

Sitzberger called to order the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee at 9:00 a.m., on May 4, 2010 in the Lower Level Conference Room #1, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

Present: The following persons were present: County Board members Ralph Sitzberger, Mary Platner, Gene Cizek, Erv Teichmiller, and Dennis Nielsen(arrived late); others Carolyn Scholl, Ted Ritter, Mariquita Sheehan, Jeremy Irish, Terry Cummings, Rosemary Leveille, Roger Kirstner, Betty & John Hembrook, Robert & Nancy Vogt, Bill & Joan Green, Susan & George Holloway, and Clancy & Bob Senechalle

The following County Board member(s) were excused:

The following County Board member(s) were absent:

Media present:

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

Approve Minutes: **Motion by Cizek, second by Teichmiller to approve the minutes from May 4, 2010 of this committee as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Agenda item #4: Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program – Irish updated the committee on the policy change that is coming up, but not finalized yet of any wrong doing from anyone enrolled in the program they will be excluded from the following calendar years' program not just the remaining portion of the current year. The Rayala's cranberry marsh will have bees from Michigan to help with their ongoing problems.

Agenda item #6: Little Tamarack Flowage Dam - Scholl introduced Terry Cummings, WDNR and updated everyone present on the Little Tamarack Flowage Dam situation. Sitzberger stated that he received letters from the Town of Conover and the newly formed citizen committee that is addressing this situation. **A motion by Teichmiller to table this matter and give the Town of Conover until October 18th to respond and the matter will then be taken up at the November 5th committee meeting for a final decision by the committee. Motion carried, all voting aye.** Mr. Senechalle spoke on behalf of the landowner present and thanked the committee for the well needed additional time and is confident that there will be a positive response that will correct the matter.

Agenda item #5: Private Landowner Herbicide Applications – A memo from Ritter (on file in the LWCD office) was given to the committee on the proposal for County provided herbicide services for the control of invasive plants. This proposal also stated the policy and procedures that will be followed providing the County has the proper insurance and the approval of the Corporation Counsel. **A motion to adopt the policy and procedures stated with the amendment to #5 to add the wording "paid in full prior to application". Motion carried, all voting aye.** Also an updated position description for the Invasive Species Coordinator (on file in the LWCD office) was given to the committee for their approval. **A motion by Teichmiller to accept the updated position for the Invasive Species Coordinator with an amendment to #3 to remove the wording "non-county landowners with", and the send this description to the personnel committee for their approval. Motion carried, all voting aye.** No decision will take place until the question of the insurance and position description has been resolved. Ritter proceeded to explain the project that WHIP would like to do in Woodruff to control Japanese Knotweed. A letter went to the Corporation Counsel, Milanowski regarding the possibility of Ritter working on the project. Malinowski's response (on file in the LWCD office) was received and an agreement (on file in the LWCD office) was drawn up with all of her suggested changes except one, the terminology of "hold the others harmless" because the Woodruff town attorney suggests that the town not sign if this terminology is in the agreement. It was explained that Lumberjack RC&D has purchased 1 million dollars of liability insurance for this specific project. **Motion by Teichmiller, second by Nielsen to proceed with the**

WHIP project only, providing Corporation Counsel gives approval once she is given all of the facts including the copies of county and Lumberjack insurance policies. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Agenda item #7: Lost Lake Dam – Scholl informed the committee that the landowners of the Lost Lake creek have been complaining about the low water levels. As per an email from Terry Cummings the only way for the level to be changed since it is at the level right now as per statues is to petition to the DNR requesting a change in the required dam height.

Agenda item #8: Agent reports: UWEX, FSA, LWCD, NRCS, NCLWCA, Lumberjack RC&D – Lumberjack, Teichmiller stated that he has enjoyed his term as the representative for Vilas County. **Platner made the motion to approve Teichmiller as representative to the RC&D Counsel for another two years and Ciszek second the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.** Teichmiller gladly accepted. LWCD, Scholl, Ritter, & Sheehan submitted their written reports (on file in the LWCD office). Scholl asked if anyone would like to or have submitted nomination for the Lumberjack awards. A student from the Trees For Tomorrow Upward Bound program will be joining the department for 5 weeks this summer and working with Sheehan on a special project. Also, Scholl reminded everyone of the Regional Lake Workshop in Rhinelander on June 19th. Sheehan discussed her report and answered questions. Ritter discussed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the partners in WHIP and the procedure. WHIP will be having a public informational meeting on June 29, 2010 to promote them and let the public know what they are about and hope to accomplish.

Agenda item # 9: Lake Organizations, ER Unified Lakes Commission (ULERCLC) & Vilas County Lakes Association (VCLA) – VCLA, Alger mentioned all of the programs that are going on in the area including a study of shallow lake by USGS.

Agenda item # 10: Out-of-county travel – **A motion by Nielsen, second by Ciszek to approve the following; Sitzberger and Scholl to attend the Northcentral LWCA meeting in Antigo on June 18th; Ritter to attend Oneida County UWEX meeting in Rhinelander on June 2nd, WHIP meeting in Woodruff on June 4th, Invasive workshop in Minocqua on June 14th, and WHIP public meeting in Minocqua on June 29th; and Sheehan to attend the Regional Lakes Workshop in Rhinelander on June 19th and Aquatic Plant ID workshop at the Kemp Station in Woodruff on June 24th. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Agenda item # 11: Budget/Voucher approval – The following vouchers were presented for payment: Donald and Louise Block-\$2,300.00; Clermont Printing and Office Supply-\$17.99; Richard & Julianne Greely-\$2,140.75; Ted Ritter-\$315.00; Mariquita Sheehan-\$151.50; Carolyn Scholl-\$36.00; and Donald and Diane Schoessow-\$1,863.75. **Motion by Ciszek, second by Nielsen to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried, all voting aye.** Scholl presented an email from Julian Zelazny, WLWCA (on file in the LWCD office) on their upcoming budget short falls and asked the committee to decide on one of their 3 options mentioned in the email for their survey. **Motion by Platner to endorse option 1 and ask if that policy will give them a 3 year stability. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

Agenda item # 12: Letters and Communications – The following items are on file in the LWCD office: Grazing Network News, May 2010; Forestry Notes, May 2010; Wisconsin forestry Notes, April 2010; Thursday Notes, Volume 13, Issue 4; Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative, NCWRPC News, Spring 2010; and Northeast Wisconsin forest Pest Update, May, 2010. A Position Statement from the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Assoc and Wisconsin Association of Land Conservation Employees was also given out. Scholl asked for attendance plans and also told the committee members that she has a sign up for the NCLWCA meeting. Sitzberger mentioned that he was asked by Tom Rudolph if Vilas County Land and Water Conservation would be able to contribute \$100.00 to the Summer Tour.

Agenda item #13: Temporary recess was not necessary due to the fact of lack of a quorum for the site visit.

Agenda item # 14: LCC Chair Comments – None for this month.

Future Meeting Dates/Items: The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 9, 2010 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment: Motion by Platner, second by Ciszek to adjourn at 11:45 a.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*