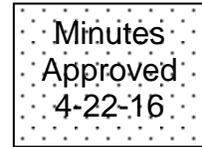


Ashland County Land Conservation Committee
March 11, 2016
Ashland Co LWCD Conference Room



Present:

George Mika	Tom Fratt
Ken Lindquist	Mike Pero
Charlie Ortman	Dave Schultz
Joe Rose	Pete Russo
Jim Oakley	Gary Haughn (NRCS)
Gerald Richardson	Tony Janisch (BRWA)
Caryl Peck	Richard Ketring (City of Ashland)

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

Minutes:

- **Motion to approve minutes from 1/22/16 by Lindquist/Ortman - MC**

Public Comment: Richard Ketring, Ashland City Council, appealed to the LCC to do something about protecting drinking water from the affects of agriculture.

Agenda Items:

1. Department Policy for Cost-Share Project Deadlines - Action

- Fratt provided an updated “cost-containment policy” for the department that identifies deadlines for cost-share projects necessary to efficiently distribute funds to clients and give flexibility to draft transfers and extensions.
 - **Motion by Richardson/Ortman to approve the changes to the cost-containment policy to include project deadlines. MC.**

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

- The committee was provided with a review of the agricultural survey. Fratt also informed the group about the loss of staff working on GIS, mapping, and other planning tasks and the need to fill the void somehow.

3. Manure Storage Ordinances - Discussion

- Much discussion about the need for manure storage and other agricultural ordinances, and the options that are inherent in each ordinance. Fratt provided some bullet points from a DATCP presentation that prompted consideration of things like manure storage closure and abandonment, and enforcing the requirements of NR151.
- Because there seems to be so much disagreement over the need for, timing, and design of an ordinance, the committee felt it was best to put the discussion on the back burner while planning for Farmland Preservation and the Comprehensive Plan move forward. In the meantime, Fratt should draft a basic manure storage ordinance to give farmers and others something to react to.

4. Conservationist and Staff Reports:

- Each staff provided a handout of their activities since the last meeting and highlighted key points from their report.

5. Agency and Partner Reports:

- Haughn provided a brief report regarding EQIP sign-ups and agreements with Ashland County.

Other Business

- The DATCP 2017 Staff & Support Application is due April 15th and includes additional requirements for updating an annual workplan.
 - **Motion to allow Fratt and Mika to complete and approve the grant application without the need for another meeting by Oakley/Ortman - MC**
- The committee felt that Fratt should work with Beirl to develop a strategy to fill the position vacated by Norwood and evaluate ways to bolster other immediate needs of the department, specifically administrative help and environmental education.

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 Richardson/Ortman - MC**

Next meeting date: Friday April 22, 2016 at 9:30am

Adjourn: 12:10 pm by George Mika