

MINUTES
JULY 19, 2021 – 9:30 A.M.
LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE OF
OCONTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY BOARD ROOM #3041 3RD FLOOR-BLDG A
301 WASHINGTON STREET
OCONTO, WI 54153
www.co.oconto.wi.us

COMMITTEE PRESENT: Kroll, Kamke, Wahl, Schindel, Allen, Matravers

COMMITTEE ABSENT: NONE

OTHERS PRESENT: County Conservationist Dolata, Program Assistant Wilcox, Oconto County Lakes & Waterways President Heimerman, Timberland Invasive Species Coordinator Bjorklund, Forest Langlade & Oconto Waterways Invasive Species Coordinator Derek Thorn, Chris Carani (Member of the Public)

TIME MEETING BEGAN: 9:30 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda
A. Change of Agenda

B. Removal of Items

Motion by Allen, second by Schindel to approve agenda. Motion was voted on and carried.

2. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting (Enc.)
Motion by Kamke, second by Matravers to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2021 Land & Water Conservation Committee meeting. Motion was voted on and carried.
3. Communications (Enc.)
County Conservationist Dolata reviewed the July 2021 Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection Report.

County Conservationist Dolata updated the committee on the Governor's budget and informed them that Chuck Wagner will be resigning from the Kewaunee County Board and as the acting President of the Lake Michigan Area Conservation Association.
4. County Cost Share Contract(s)
Motion by Allen, second by Schindel to approve the contracts for Dave Blecha for shoreline protection in the amount of \$550.00, Chris & Kari Olson for shoreline buffer in the amount of \$1,400.00 and FHD LLC-Shane Gearhart for cover crop in the amount of \$2,500.00. Motion was voted on and carried.
5. County Cost Share Payment(s)
Motion by Wahl, second by Matravers to approve the payment for James O'Neil for native planting & rain garden project in the amount of \$1,614.00. Motion was voted and carried.
6. Soil & Water Resource Management Contract(s)
Motion by Matravers, second by Allen to approve the contract for Oconto Sportsman for shoreline protection in the amount of \$23,520.00. Motion was voted and carried.
7. Soil & Water Resource Management Payment(s)
NONE
8. Oconto County Healthy Waters Cost Share Contract(s)
NONE
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NONE
10. Northern Pike Contract(s)
NONE

11. Northern Pike Payment(s)
NONE
12. United States Department of Ag, Natural Resource Conservation Service Collaboration/Contribution Agreement
Motion by Schindel, second by Wahl to accept the proposal submitted by the Natural Resource Conservation Service that will provide funding for the Conservation Planner position and instructed County Conservationist Dolata to work with the Natural Resource Conservation Service on proposal. Motion was voted on and carried.
13. United States Department of Ag Natural Resource Conservation Service Resolution to Authorize County Conservationist to Pursue and Complete Collaboration/Contribution Agreement Approval
Motion by Allen, second by Wahl to approve resolution and submit to County Board for approval. Motion was voted on and carried.
14. Wisconsin State Statues Chapter 33-Public Inland Waters Review
County Conservationist Dolata explained to the committee that he has been in discussions with Corporation Counsel regarding the proper appointment procedures for lake planning and rehabilitation district appointments and reporting requirements.
15. Natural Resource Conservation Service Demonstration Farm Field Days
County Conservationist informed the committee that Oconto County's 1st Green Bay West Shore Demonstration Farm Field Day will take place at Wagner Farms on July 21, 2021 where they will be demonstrating progressive cropping conservation practices. Motion by Kamke, second by Matravers to approve that whomever would like to attend may. Motion was voted on and carried.
16. Lumberjack Resource, Conservation and Development Business Meeting, July 29, 2021, Shawano County
Motion by Kamke, second by Wahl to approve that whomever would like to attend may. Motion was voted on and carried.
17. Oconto County Lakes & Waterways Association Update
Oconto County Lakes & Waterways President Heimerman updated the committee that they are holding a raffle fundraiser to raise funds for the association, they are holding a Snapshot day on August 21, 2021 and they are also holding their fall meeting the following weekend, he also recommended that the committee make the Machickanee drawdown one of their stops for the fall tour.
18. United States Department of Ag Natural Resource Conservation Service Report
NONE
14. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Oconto County Forester Report
County Conservationist Dolata updated the committee from email sent by Forester Kaufman his report including DNR Forestry progress last year in Oconto County including that they met with 100 "new" landowners, had 29 property visits with "repeat" landowners and 16 tree planting, fire season was 3 weeks longer than usual with the early spring and dry start to June with the southern ½ of Oconto County had 26 forest fires and the northern ½ had 7 fires the main cause of fires were debris burning and equipment, they are currently sending staff to Minnesota and Ontario to assist in with the wildfires, the Oconto County forest is beginning an invasive treatment project including treatment of 2 garlic mustard plants, gypsy moth populations are on the rise and Emerald Ash Boerer is widespread in southern Oconto County, they had a successful timber sale opening with prices being good considering the market, completed 2 "oak release" projects to increase acreage of red and oak pine in Oconto County and completed 70 acres of red pine plantings, there are still a lot of blown down timber from the past storm damage but cutting is declining as markets are not great and the wood is deteriorating, the next 2 years will be busy working exclusively on blow down sales.
15. United States Department of Ag Farm Service Agency Report
Farm Service Agency July 2021 Report was discussed including acreage reporting, reminders and program sign-ups and that they are offering public conservation virtual meetings for farmers, landowners, organizations and agencies.
16. Review Prior Months Vendor Payments
The Land & Water Conservation Committee reviewed the June 2021 accounts payable and employee reimbursement vouchers.
17. Information Items Only
Program Assistant Wilcox updated the committee on the new "paperless" meeting procedure and what the timeline looks like.

18. Timberland Invasive Species Coordinator Update

Timberland Invasive Species Coordinator Bjorklund updated the committee that she has submitted a grant to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for funds to help offset costs, a technician has been hired and has started to help with fieldwork, they are planning on holding one forestry landowner workshop in each of the 4 counties and will let the committee know when they have more details.

Forest, Langlade & Oconto Waterways Coordinator Thorne updated the committee on the butterfly dock project, he informed them that he attended the Oconto County Sportsman club meeting, he also met with Chris Carani, a landowner on Round Lake, who is looking for help in controlling milfoil. Chris Carani was in attendance at the meeting and explained to the committee that he is looking for help, contact information, and ways to start working with Kelly Lake Advancement Association to get the milfoil under control on Round Lake which drains into Kelly Lake, information and direction was given and County Conservationist Dolata will continue to assist him.

19. Set Next Meeting Date

Date of next meeting: August 16, 2021

Time of next meeting: 9:30 a.m.

20. Adjournment

Chair Kroll called to adjourn meeting at 10:23 a.m. The motion was voted on and carried.

Rachel Wilcox, Recorder

rmw/ Date posted: 7/21/21