

**LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA - AMENDED**

Polk County Government Center
100 Polk County Plaza, Balsam Lake, Wisconsin
Wednesday, January 18, 2012 9:30AM*
County Board Room

Call to order
Approve Agenda
Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting
Public Comments

Wildlife Damage Program (discussion/action)
-Set 2011 program crop prices
-Program updates

February LCC meeting (discussion/action)
-Consider Feb. meeting

Burnett Contract – (discussion/action)
-Review agreement for technical services to Burnett County for 2012 **

Revised Policy 10 (discussion/action)
-Review revisions as necessary

Voucher Review and Financial Reports (discussion only)
-Review bill sheet

10:15AM: Agency Report
-NRCS-Keith Zygowicz

Director's Report (discussion only)
-Other items

CLOSED SESSION *Performance Evaluation Process for the Land & Water Resources Department Head: Under Wis. Stat. Sec. 19.85(1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.*

Committee Observances (discussion only)

Adjournment

Committee note: Larry Jepsen will bring treats

*Note – Meeting may start following Lime Quarry Committee meeting

** Amended Agenda Item

This meeting is open to the public according to Wisconsin State Statute 19.83. Persons with disabilities wishing to attend and/or participate are asked to notify the County Clerks office (715-485-9226) at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time so all reasonable accommodations can be made. Requests are confidential.

Polk County Land Conservation Committee

Dean Johansen, Chair

Herschel Brown, Vice Chair

Randy Korb

Larry Jepsen

Ted Johnson, FSA Rep.

Polk County Land Conservation Committee

The Land Conservation Committee met January 18, 2012 in the County Board Room.

Supervisors Present: Dean Johansen, Herschel Brown, Larry Jepsen, Randy Korb
Ted Johnson, FSA Rep.

LWRD staff: Tim Ritten

Also present: Dana Frey, Cindy Blonk, Wildlife Damage Technician,
Keith Zygowicz, NRCS.

Chair Johansen called the meeting to order at 9:37am. Motion made and seconded to approve the agenda. Agenda was amended by dropping the closed session from the agenda. Motion carried. Motion made and seconded to approve the December 14, 2011 minutes. Motion carried.

Public Comments None.

Wildlife Damage Program Cindy Blonk explained how she assesses damage claims using a handout showing average prices for corn, soybeans, alfalfa and other crops. Deer damages were down, and bear up, in 2011. Crop prices rose in 2011, so though damage claims were down, abatement amounts were about the same as in 2010. Cindy will send out damage claim quotes to farmers and will go over actual claims at the February meeting. Motion made, seconded and approved to accept the proposed 2011 crop prices.

February LLC Meeting Committee discussed and decided to meet in February, but not in March.

Burnett Agreement Tim Ritten explained the agreement with Burnett County. Polk County employee wage rates were increased 1.5% in the agreement, reflecting county board action the previous evening. Motion made, seconded and carried to approve the agreement.

Policy 10 Tim R. said there were no revisions to Policy 10, which is from Statute 92. Motion made, seconded, and carried to send Policy 10 to the organizational committee.

Voucher Review and Financial Reports Voucher Report 12/30 to 1/18/12 was discussed. Biggest expense was closing the manure pit at Herrmann Dairy, Inc.

Agency Report Keith Zygowicz reported an increase in tillage of marginal lands due to high crop prices. Discussed a program of cost sharing for hoop houses for vegetable production. WHIP funding dried up. Stewardship Program extended for 2 weeks. New farm bill may affect funding and positions, negatively.

Department Goals: Committee and Tim R. reviewed and discussed the progress and accomplishment of 2011 goals 1-5, and new goals for 2012. Motion made, seconded, and carried to accept 2012 goals.

Directors Report:

- Education Katelin and Jeremy's projects include their Thursday radio spots on 95.7FM and Katelin's groundwater presentations to Unity Elementary students.

Pending approval by the LCC Secretary and amendment at the next meeting.

- Lake Projects LWRD staff finished final reports for Coon and Big Butternut Lakes and the AIS control and Japanese knotweed control grants. Coon Lake needs public comment on aquatic plant management plan before it is sent to WDNR. A small runoff pond on west side of Bone Lake was completed. 2012 grant applications for AIS control and the Apple River Flowage planning are nearly complete. Sherriff has agreed to place a deputy at a high-visibility landing this summer to promote compliance with the Illegal Transport of Aquatic Plants ordinance.
- Agriculture A 2,500-gallon manure spill on January 11 in Town of Lincoln handled with no environmental impacts. LWRD staff attended a St. Croix TMDL meeting on December 15 to learn of a project with Iowa farmers educating their peers to adopt practices reducing runoff. LWRD staff met with consulting firm Limno Tech who are writing the county portions of the Lake St. Croix TMDL Implementation Plan.
- Miscellaneous Ben Brancel and Erik Severson responded to letters regarding joint staffing grants. Non-metallic mine operator citation is going to court Jan. 26. Polk LWRD is hosting one of two statewide meetings on non-metallic mine reclamation on Jan. 19. Tree sales are going well. Next month agenda items: WDP claims approval, NMMR fees update to include frac sand mines, WLWCA resolution requesting change to northwest area.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:06am.