

Rushlow called to order the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee at **1:03 p.m.**, on February 12, 2009 in Justice Center Conference Room, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

**Present:** The following persons were present: County Board members Kathleen Rushlow, Gene Ciszek, Mary Platner, Erv Teichmiller, Leon Kukanich, and Ralph Sitzberger; others Carolyn Scholl, Ted Ritter, Matt Wagner, Tom Melnarik, Jeremy Irish, Kim Goerg, Susan Hunter and Rosemary Leveille.

The following County Board member(s) were excused:

The following County Board member(s) were absent:

Media present:

Approve Agenda: **Motion made by Sitzberger, second by Platner to approve the agenda in any order at the chairman's discretion. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Approve Minutes: **Motion made by Platner, second by Sitzberger to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2009 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

**Agenda item # 3:** Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program – Irish provided an updated list of venison donation history for all of the counties (on file in the LWCD office). He also stated that Vilas County had no deer damage claims. Zeloski Farms was unable to claim any damage since they are now in a different program and will again reapply for the upcoming year. Scholl presented the reimbursement form for the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program for \$8,220.25. **Motion by Teichmiller, second by Ciszek for the chair, Rushlow, to sign the reimbursement form. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

**Agenda item #4:** Land and Water Resource Management Plan – update – Scholl is working on the goals and objectives which will be ready for presenting at the March committee meeting.

**Agenda item #5:** Lake Districts – **A)** Training Opportunity – Rushlow, Platner, Teichmiller, Ciszek, Radtke, and Favorite will be attending the training for Lake District representatives at the Wisconsin Lakes Conference. All registrations have been made, and if a room reservation is needed the individual will need to see the County Clerk, as per Chair, Rushlow. **B)** Discussion and possible action: maintenance of special tax codes on county records – The draft proposal (on file in the LWCD office) given to the committee on “Maintenance of lake district special tax codes on Vilas County tax records” was discussed. **A motion by Teichmiller, second by Ciszek to table this issue until next month when more information is available. Motion carried, all voting aye.** Corporation Counsel, Martha Milanowski will be asked to check the statute, for whose responsibility it is to check the tax records. Sherry Bierman, Tax Lister, and, Chris Kamps, Information Technology director, will be asked to attend the March meeting for further discussion as to how the process will take place before accepting the proposal and sending it on to the Land Records committee for their acceptance also.

**Agenda item #6:** Discuss bill to limit the sale and use of Phosphorus containing fertilizers – A copy of the 2009 Bill, issues summaries, and information from Wisconsin Association of Lakes regarding the bill (all on file in the LWCD office) were given to the committee. The committee would like more information on the control and law application of the three groups (farmers, golf courses, and sod farmers) that are exempt from the bill for the next meeting.

**Agenda item #7:** 2009 Conservation Project Proposals – project proposals and ranking – A power point presentation was given by Wagner on the nine (9) possible projects for 2009. The committee was asked to rank each project in order of priority. Wagner will compile and bring back the results to the committee for final

approval. The nine (9) projects are as follows; 1) Ike Walton Lake - \$7,500; 2) Fence Lake - \$7,500; 3) South Placid Twin Lake - \$7,500; 4) Catfish Lake - \$7,500; 5) Plummer Lake - \$4,000; 6) Voyageur Lake - \$3,000; 7) Anvil Lake - \$7,500; 8) Gunlock Lake - \$7,500; and 9) Found Lake - \$7,500.

**Agenda item # 8 - Agents Reports – FSA,** Hunter distributed a folder (on file in the LWCD office) to the committee with information on the Farm Service Agency and discussed the low interest farm loans. There are only 9 milk producers in the 4 county area which is down from about 125 in the recent past. Vilas County has only 6 or 7 “B” farmers left. FSA does not offer any education program to youth or adults. NRCS, Melnarik stated that the EQIP sign up will end at the end of February. As of now there are no Vilas County applications. Lumberjack RC&D, Goerg announced that the state conference will be September, 24 & 25, 2009 in Rhinelander with Scholl giving a presentation on the Found Lake cost share projects and Ritter discussing the Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) development along with many others. The next regular planning meeting will be on February 24<sup>th</sup> and the quarterly meeting will be in Shawano on April 30, 2009. NCLWCA, Scholl announced that Kathleen Rushlow is now the Vice-President. President Tom Rudolph announced the resolutions that passed at the regional meeting. Kukanich and Cizek were given an LCC training handbook. LWCD, Scholl, Ritter and Wagner distributed their written reports (all on file in the LWCD office). Ritter stated that the first meeting for the CWMA took place in January and went very well with another meeting coming up on February 26<sup>th</sup> here at the Courthouse. The committee received a copy of the meeting notes (on file in the LWCD office).

**Agenda item #9:** Lake Organizations, ER Unified Lakes Commission (ULERCLC) & Vilas County Lakes Association (VCLA) – Nothing from any group for this month.

**Agenda item #10:** Out-of county travel – **Motion by Platner, second by Cizek to approve Ritter going to Madison on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried, all voting aye. Motion by Teichmiller, second by Cizek to approve Scholl’s travel stated on her report. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

**Agenda item #11:** Budget/Voucher approval – The following vouchers were presented for payment: North Central Land and Water Conservation Association-\$150.00; Prime Choice Meat Market-\$500.00; Ted Ritter-\$141.90; Carolyn Scholl-\$363.45; Matthew Wagner -\$143.79; and Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association, Inc.-\$1218.66. **Motion by Teichmiller, second by Cizek to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.** Scholl presented the committee with the 2<sup>nd</sup> half reimbursement form for 2008 DATCP totaling \$77,229.66. **Motion by Cizek, second by Teichmiller to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> half reimbursement and for the chair, Rushlow to sign for the SWRM grant. Motion carried, all voting aye.** Scholl informed the committee that she has a letter from the Dept. of Administration regarding the cut backs in state agencies for 2009 that will be in the office if anyone would like to look at it.

**Agenda item #12:** Letters and Communications – All communications, flyers, and/or reports for the month from the following agencies DATCP, WLWCA, NCLWCA, NRCS, LWCB, and/or WALCE are on file in the Land and Water Conservation office.

**Future Meeting Dates/Items:** The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 9, 2009 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521 at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjournment: Motion by Sitzberger, second by Platner to adjourn at 4:00 p.m. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Minutes reflect the recorders notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.

Respectfully submitted by: *Rosemary Leveille*