

MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 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: Ken Dolata, Land & Water Conservationist; Dave Poffinbarger, GIS/LIO/LIS Administrator; Patrick Virtues, Planning, Zoning and Solid Waste Administrator; Laurie Wusterbarth, Register of Deeds; Michelle Seefeldt, Administrative Assistant; Al Sleeter, County Board Chair; Erik Pritzl, County Administrator; Dave Behrend, Supervisor District 8; Amanda Dornfeld, Area Extension Director for Oconto, Marinette, Shawano, and Menominee County/Nation; Aimee Elkins – 4-H Program Educator for Oconto and Marinette Counties; Steve Heimerman, OCLAWA; Chris Firgens, Assistant Forest Administrator; Steve Kaufman, DNR Liaison; Jacob Bohrtz; Attorney Bob Gagan; Ron Allen; Charles Valders; 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 10.1 after 5.

2.2. Removal of Items – None

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

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by Schneider/Scanlan to approve the minutes of August 8, 2023. Motion voted on and carried.

4. Previous Month’s Vendor Payments

Committee reviewed the previous month’s vendor payments. Information only.

5. Communications

None

10.1. Review Domestic Chicken/Ducks Ordinance Standards

Pat Virtues presented several county ordinances on domestic chickens and ducks to the Committee for review. Discussion held on the different county standards compared to Oconto County. All standards were similar when comparing lots under 2 acres and number of chickens/ducks allowed. Atty Bob Gagan spoke on behalf of citizens, Dan Carter and Anita Whitehurst. They would like to be able to continue to operate with 30 chickens as they have been doing since 1996. Discussion held on the options available; coming into compliance immediately, steps and procedures to amend the ordinance or working with a timeframe to come into compliance. The Committee recommends the Planning & Zoning Department review each situation and allow the parties to come into compliance within a timely manner.

6. 2024 Budget

6.1. Register of Deeds

Laurie Wusterbarth, Register of Deeds, presented the 2024 Register of Deeds budget for review. Motion by Kaczrowski/Scanlan to forward the 2024 Register of Deeds budget to Administration to take to County Board. Motion voted on and carried.

6.2. Extension

Mandi Dornfeld, Area Extension Director, presented the 2024 Extension budget for review. Motion by Schneider/Kaczrowski to forward the 2024 Extension budget to Administration to take to County Board. Motion voted on and carried.

6.3. LIS/Land Records Department

Dave Poffinbarger, LIS/Land Records Administrator, presented the 2024 LIS/Land Records budget for review. Motion by Scanlan/Schneider to forward the 2024 LIS/Land Records Department budget to Administration to take to County Board. Motion voted on and carried.

6.4. Land & Water Conservation Department

Ken Dolata, Land & Water Conservationist, presented the 2024 Land & Water Conservation budget for review. Motion by Kaczrowski/Schneider to forward the 2024 Land & Water Conservation Department budget to Administration to take to County Board. Motion voted on and carried.

6.5. Planning & Zoning/Solid Waste

Patrick Virtues, Planning/Zoning & Solid Waste Administrator, presented the LWR Administration budget, Planning & Zoning and Solid Waste budgets for review. Motion by Scanlan/Kaczrowski to forward the 2024

LWR Administration, Planning & Zoning/Solid Waste budgets to Administration to take to County Board. Motion voted on and carried.

6.6. Forest, Parks & Recreation Department

Erik Pritzl, County Administrator, presented the Forest, Parks & Recreation budget for review in Monty Brink's absence. Motion by Kaczrowski/Schneider to forward the 2024 Forest, Parks & Recreation Department budget to Administration to take to County Board. Motion voted on and carried.

7. Extension

7.1. Department Report

Aimee Elkins, 4-H Program Educator, reported on participation of the 4-H Summer Programs and Oconto County Youth Fair. She also gave an update on state project management and 4-H club reviews. This was information only and no action taken.

8. LIS/Land Records Department

8.1. Department Report

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

9. Land & Water Conservation Department

9.1. Oconto County Lake Protection Grants Resolution

Moved by Schneider/Scanlan to recommend the Land & Water Conservation Department apply for the Oconto County Lake Protection Grant and to forward to County Board for approval. Motion voted on and carried.

