



**MINUTES**  
**ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY; MARCH 2, 2011; 7:15 PM.**  
**LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT - CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**USDA SERVICE CENTER**  
**440 N US HWY 14; JANESVILLE WI**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Bostwick called the meeting of the Land Conservation Committee to order at 7:18 p.m.  
  
**Committee Members Present:** Richard Bostwick, Larry Wiedenfeld, Eva Arnold, Ronald Combs, David Innis, James Quade, Alan Sweeney and Fred Yoss.  
  
**Others Present:** Tom Sweeney, LCD; Wade Thompson, LCD
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Supervisor Arnold motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Yoss. **Motion Carried.**
3. **Approval of Minutes – February 2, 2011:** Supervisor Arnold motioned to approve the February 2, 2011 minutes, seconded by Supervisor Wiedenfeld. Supervisor Wiedenfeld stated an error "Wade Thompson the six applications reviewed each applications identified on the resolution." Should read "Wade Thompson reviewed the six applications identified on the resolution". Tom Sweeney stated he would make appropriate changes and forward to Administration. **Motion Carried.**
4. **Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements:** None.
5. **Bills / Transfers:** Supervisor Sweeney motioned to approve the bills as presented, seconded by Supervisor Combs. **Motion Carried.** Supervisor Sweeney motioned to approve the transfers as presented, seconded by Supervisor Yoss. **Motion Carried.**
6. **Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements**
  - A) **Resolution - Preserving The State Of Wisconsin Working Lands Initiative and Purchase Of Agricultural Conservation Easements (PACE) Program:** Supervisor Arnold motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Yoss. Additional language for the resolution was proposed; adding an additional whereas statement to read: Whereas; the program is in its infancy, given time will expand into other parts of the state as the initiative is better understood. And add an additional therefore be it resolved statement; oppose Assembly Bill 34 and Senate Bill 24 and proposed language in Executive State Budget proposal.
  - B) **Program Update:** No Discussion.
7. **Discussion – Current Fee Schedule and its relationship to long-term services provided.** The Land Conservation Department received a request from a client to analyze costs associated with services provided under the Erosion Control and Storm Water Management joint permit; also, if costs did not exceed the expenses, a refund was requested. After a lengthy discussion regarding this topic, the committee concluded that the LCD fee schedule is consistent with surrounding counties, the fees for the programs inquired about are based on the best available method, a per square foot cost, and the request made did not include direct legacy costs associated with maintenance of the systems installed.

8. **Discussion – Development of Funding Policy for the Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements Program.** Wade Thompson introduced ideas on Committee policies related to the use of Rock County PACE Program funds for easement acquisition and transaction costs. The various policy ideas specified the amount of County PACE Program funds to be spent on any one-easement acquisition/transaction, and also outlined the sharing of costs between the County and the easement landowner. The Committee discussed the merits of the policy ideas and Wade stated he would bring a revised, final draft policy before the Committee at their April meeting.
9. **Discussion – Southern WLWCA Area Tour.** Tom Sweeney stated it was Rock County's year to sponsor the Southern Area Tour. Staff will develop a program for this summer, based on conservation programs in Rock County. Over the past several years this event has become highlights of county tourist attractions.
10. **Farmland Preservation Program – Cancellation of Notice of Non Compliance for Helen Carroll.** Supervisor Wiedenfeld motioned to approve the cancellation notice as presented, seconded by Supervisor Yoss. **Motion Carried.**
11. **Department Update:** Tom Sweeny reviewed the Department activities since the last report.
12. **Adjourn:** Supervisor Arnold motioned to adjourn the March 2, 2011 meeting of the Land Conservation Committee at 8:56 pm, seconded by Supervisor Yoss. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Sweeney  
County Conservationist

**Minutes are not official until adopted by the Land Conservation Committee.**