

MINUTES
KENOSHA COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 7, 2009 at 10:0 a.m.
Kenosha County Center, **ROOM A**
19600 - 75th Street
Bristol, Wisconsin 53104

Minutes of the Kenosha County Land & Water Conservation Committee meeting held on Wednesday, October 7, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the **ROOM A** at the Kenosha County Center, 19600 – 75th Street, Bristol, WI 53104.

Members Present: Ron Johnson, Kim Bruenig, Dave Daniels, Judy Jooss and Marvin Drissel

Jerry Hebard - NRCS (Excused)
Kim Iczkowski – FSA (Excused)

Others Present: Rose Rostkowski
4 Powers Lake Members

Staff Present: John F. Roth
Dan Treloar - Land Conservationist
Jeff Yerson – Land & Water Conservation Engineer
Dawn LaPoint – Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Chairman Johnson.

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Members of the committee, the Powers Lake members and Rose Rostkowski introduced themselves. (Begin #1 / Tape #1)

2. **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS**

The four members of the Powers Lake board all spoke individually in support of keeping Judy Jooss on as the county representative for the District of Powers Lake Board (see Exhibit #1) (Begin #85 / Tape #1)

3. **REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 2, 2009 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

- Ms. Jooss made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 2, 2009 Land and Water Conservation meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bruenig. The motion passed 4-0 (Mr. Daniels arrived at the meeting at 10:30 am). (Begin #826 - Motion #---- / Tape #1)

4. **UPDATE ON DATCP SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT GRANTS**

Dan Treloar spoke to the committee stating that there was \$53,000 available to cost-share for 2009. To date, with Jeff Yersin, county conservation engineer and Jerry Hebard, NRCS, help we will probably spend \$52,300 of the \$53,000 with some of those projects still being estimated bids. We are completing a large grass waterway and rock chute for Robert Diemer. We are going to do a roof run-off control system for Crane Grain on his dairy operation with gutters and tiling. We are going to do another grass waterway and rock chute for Charles Heide in Paris. We just completed a portion of netting a grass waterway and a rock crossing for Mark Edquist in Paris. We netted a waterway for Jerry Geyso next to Mark Edquist in Paris. We did a 1000 foot waterway for Robert Van Dixhorn in Paris and we did a well abandonment for Janice Wenzsell in the spring. All remaining projects have approved designs, signed contracts and everything is set to go and should be completed in the next two weeks. We are also doing two smaller grass waterways for Wilfred Meier of Bristol Farms and we may help cost-share a portion of an EQIP watering system for John Holloway who is going to do prescribed grazing on his farm. The project that he is most nervous about is Joe Krupinski in Salem who is in dire need of a waterway system. Literally, it looks like, a new spring sprouted up in the middle of a field he has been farming that land for 50 years. Now he has water flowing almost year round. We hope to do some tiling and grass waterway and that would carry through Claude Epping's, (Breezy Hill) and down to a wetland and the river. It's too late in the year to complete project now and Mr. Krupinski still has corn on it the other field has beans on it and the beans are coming off as we speak. The corn may not come off until November and that's too late to get any grass growing. Once we get a contract signed we'll carve it in and do the tiling and we'll carry the money over and we'll do the finish grading and the seeding in the spring.

We have quite a few projects lined up for 2010 – we don't see a problem with the bond monies coming from DATCP. They have taken some soft monies (monies that would usually be cost-shared out of the general fund, not bonded) and moved those monies into salary one year to cover reductions ordered by the governor. The bond monies cannot really be tampered with – they should always be there. We're not worried about that changing, so he hopes to be in the \$50,000 range again for 2010. We have a list of six projects already, some have been designed and approved with two of which are big waterways and he has about half of the money spent for 2010.

Jake DeBell, the dairy farmer over in Brighton, in which we carried monies over from, last year has finally gotten approved plans by Mark Stienfest. Jake has sent that out for bids and he has some bids back for the concrete and the grading. If the last two projects come in we will have spent all but \$900.00. We had a lot of requests for monies this year from other counties, more than ever before. DATCP now allows us to transfer cost-share money between counties for approved projects. October 15th is the cut off for money transfers.
(Begin #853 / Tape #1)

5. **MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS OF DISCUSSION -**

- GYPSY MOTH SUPPRESSION -

Dan told the committee we sprayed for gypsy moths last year. For 2010 we did receive a lot more reimbursement from the US Forest Service and the DNR than we had expected. After taking out \$4100.00 for administrative expenses we were able to reimburse all the municipalities to some degree. The final spray costs for instance in Bristol where we sprayed 226 acres was \$19.13 per acre. In the City it was only around \$10.00 per acre. The average was between \$10.00 and \$35.00 per acre. For 2010 we got forwarded the hotline from the DNR of all the people from Kenosha County and there were only 2 people. Last year there were 22 people. We will not be making an application for 2011.

