

**Ashland County Land Conservation Committee**  
**July 29, 2016**  
**Ashland County LWCD Office**



**Present:**

George Mika	Tom Fratt
Gerry Richardson	Dave Schultz
Ken Lindquist	Jeannine Welty
Caryl Peck	
Charlie Ortman	
Frank Kempf	

**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 of 07/01/16 by Mika/Ortman MC.

**Public Comments:** Ortman asked about the rescheduling of Lake Superior Days that was scheduled for July 15, 2016 at Joe Rose's beach.

**Agenda Items**

**1. County wide Farmland Preservation & Comprehensive Plans**

Fratt reported mapping is coming along, he is modifying criteria. He also spoke about highlighting municipalities and Bad River; September is the public hearing, yet to be scheduled.

Mika stated FPP needs to stand alone. Fratt followed up with FPP will need minor changes but the vast majority will remain agricultural.

**2. LWCD County Budget Planning**

Fratt provided a comparison of county budget lines from 2012 to 2017 and indicated directions were to increase salaries by 1%. Retirement amounts reduced slightly. The budget for 2017 shows an overall increase of \$21,271, primarily in part-time salaries and FICA to support program assistants. Kempf questioned the impact to levy in general; and had specific questions about rent and vehicles. The track record of the LWCD in obtaining grants has been good, but additional staff is needed to maintain momentum and provide sources for grant match. Additional justification will be needed to be successful when seeking approval from the finance committee, so Fratt will document recent grant successes for George and Charlie to submit with the county budget.

**3. Conservationist and Staff Reports**

Fratt reported and updated on upcoming meetings and gave handouts. Fratt also stated we need more Ashland County youth, be it 4-H or FFA as well as youth from Bad River. Mika brought up the fact that we need camps for these kids to attend; and a building for them to meet; these could be church groups and etc.

Fratt spoke for Pero regarding the Pearce farm and changes to design being made.

Schultz spoke briefly on bear trapping and no till.

**4. Agency and Partner Reports**

Mika stated no agencies or partners here.

**5. Conservationist and Staff Reports**

Fratt provided a handout

Schultz provided update on the no till.

**6. Agency and Partner Reports – None**

**Other Business:**

Fratt asked about disaster assistance, if 1 million had been set aside. Ortman had heard the same stating when the federal money comes in, it will pay back the county. Fratt stated that the assistance he heard of will be applied to roads and other public infrastructure, and that assistance to help private individuals is lacking. There is a concern that conservation practices that we have been involved with may have been damaged or destroyed. Although there is currently no funding available, it may be worthwhile to continue to document damage done to private property. Mika stated we could put out a memo to document damage.

**Approval of Bills: Motion to approve the bills by Ortman/Mika MC.**

**Next meeting date:** Friday September 9, 2016 ~ 9:30am

**Adjourn:** 11:42 a.m. by Chairman Mika