

Ashland County Land Conservation Committee
November 3, 2017
Ashland County LWCD Office

Minutes Approved 12-15-17

Present:

George Mika
Ken Lindquist
Caryl Peck
Joe Rose
Frank Kempf

Tom Fratt (LWCD)
Dave Schultz (WDP)
Josh Rowley (Zoning)
Pete Russo (County Board Chair)
Tony Janisch (Superior Rivers Watershed Association)

Absent: Gerry Richardson

Excused: Charles Ortman

Call to order: by George Mika @ 9:32 AM. The meeting had been properly noticed and a quorum was present.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of 9/29/17 by Russo/Rose. MC.

Public Comments:

Fratt expressed his appreciation for the service that Tom Waby gave to the Land Conservation Committee and all participated in a moment of silence to honor Tom's passing.

Tony Janisch of Superior Rivers Watershed Association introduced the name change for his organization.

Agenda Item #1: Ashland County Agricultural Ordinance Preliminary Recommendations

- Fratt paraphrased the 3 motions made by the ACAO Advisory Group:
 1. The ACAO reaffirmed its recommendation to the LCC to move forward with the NR151/Manure Storage Ordinance including the development of a manure spray irrigation permit incorporating the changes and clarifications discussed at the last meeting.
 2. The ACAO motioned to recommend postponing further discussion of a Livestock Siting Ordinance under ATCP 51 until after the State completes its revisions.
 3. The ACAO motioned to recommend that the county staff (primarily Fratt and Fischbach) take care of the details of formatting and verbiage for the ordinance and associated permit applications and forms.
- In response to the motions by the ACAO Group, Fratt indicated that most of the documents and permit forms have been drafted with the exception of a fee schedule and a "determination notice" to respond to permit applications.
- There are still a few lingering questions to be posed to Anich regarding the mechanics of the ordinance and associated permit forms. Also a question about if the manure spay irrigation portion should be a stand-alone ordinance due to its complexity and level of controversy.
- Fratt also has questions about how the ordinance may be modified to reflect differences in farm size and herd composition, i.e. a producer with a couple of cows and maybe a horse or two would not need as intense of a NMP as a larger dairy farm. Because many ordinances rely on a "number trigger" it will be essential to determine how the data is collected and maintained.
- There was a great deal of continued discussion about the ordinance and recommendations from the ACAO group, but in the end no decisions were made and the discussions will continue after the next ACAO meeting on December 7th.

Conservation and Staff Reports:

- Fratt provided a handout of his activities since the last meeting. He pointed out a late addition to the deadline calendar for a NWLCA meeting in Hayward on November 29th. Fratt listed several grant opportunities and deadlines, mentioning that competition has gotten stiffer, applications and reports are taking more time than ever, and his time is becoming more and more limited.
- Pero provided a handout on project status for the LCC.
- Schultz provided a brief update on WDP activities as summarized on his handout.
- Brittany had a handout of her GIS and other activities.

Agency and Partner Reports

- None provided

Other Business:

- George and Ken provided a brief summary of the recent Food, Land & Water Conference in Elkhart Lake.
- The transfer of NMP "SEG" funds was completed with Vernon County.

Approval of Bills: Motion to approve bills by Lindquist/Rose. MC

Next meeting date: Friday, December 15, 2017 at 9:30 am.

Adjourn: 11:12 am by Chairman Mika