9.2. Lake Michigan Area Land & Water Conservation Association Fall Business Meeting, October 6, 2023.

The Lake Michigan Area Land & Water Conservation Association Fall Business Meeting will be held at the Oconto County LEC building on October 6, 2023. Please contact Ken if you are interested in attending. Committee members Cole, Scanlan and Schneider are interested in attending.

9.3. Department Report

Ken Dolata reported on department activities and stated that Act 32 changed the Farm Service Representative requirements. Discussion held. See the attached report. This was information only and no action taken.

9.3.1. Oconto County Lakes & Waterways Association

Steve Heimerman commented on

- Invasive species and how they may be in your own back yard without you knowing it.
- The damage being doing to the shoreline from wake boats. Towns & counties may have to look for ways to restrict them.
- The process of forming lakes districts. Stated it was a difficult process and commended Kim Pytleski and Megan Oswald for their assistance. Discussion held on parliamentary procedures and the need to train newly formed districts.

10. Planning & Zoning/Solid Waste Department

10.2. Solar & Wind Energy Regulation Resolution

Pat Virtues presented a draft resolution recommending revisions to the solar and wind energy regulations as established by the Wisconsin Administrative Code and Wisconsin Statutes. Discussion held. Moved by Schneider/Kaczrowski to forward a resolution recommending revisions to the solar and wind energy regulations as established by the Wisconsin Administrative Code and the Wisconsin Statutes to County Board to be placed on the regular agenda. Motion voted on and carried.

10.3. 2024 Clean Sweep Grant Award Administration Resolution & Contract

Pat Virtues stated that the Clean Sweep grant has been awarded to Oconto County. Discussion held. Moved by Scanlan/Schneider to forward a resolution to County Board supporting Administration of the 2024 Clean Sweep Program to be placed on the consent agenda. Motion voted on and carried

10.4. Review Proposal 2024 Department Fee Schedule

Pat Virtues presented the enclosed Zoning Department Fee schedule and recommended changes for 2024 to align with 2024 anticipated budget revenues. Discussion held. Moved by Scanlan/Kaczrowski to forward a resolution to County Board with the proposed fee changes as presented and effective 2024. Motion voted on and carried.

10.5. Department Report

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

11. Forest, Parks & Recreation Department

11.1. Turkey Stamp Super Fund Grant Application

Steve Kaufman stated he is requesting support to apply for an \$8,400 National Wild Turkey Federation Hunting Heritage Super Fund Grant to be used toward oak regeneration. Discussion held on the grant being applied for as the agenda states Turkey Stamp Super Fund. The Committee recognizes that the grant being applied for is a NWTF Hunting Heritage Super Fund Grant. Moved by Kaczrowski/Schneider to support the application of a NWTF Hunting Heritage Super Fund Grant application for oak regeneration. Motion voted on and carried.

11.2. Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Grant Applications

11.2.1. Cooperative Weed Management Area

Steve Kaufman is requesting support to apply for Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant for invasive species work. Discussion held. Motion by Schneider/Scanlan to support the application for a

Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant for invasive species control work on Oconto County land. Motion voted on and carried.

11.2.2. Forest Regeneration

Steve Kaufman is requesting support to apply for a Forest Regeneration grant. Will partner with Lumberjack RC&D to work on oak regeneration sites other forest regeneration issues. Motion by Kaczrowski/Scanlan to support the application for a Forest Regeneration Grant to help with oak regeneration sites and other forest regeneration issues. Motion voted on and carried.

11.3. Department Report

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

11.3.1. Recreational Officer

No additional comments on the enclosed report. This was information only and no action taken.

11.3.2. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)

No additional comments on the enclosed report. This was information only and no action taken.

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

none

13. Next Meeting Date

Next regular meeting of the Land & Water Resources Committee is scheduled for October 3, 2023. Discussion held on a fall tour date. The Committee selected October 11, 2023 for a fall tour.

14. Adjournment

Chair Cole declared the meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.

MS/Date Posted – 09/11/2023



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

Department Report September 5th

- European Frogbit is wrapping up, interns done. Hand pulled 10,300 lbs.
- Act 32 has passed and will take effect 2024 elections.
- Completed 2 shoreline projects, 1 on Oconto River and 1 Pickerel Chain
- WI Land+Water Organization will be sending out planning survey week of September 11th to supervisor's through email.
- Starting today on our Northern Pike culverts with the Highway Dept.
- Demo Farms Field Day @ Wagner Farms September 13th 10:00 am – Noon, Cove Crops / Silage Drydown.