

MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 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, Wayne Kaczrowski, Patrick Scanlan, and Keith Schneider

ABSENT: Chris Augustine

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; Jeff Folts, Town of Morgan Supervisor; Lori Witthuhn, Town of Morgan Chair; Karen Nelson-Kispert, Town of Morgan resident; Dave Behrend Supervisor District 8; Jolene Barkhaus, Supervisor District 9; Dale Mohr, Community Resource Development Agent, Scott Reuss, Extension Regional Crops/Soils Educator; Steve Heimerman, OCLAWA; 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 – Move item 9.1 after 5.2

2.2. Removal of Items – None

Motion by Scanlan/Schneider to approve the agenda as modified. Motion voted on and carried.

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by Kaczrowski/Schneider to approve the minutes of June 6, 2023. Motion voted on and carried.

4. Previous Month’s Vendor Payments

Committee reviewed the previous month’s vendor payments.

5. Communications

5.1. Monty Brink received an e-mail request to change the surface of the Oconto River State Trail. Discussion held on maintenance and user fees.

5.2. Monty Brink received an e-mail from the Town of Breed. The Town would like to discontinue Crab Apple Rd. If the road is discontinued the land will revert to the parent parcels. Discussion held.

5.3. The next Wolf Management listening session will be on July 12, 2023 in Clintonville.

9. Planning & Zoning/Solid Waste Department

9.1. Discussion regarding Solar Farms

Jeff Folts, Supervisor for the Town of Morgan, spoke on industrial solar. Karen Nelson-Kispert passed out Information You Need To Know About Industrial Solar, example resolutions and ordinances and spoke in opposition to industrial solar. She stated that the goal is to have the County take some action on industrial solar and help support local communities. Discussion held on public vs private solar application requirements and notifications. The Committee will review this information and discuss it at a future Committee meeting.

6. Extension

6.1. Department Report

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

- Dale Mohr handed out the Lake Tides Newsletter where Oconto County is featured in a County-Wide Lake Planning – An Efficient Model for Reaching Low-Capacity Lakes article.
- Scott Reuss, Extension Regional Crops/Soils Educator, handed out the Crops & Soils Programming Report for May/June 2023 along with the Crops & Soils Plan of Work for July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. Discussion held on the reports and upcoming events. Please contact the Extension office if you would like a copy of the July 2023 Newsletter.

7. LIS/Land Records Department

7.1. Parcel Fabric Migration Contract/Consulting Agreement

Dave Poffinbarger stated he received a quote from Panda Consulting for \$15,300 and Pro-West for \$16,820 for the parcel fabric migration. Discussion held. Moved by Scanlan/Schneider to enter into a contract with Panda for the parcel fabric migration for \$15,300. 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. Equipment Match Rates

Ken Dolata stated they would like to use DOT equipment rates for match rates on projects. Discussion held. Motion by Scanlan/Schneider to use DOT equipment rates. Motion voted on and carried.

8.2. Lumberjack Resource, Conservation & Development Meeting, July 27th, Oconto County

Discussion held on the July 27, 2023 Lumberjack Resource, Conservation & Development Meeting. Scanlan, Kaczrowski and Cole will attend. Schneider will call to confirm.

8.3. Lake Michigan Summer Tour, August 4th, Menominee County

Discussion held on the August 4, 2023 Lake Michigan Summer Tour in Menominee County. Scanlan and Kaczrowski will attend. Cole will call to confirm.

8.4. Department Report

Ken Dolata reported on the attached March, April, May and July payments & contracts report. This was information only and no action taken.

- Steve Heimerman said there were two training events hosted by Healthy Lakes on June 10, 2023.
- The OCLAWA Fall meeting will be on August 26, 2023
- The 7-Towns meeting is July 19, 2023
- The Anderson Lake District is holding their 1st Annual Meeting on August 26, 2023
- The White Potato Lake District is meeting on July 13, 2023.
- Discussion held on grant funds and funding sources for the lake districts.

