

**Ashland County Land Conservation Committee
December 15, 2017
Ashland County LWCD Office**

Minutes Approved 1-26-18

Present:

George Mika	Tom Fratt (LWCD)
Ken Lindquist	Dave Schultz (WDP)
Caryl Peck	Josh Rowley (Zoning)
Gerry Richardson	Kathy Schutte (County Board)
Frank Kempf	Tony Janisch (Superior Rivers Watershed Association)

Absent: Joe Rose

Excused: Charles Ortman

Call to order: by George Mika @ 9:35 AM. The meeting had been properly noticed and a quorum was present.

Minutes: **Motion to approve minutes of 11/3/17 by Richardson/Kempf. MC.**

Public Comments: None

Agenda Item #1: 2017 Wildlife Damage Crop Prices

- Schultz had canvassed local feed mills to determine that the average corn price was \$3.61/bushel and round hay bales were \$35/each. **Motion to accept the average prices for corn and hay bales as determined by Schultz to use for wildlife damage claims. Richardson/Kempf. MC.**

Agenda Item #2: WDP Bear Relocation Contract

- The annual bear trapping and relocation contract from APHIS Wildlife Services for 2018 has been received and is based on a 5-year rolling average. **Motion to approve the 2018 APHIS bear trapping and relocation contract for Ashland County. Lindquist/Peck. MC.**

Agenda Item #3: Conservation & Poster Speaking Contest

- Information on the poster and speaking contest had been previously sent out. Received positive response from one teacher in the Chequamegon School District, and from Tim Mika and the home school network. Additional interest has been shown by 4-H and the Ashland School District After School Program.
- Local posters need to be turned in by January 25th for judging by LCC on January 26th. Area contest will be held on February 2nd in Hayward.

Agenda Item #4: Penokee Hills Mining

- Recent changes in the state’s mining laws are coming through Assembly Bill 499.
- Ashland County currently has 3 ordinances related to metallic mining. The LCC would like the County Board to reconvene the Mining Impact Committee to evaluate the existing ordinances and determine if they provide the county with adequate protection.
- The Wisconsin Counties Association is sponsoring a “Mining 101” workshop on January 24th in Minoqua.
- Fratt will bring copies of the Ashland County Mining Ordinances to the next LCC meeting.

Agenda Item #5: Ashland County Agricultural Advisory Group Update and Recommendations

- Fratt recounted the discussions from the 12/7/17 ACAO Advisory Group meeting and the recommendations previously forwarded to the LCC.

- A final draft of the NR151/Manure Storage ordinance is completed and is ready for additional corporation counsel review if desired.
- Future discussions of the ACAO group will focus on options for a CAFO operations ordinance.

Conservation and Staff Reports:

- Fratt provided a handout of his activities since the last meeting. He highlighted the deadline calendar, pointing out the NW Area Association meeting for February 2 in Hayward and the Annual Conference in Lake Geneva.
- Due to additional duties and responsibilities, Fratt would like to increase Brittany's salary in 2018 and will discuss this with Jeff.

Agency and Partner Reports

- Gary Haughn of NRCS gave an update of federal conservation programs including EQIP. Working with Fratt to develop a new contribution agreement for 2018.

Other Business:

- Rowley provided information concerning a "Mining 101" workshop to be held in Minoqua. Pre-registration required.
- Mika reported that UWEX Ag. Agent Fischbach has been assigned 80% of his time to state-level projects. Matt Cogger will take up some of the slack.

Approval of Bills: Motion to approve bills by Richardson/Kempf. MC.

Next meeting date: Friday, January 26 at 9:30 am. Poster contest judging.

Adjourn: 11:14 am by Chairman Mika