

Rushlow called to order the regular meeting, which started immediately after the public hearing, of the Land & Water Conservation Committee at **1:38 p.m.**, on September 9, 2009 in Court Conference Room #2, 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 Gary Heeler, Carolyn Scholl, Ted Ritter, Jeremy Irish, Rosemary Leveille, Chuck Their, Marv Anderson, Bryce Helsing, Sandy Gillum and Fred Heider.

The following County Board member(s) were excused:

The following County Board member(s) were absent:

Media present: Ken Anderson

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

Approve Minutes: **Motion by Ciszek, second by Platner to approve the minutes from August 12, 2009 of this committee as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Agenda item #4: Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program – Irish presented the committee with an amendment to the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (on file in the LWCD office) for acceptance and the chair's signature. **Motion by Teichmiller, second by Platner for Vilas County to participate in the program and to accept the amendment and to have the chair, sign. Motion carried, 41 voting aye, Rushlow voting nay.** Irish stated that Prime Choice of Eagle River will participate as a processor and the Boulder Junction Market Place is in the process of filling out the paper work and getting approved to also be a processor for Vilas County. The claims for wildlife damage deductibles have been increased to \$500 and the maximum claim has been reduced to \$10,000. The wolf is now back on the endanger list so there will be no killing, trapping, or endangering of them allowed until further notice.

Agenda item #5: Lake Specialist Position Vacancy - Teichmiller explained that he was perplexed as to why the Personnel Committee decided to not fill the Lake Specialist position without coming back to the Land and Water Committee first. Platner handed out a memo (on file in the LWCD office) opposing the decision to delay hiring the Lake Specialist. **A motion by Teichmiller, second by Platner that this committee go on record as opposing the decision by the Personnel Committee of not hiring a Lake Specialist and ask the Personnel Committee to reconsider the hiring of the position. Motion carried, 4 voting aye, Rushlow voting nay.**

Agenda item #6: Lost Lake Dam – Gary Heeler stated that T. Cummings of the DNR came out and reevaluated the natural flow and the amount that needs to pass through the dam is now 3.33 cfs instead of the 4.24 cfs from the original amount of flow. The dam has been adjusted with the approval of Cummings. Scholl prepared a new 5 year agreement between Vilas County and the Lost Lake Community Club and presented it for signature and acceptance. **Motion by Sitzberger, second by Platner to accept the agreement after the insertion of a quote by Cummings and for Rushlow, LCC Committee Chair, and Favorite, County Board Chair to sign. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Agenda item #7: Land and Water Resource Management Plan – Scholl explained the that the updated plan will be presented to the state land & Water Board at their meeting on October 6th and then to the County Board at the November board meeting for approvals and to be in compliance with the previous plan's expiration of Dec. 31, 2009.

Agenda item #8: Agent reports: FSA, Kukanich stated that this was the worst year ever for farmers with the drought. LWCD, Scholl and Ritter distributed their written reports (on file in the LWCD office) and discussed

a few points. Ritter will be having a ½ day meeting on Sept. 21st for all of the lake associations to get together and discuss what they are doing and possibly how they can help each other. Lumberjack RC&D, Teichmiller reminded everyone of the conference on Sept. 24th & 25th.

Agenda item #9: Lake Organizations, ER Unified Lakes Commission (ULERCLC) & Vilas County Lakes Association (VCLA) – VCLA, Their, stated that they are planning the 2010 annual meeting and have amended their by-laws to limit the length of officers' terms.

Agenda item #10: Out-of county travel – **Motion by Ciszek, second by Platner to approve all travel for the LWCD staff. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Agenda item #11: Budget/Voucher approval – The following vouchers were presented for payment: Barb Gajewski-\$419.88; Ted Ritter-\$115.50; and Carolyn Scholl-\$191.80; **Motion by Sitzberger, second by Teichmiller to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye. Motion by Teichmiller, second by Sitzberger to accept and place on file the update of the budget. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Agenda item #12: Letters and Communications –The following item is on file in the LWCD office, Thursday Note. Sitzberger announced that he is not the Kentuck Lake county rep because the majority of the residents ownership is in Forest County.

Agenda item #13: LCC Chair Comments – None for this month.

Future Meeting Dates/Items: The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 2, 2009 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment: Motion by Ciszek, second by Sitzberger to adjourn at 3:00 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*