

Ashland County Land Conservation Committee
August 25, 2017
Ashland County LWCD Office

Minutes Approved 9-29-17

Present:

George Mika	Tom Fratt
Gerry Richardson	Jason Fischbach (UWEX)
Caryl Peck	Josh Rowley (Zoning)
Charlie Ortman	
Tom Waby	
Ken Lindquist	

Not present: Joe Rose (excused), Frank Kempf

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 6/16/17 by Ortman/Richardson MC.

Public Comments: Kevin Brewster – Bad River Watershed Association (no comment) and Mary Riehle (no comment) in attendance.

Agenda Item #1: Ashland County Agricultural Ordinance Advisory Group Update and Preliminary Recommendations

- Fratt reviewed the work done by the ACAO advisory group. There has been unanimous agreement by the group to 1) Recommend that the LCC consider implementing a manure storage and NR 151 ordinance and 2) address the issues of setbacks and odor through county zoning.
- There has been much discussion about manure spray irrigation, manure transfer through pipelines, and setbacks and odor related to farm activities. Setbacks and odor are typically addressed through a Livestock Siting Ordinance (ATCP51), but the state is undergoing a rule revision that will result in several key changes. Fratt added a permit provision for manure spray irrigation to the manure storage ordinance/NR 151 draft and feels as though pipelines are adequately addressed in the draft ordinance. The ACAO group is deferring action on a ATCP 51 ordinance, although no formal motion was made.
- The ACAO group had reviewed and approved a rough draft of the NR151/manure storage ordinance, different from what was presented to the LCC. The LCC draft was provided to Corp. Counsel and the DNR for further review, and the LCC draft will be shared with the ACAO group at the next meeting.
- The LCC recommended that the zoning committee and staff take a closer look at the options for managing livestock siting, particularly odor and setbacks, through a zoning ordinance of some sort.
- The LCC decided to carefully review the draft NR 151/manure storage ordinance prior to the next LCC meeting before making further recommendations. Fratt will send a copy of the draft ordinance to Joe Rose, Frank Kempf, and Pete Russo.

Agenda Item #2: Temporary Moratorium on Livestock Facilities

- Joe Rose was not in attendance to lead the discussion.

Agenda Item #3: LWCD and WDP 2018 County Budget Request

- Fratt explained the situation with the state budget and preliminary joint allocation. Joint finance committee recently recommended a permanent increase to the base staff and support grant to the counties. The budget submitted to Beirl was built off of an anticipated 10% cut to the grant.
- WDP budget was on agenda twice, discussed under #4.

Agenda Item #4: Wildlife Damage Program 2018 WDNR Budget

- Dave was not in attendance, but provided a handout of the budget. No affect on county levy as all costs paid by the WDNR. **Motion to approve the WDP budget by Ortman/Lindquist. MC.**

Agenda Item #5: Participation in 2017 Deer Donation Program

- Administrative detail while Schultz awaits the paperwork. No affect on county levy as all costs are paid by the WDNR. **Motion to participate in the program and have Chairman Mika sign the appropriate paperwork Ortman/Richardson. MC.**

Conservation and Staff Reports:

- Conservationist report was handed out. Jeannine has resigned to take another job. No replacement planned immediately. Handed out information on the Food, Land, and Water Conference in October. Registration materials will be out shortly. LCC members should contact Fratt to help with the registration if they have approval to attend.
- Schultz provided a handout on the WDP activities
- Pero was not in attendance and will catch up on activities at the next meeting.
- Brittany provided a handout of her activities since the last meeting.

Agency and Partner Reports

- None provided

Other Business:

- No other business.

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

Next meeting date: Friday, September 29, 2017 at 9:30am. Meeting will be focused on reviewing the draft NR 151/manure storage ordinance.

Adjourn: 11:35 am by Chairman Mika