

## **MINUTES**

## ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6, 2016, 7:15 P.M. LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM 440 N US HWY 14 JANESVILLE WI

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Bostwick called the meeting of the Land Conservation Committee to order at 7:17 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** Rich Bostwick, Tom Brien, Phil Owens, David Rebout, Alan Sweeney, Larry Wiedenfeld, and Jeremy Zajac.

Committee Members Absent: Wes Davis

Staff Present: Tom Sweeney

- 2. **Approval of Agenda:** Supervisor Owens moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Rebout. **Motion Carried.**
- 3. **Approval of Minutes December 2, 2015:** Supervisor Weidenfeld moved to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2015 Land Conservation Committee meeting, seconded by Supervisor Brien. **Motion Carried.**
- 4. **Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements:** Supervisor Owens requested an update if available as it pertains to the County Board Delegate to the Lake Koshkonong Lake District. Supervisor Bostwick noted there was no change, as he had just spoken to County Board Chair Podzilni about this topic.
- 5. **Bills/Transfers/Encumbrances:** Supervisor Sweeney moved to approve the bills as presented, seconded by Supervisor Owens. Supervisor Brien requested further information regarding encumbrances for Synchrony Bank. Tom Sweeney explained each encumbrance. **Motion Carried**.
- 6. **Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) Approval of Voluntary Program Withdraws**: Tom Sweeney passed out a list of all landowners names for withdraw from FPP. This list represents three different categories; Landowners who no longer want to be in the program, Landowners not meeting the deadline for the annual certification, and landowners with land that was not included on a town's zoning map update. A short discussion on the potential for a town to amend their zoning map and the timelines allowed by state law occurred. Supervisor Zajac moved to approve the Voluntary Withdraws as presented, seconded by Supervisor Wiedenfeld. **Motion Carried.**
- 7. Land and Water Resource Management Program (LWRM) Approval of Cost Share Agreements. Supervisor Sweeney moved to approve the agreements, seconded by Supervisor Brien. Tom Sweeney reviewed the agreements for: Ronald Woodman, Nutrient Management; Randall Kalish/Ron Woodman, Nutrient Management; and Mark Coen/Ron Woodman, Nutrient Management. Motion Carried.

- 8. Purchase of Agriculture Conservation Easements (PACE) Program Update:

  Tom Sweeney reviewed the four applications for the Federal ACE program funding. All four applications will be forwarded to USDA-NRCS state office early January 2016. The Morton ACE acquisition is still being processed by NRCS, closing on this purchase should occur in early 2016. The land conservation office was notified by NRCS that a new/updated appraisal is required. Staff will start the process to update all necessary requirements to satisfy the USDA requirements.
- 9. **Semi Annual Report Attendance at Conferences and Conventions**. Tom Sweeney updated the committee that no LCD staff attended an out of state conference or convention or exceeded the cost threshold of one thousand dollars per event per employee for a convention/conference.
- 10. Authorization to attend the 2016 Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association Conference March 2 March 4, 2016. Tom Sweeney distributed information about the upcoming annual WLWCA Conference. Tom noted that the committee budget line was reduced for 2016. Supervisor Brien moved to approve two Supervisors to attend the Conference, seconded by Supervisor Wiedenfeld. Motion Carried.
- 11. **Set time and date for the March 2016 LCC Meeting.** Supervisor Sweeney moved to table this item until the February LCC meeting, seconded by Supervisor Brien. **Motion Carried.**
- 12. **Adjourn:** Supervisor Zajac moved to adjourn the January 6, 2016 Land Conservation Committee meeting at 8:08 pm, seconded by Supervisor Owens. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Sweeney
County Conservationist

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

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