9. Planning & Zoning/Solid Waste Department

9.1. Department Report

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

- Staff may be required to start doing on-sites reviews of soil tests.
- Minutes from the Mar-Oco Land Fill indicate an increase in tipping rates.

10. Forest, Parks & Recreation Department

10.1. Snowmobile Bridge Opening

Received one project bid from Custom Manufacturing for \$87,500.00. Monty Brink informed the Committee that the DNR is requesting a 25,000 lb. bridge vs rehab of existing 12,000 bridge. He will submit a scope and cost amendment to replace the bridge. Discussion held. Motion by Scanlan/Schneider to accept the bid from Custom Manufacturing for \$87,000.00 and to take to County Board for approval. Motion voted on and carried.

10.2. Wolf Management Plan

Monty presented a draft resolution for the Committee's review. The resolution re-affirms Oconto County support in 2010 for 350 wolves' population and request that the DNR does not relocate animals. The resolution adds a new section about sub area 2B management control and the restriction of rights of landowners in Oconto County living in sub area 2B. Motion by Schnieder/Kaczrowski to forward a resolution to County Board supporting the Wolf Management Plan. Motion voted on and carried.

10.3. Site Prep for Red Pine Plantation

Monty Brink explained the difficulty the department is encountering with the steps outlined in the Financial Management Policy. Discussion held on deadlines and missed opportunities. Moved by Scanlan/Schneider to waive Section 1.8 - Purchasing of the Financial Management Policy for site preparation work and to work through the County Administrator to get the site work completed. Motion voted on and carried.

10.4. Outback Riders Horse Trail Improvements

Monty Brink reported that he has been working with the Outback Riders Club on the parking lot expansion project. As part of the project, they would like to add a vaulted toilet and well. Discussion held on the project, electricity, hand pumps, vaulted vs port-a-potty and funding. Moved by Scanlan/Kaczrowski to support the Outback Riders request for a well as part of the parking lot project, but suggest a portable toilet instead of a vaulted one. Motion voted on and carried.

10.5. Department Report

Department report was enclosed and reviewed. This was information only and no action taken.

- Discussion held on the signs on the Nicolet State Trail
- Reservoir Dam inspection was completed. Repairs need to be done to Crooked Lake Dam.
- Chris Firgens & Monty Brink will be meeting with Biewer on sale 397. They are not hauling the red pine in a timely manner.

10.5.1.1. Recreational Officer

The recreational officer is working on removing an abandoned pontoon from the Chute Pond seasonal dock. Discussion held.

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)

Dave Poffinbarger is holding a learn to disc golf event at Holtwood Park on Wednesday, July 19, 2023.

12. Next Meeting Date

Next regular meeting of the Land & Water Resources Committee is scheduled for August 8, 2023.

13. Adjournment

Chair Cole declared the meeting adjourned at 10:44 AM.



**LAND & WATER
CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
410 ½ E. Main Street
Lena, WI 54139
920-834-7150**

Department Report June 6th

- European Frogbit interns have started.
- Northern Pike Trapping Completed for 2023
 - Cty Y – 40 adults, 4 recaps, 1,150 YOY
 - Pecor Point – 122 adults, 10 recaps, 55 YOY
 - Frog Pond – 245 adults, 45 recaps, 894 YOY
- Demonstration Farm Network Amendment – adding 2 years to the agreement, \$1,822 per year compared to current \$2,000 and added \$28,000 staff time.
- National Water Quality Initiative, North Branch Little River 2018 started, water quality testing. EPA 303d list for sediment and phosphorus. \$1,339,911 in extra funding 2019-2023.
- Contracts and funding -
 - 2 stream bank protection contracts
 - 4 shoreline restoration contracts – 1 project completed
 - 1 NOD contract and grant award for Krause Dairy \$801,464 for waste storage, barnyard and waste transfer. Also applying through NRCS.