lakes
- Steve Heimerman reported on the 7 Towns meeting, the Lumber Jack meeting noting that Marinette County is a member again and the OCLAWA Annual Meeting Saturday, May 6, 2023.
 - Steve Heimerman & Floyd Schmidt attended the Wisconsin Lakes Convention where Floyd received a Lake Stewardship Award for Programmatic Excellence in Lake Health. Discussion held on recognizing Floyd Schmidt at the next County Board Meeting.

9. Planning & Zoning/Solid Waste Department

9.1. Resolution Supporting a 2024 Ag Chemical & Household Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep Application

Pat Virtues presented information on the Ag Chemical & Household Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep Application to help cover the cost of a clean sweep event. Oconto County & Marinette County partner to apply for grant funding and organize the event. Discussion held on the future of hazardous waste disposal without a clean sweep event. Motion by Kaczrowski/Schneider to take a resolution to County Board authorizing the Planning, Zoning & Solid Waste Administrator to apply for a Ag Chemical & Household Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep grant for 2024. Motion voted on and carried.

9.2. Department Report

Pat Virtues presented the Planning & Zoning/Solid Waste report and discussion held.

- No Rezones for May
- The Annual Recycling Meeting is Tuesday, May 9, 2023
- Pat shared resolutions from Clark, Columbia and Green Lake Counties, on how the Wisconsin Legislature limits how counties can regulate solar and wind energy systems. Discussion held on regulations, concerns on land use and ag lands.

10. Forest, Parks & Recreation Department

10.1. Campground Development Proposal

Monty Brink reported only one proposal was received from Short Elliot Hendrickson Inc. on the campground development on Torsci Lane. Discussion held on the proposal, phases of the project and funding sources. Motion by Scanlan/Schneider to forward the request to enter into a contract with Short Elliot Hendrickson Inc. for development of the campground on Torsci Lane to County Board for approval.

10.2. Title III -

Monty stated Title III funds authorizes county projects for: (1) search, rescue, and emergency services, including firefighting; (2) community service work camps; (3) conservation and recreation easement purchases; (4) forest related educational opportunities; (5) fire prevention and county planning; and (6) community forestry. Funds can be carried over for three years but need to be expended or returned. Discussion held fund use and if it can be given to others in the fund scope. The Committee directed the Forest & Parks Administrator to research Fire Wise Communities Program and the Sheriff Department needs on fund use.

10.3. 2023 Farm Bill

10.3.1. Good Neighbor Authority

Monty Brink explained the Good Neighbor Authority Agreement which allowed the US Forest Service to enter into agreements with the state and others in the forestry community to work on the Chequamegon Nicolet National Forest to manage timber stands. Oconto County has a MOU with the state to manage federal timber. These agreements expire in 10 years. GNA activities were suspended after the 2019 storm. Discussion was held on the future agreements. This was information only. No action taken.

10.4. Timber Sales

10.4.1. Award Timber Sales

Monty Brink submitted the 2023 Bid Summary from the 2023 Timber Sale. Discussion held. Motion by Kaczrowski/Schneider to award timber sale contracts to the high bidders. Motion voted on and carried.

10.4.2. Contract Extensions

Monty Brink reviewed timber sales extensions. Discussion held. Timber sales contracts were extended with increase in stumpage rates as discussed. See attached report.

10.5. Department Report

Monty Brink presented the Forest & Parks Department report. See attached report. This was information only and no action taken.

- Carbon Credit presentation was discussed – Committee would like an in person presentation at County Board and a Zoom meeting for the Committee Meeting

10.5.1.1. Recreational Officer

No additional comments on the enclosed report

10.5.1.2. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)

No additional comments on the enclosed report

11. Announcements/General Information (No action to be taken)

The Highway Department is still seeking LTE's for the summer. Supervisor Scanlan attended a listening session in Gillett for Felzkowski and Mursau. Discussion held.

12. Next Meeting Date

Next regular meeting of the Land & Water Resources Committee is scheduled for June 6, 2023.

13. Adjournment

Chair Cole declared the meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.

MS/Date Posted – 05/15/2023