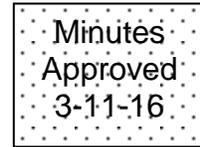


Ashland County Land Conservation Committee
January 22, 2016
Ashland Co LWCD Conference Room



Present:

George Mika	Tom Fratt
Ken Lindquist	Mike Pero
Charlie Ortman	Todd Norwood
Joe Rose	Dave Schultz
Jim Oakley	Gary Haughn (NRCS)
	Tony Janisch (BRWA)
	Pete Russo
	Karin Kozie (National Marine Sanctuary)

Excused:

Gerald Richardson

Absent:

Caryl Peck

Call to order: by Pete Russo @ 9:30 AM. The meeting had been properly noticed and a quorum was present.

Minutes:

- **Motion to approve minutes from 12/11/15 by Oakley/Rose - MC**

Public Comment: Tony Janisch provided update on Bad River Watershed Association boundary expansion and upcoming projects.

Agenda Items:

1. National Marine Sanctuary Resolution - Action

- Kozie provided an introduction and answered questions regarding the establishment of a National Marine Sanctuary.
- Kozie requested to be added to the February 18 County Board meeting agenda for the National Marine Sanctuary resolution of support.
- Kozie mentioned more information including a video from the December presentation at the NGLVC is available at www.lakesuperiorsanctuary.org
 - **Motion by Rose/Lindquist to forward the National Marine Sanctuary resolution to the County Board on February 18th, 2016 for a vote of support – MC**

2. Wildlife Damage Program 2015 Crop Damage Claims - Action

- Schultz provided a summary of the 3 wildlife damage claims for reimbursement from the state following approval from the LCC.
 - **Motion by Lindquist/Ortman to approve the claims for reimbursement – MC**

3. Countywide Farmland Preservation & Comprehensive Plans, Ordinances - Discussion

- Fratt provided an update and mentioned he has developed a draft agricultural survey.
- General discussion on agricultural ordinances and enforcement of ordinances if implemented.
- Fratt mentioned DATCP is in the process of developing a model manure storage ordinance which could affect the direction or standards within an Ashland County manure storage ordinance.

- Fratt will provide a draft manure storage and management ordinance at the March 11th LCC meeting.

4. Local Custom Equipment/Labor Rates and Project Deadlines - Discussion/Action

- Updated labor rates were presented.
 - **Motion by Ortman/Oakley to approve rates as presented - MC**
- Discussion on project deadlines and potential changes to county policy.
- Some projects are going too late in the year which creates problems with funding and carryover transfers to other counties or projects. Projects completed very late in the year also may have quality issues (seeding, erosion control, compaction of fill, etc.)
- Mika suggests determining a project completion deadline as part of LWCD policy and present it to the LCC for approval at an upcoming meeting.

5. County Speaking Contest Judging - Action

- County Speaking Contest held January 25th in Mellen and looking for volunteers for judging.
- Mika volunteered to assist Fratt and Norwood with judging.

6. County Poster Contest Judging - Action

- LCC members voted on entries for the County Poster Contest. The top posters will move on to the area association contest.

7. Conservationist and Staff Reports:

- Fratt mentioned current grant reporting and proposals.
- Fratt secured a \$750 grant for the upcoming CBAP Symposium.
- Pero provided report with mention of projects.
- Norwood provided report.
- Shultz provided report on deer donations and wildlife claims.

8. Agency and Partner Reports:

- Haughn provided a brief report regarding contracts under agreement with Ashland County.
- Cut-off for next EQIP sign-up is March 1, 2016 with 16 Ashland County applications currently.

Other Business

- Fratt mentioned WLWCA Annual Conference registration deadline is approaching. Mika, Ortman, and Lindquist plan to go and completed registration forms for Fratt to submit.
- NW Area meeting and Poster/Speaking Contest is February 5, 2016: Mika, Lindquist, Ortman, Fratt, and Norwood plan to attend.
- Fratt has compiled information necessary to complete the 2015 DATCP Staff and Support Grant reimbursement request. Changes this year require submission electronically with electronic signature.
 - **Motion by Lindquist/Ortman to authorize Fratt to submit the 2015 DATCP staff and support grant reimbursement request electronically - MC**

- Fratt has compiled information necessary to complete the DATCP Farmland Preservation grant reimbursement request. This grant is different from most grants in that all project costs are identified (billable and match) with 50% being reimbursed. This reimbursement still requires a signature from the Chief Financial Officer (Jeff Beirl), and Fratt would like to discuss potential impact on county budget with Jeff.
 - **Motion by Lindquist/Rose to have Fratt review the DATCP Farmland Preservation Planning reimbursement request with Jeff Beirl and obtain his signature for approval - MC**
- Fratt opened a short discussion about the format and content of agendas, minutes and staff reports. The committee felt that the current method and level of detail is fine.

Approval of Bills: A summary list of bills submitted for payment since the previous LCC meeting was handed out

- **Motion to approve the bills by Ortman/Lindquist - MC**

Next meeting date: March 11, 2016 at 9:30am

Adjourn: 12:34pm by George Mika