We went to a training session and there have been a few changes in the program. You need a little bit more of a canopy to make a spray block than before. Otherwise everything else is the same. The summer was kind of on the cool side so the suppression was successful in the areas that were sprayed. Maybe it will be another 4 years before we have to spray again. (Begin #1396 / Tape #1)

- WORKING LANDS INITIATIVE AND LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM -

In the state budget in July the Working Lands Initiative was passed and the governor threw \$26 million at it. It will change the way Farmland Preservation is done and the way farmland zoning is done and the county is going to have to update its 1981 Farmland Preservation Plan. We will have to tweek our zoning ordinance and make sure that anything we do is consistent with our comprehensive plan. It will change the tax credits that are available to farmers. It will also change the amount of homes you can have on farmland. It will change the size of those A1 farmland tracts – they will no longer have to be 35 acres. In January 1, 2010 there will be a conversion fee for properties rezoned out of A1 – that fee goes to the state to help fund the working lands initiative. The average cost will be about \$900.00 an acre.

We will be telling the committee more about it as we find out more information on it. It is a nice tax credit for the farmers. A1 lands without a farmland preservation agreement will get a \$7.50 an acre tax credit. There will be some more programs available also. (Begin #1782 / Tape #1)

TSP CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENTS –

Technical Service Provider Contribution Agreements is a NRCS program in which they will pay us to do engineering work for them. A lot of counties across the state have been taking advantage of this. We only had one project that we helped with survey and engineer work on this year. The NRCS budget starts in November so we will know then what monies are available. (Begin #2309 / Tape #1)

- TREE PROGRAM UPDATE

Dan told the committee that the tree program for 2010 is just getting started. We are not going to change it that much, we will add a few different types of species. They did talk about maybe having the tree picked over at Pringle Nature Center instead of the tent we usually have outside. Dan then explained the Tree Program to the citizens that were present. (Begin #2442 / Tape 1)

- UPDATE SMART GROWTH PLAN -

John Roth spoke about the Smart Growth Plan stating we are moving into the home stretch. All the communities that are partnered with Kenosha County, there are 9 of them have done their maps and submitted them and their land use plans to SEWRPC. SEWRPC is now trying to put them into similar categories so it will be all under one map for Kenosha County. It will be like a patchwork quilt. Our grant is up on December 9th of this year but we are talking to the state about extending the grant to April or June of next year to finish. We are anticipating that we will have public hearings probably in early spring at each individual community. (Begin # 2620/ Tape #1)

6. AGENCY REPORTS: NRCS AND FSA -

Jerry, NRCS was absent since he had to attend another meeting, Kim, FSA was also absent at this meeting so Dan talked for them and presented their information.

He talked for Kim regarding the CRP program stating that they have 22 sign-ups.

For Jerry's presentation he handed out a fact sheet regarding Conservation Stewardship Program (see attached). (Begin #2888 / Tape #1)

7. **CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF ROSE ROSTKOWSKI AS COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE DISTRICT OF POWERS LAKE BOARD AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE KENOSHA COUNTY LAND USE COMMITTEE**

John spoke to the committee regarding this position for County Representative to the District of Powers Lake. Ms. Rostkowski spoke next stating her qualifications and why she wanted to be the county representative.

Chairman Johnson left it up to the committee to either recommend, deny or table the recommendation. The committee then spoke amongst each other and the Powers Lake representatives that were there about the position. They then questioned Ms. Rostkowski some more.

Mr. Daniels made a motion to deny the consideration of Rose Rostkowski and to have Ms. Judy Jooss remain as the representative to the District of Powers Lakes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Drissel and passed by a vote of 4-0 (Ms. Jooss abstained) (Begin #3230 - Motion #4605 / Tape #1)

(There will be further follow up with Corporation counsel as to this position)

8. **CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE KENOSHA STORMWATER MANAGEMENT, EROSION CONTROL AND ILLICIT DISCHARGE ORDINANCE AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE KENOSHA COUNTY LAND USE COMMITTEE**

Jeff Yersin presented a draft of the Stormwater Management, Erosion Control and Illicit Discharge Ordinance to the committee (see attached) for their recommendation to the Land Use Committee. This is not for agricultural properties this is for developments and re-developments, stormwater control flooding, pollutants etc. We do not have an ordinance to go by as the law. We want to move this forward for approval by the Kenosha County Board. We hope to have an effective ordinance by January 2010.

Ms. Bruenig made a motion to approve the draft of the Stormwater Management Ordinance and move it forward to the Land Use Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Daneils and approved by a vote of 5-0.(Begin #5546 / Tape #1 – Motion #624 / Tape #2)

9. **OTHER BUSINESS ALLOWED BY LAW -**

Dan spoke about the WLWCA will be having their annual conference this year in LaCrosse December 9 & 10, 2009. It is now just a two day conference. There is no more information ready on this yet as far as the resolutions. Dan will not be attending, but Chairman Johnson will be attending.

He then spoke about the Summer Tour the Lou Olson from Walworth County put on. They had a beautiful tour of Williams Bay by boat and some more conservation practices. There were 12 different speakers that talked throughout the whole tour. (Begin #634 / Tape #2)

10. **NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME**

The next meeting date was tentatively set for the last Tuesday of the month (quarterly) at 10:30 a.m. The next meeting then will tentatively be on Tuesday, January 19, 2010. Notification and agendas will be out sent prior to that date. (Begin # 947 / Tape #2)

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

- Ms. Bruenig made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Daniels and the motion passed 5-0. (Motion #2116 / Tape #2)
The meeting adjourned at 11:38 p.m.