



AGENDA
Committee on County Owned Dams
Monday, March 14, 2016 – 6:00 pm
Iowa County Courthouse, Upper Level Conference Room
222 N. Iowa Street
Dodgeville, Wisconsin

**Iowa
County
Wisconsin**

For information regarding access for the disabled please call 935-0399.

Any subject on this agenda may become an action item.

1	Call to order.
2	Roll Call.
3	Approve the agenda for this March 14, 2016 meeting.
4	Approve the minutes of the February 8, 2016 meeting.
5	Report from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee. No action will be taken.
6	Introduction of Mike Dreischmeier – NRCS. a. Explain Mike's role in PL566 Dams and future involvement.
7	Introduction of Tanya Lourigan, WI DNR. a. Explain Tanya's role and what if anything Iowa County can do to reduce or eliminate liability.
8	Update from Corporate Counsel regarding dam abandonment and tax district.
9	Update "Save the Lake" (Birch Lake) meeting/public hearing.
10	Possible funding and budget directions.
11	Funding for Blackhawk Lake.
12	County Administrator letter responses. a. Dams TP8, TP9, TP10 zoning.
13	Set next meeting date.
14	Adjournment.

Posting verified by the County Clerk's Office: Date: 3/7/16 Initials: GK



IOWA COUNTY OFFICE OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

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To: Iowa County Committee on County Owned Dams
Cc: Larry Bierke, County Administrator; Jim McCaulley, County Conservationist; David Gollon, Committee Chair
From: Scott A. Godfrey, Director OPD
Date: March 4, 2016

Re: Report on zoning status of county-owned dams, process and hazard rating

Each of the county-owned dams is assigned a hazard rating by the WDNR of either low, significant or high. The required inspection (responsibility of the county) for each is:

- low = every 10 years no loss of life or significant property damage
- significant = every 3-4 years significant property damage but no loss of life
- high = every 2 years probably loss of life

The hazard ratings are based on existing development and land use controls, not the condition of the dam. Therefore, the less development downstream from a dam, the lower the hazard rating.

Iowa County has been in the process of lowering the hazard ratings of its dams by zoning land downstream and within the breach analysis (also referred to as the dam shadow) as the floodway portion of the floodplain. The floodway is the most restrictive area of the floodplain and prohibits most types of development, thus the ability to lower a dam's hazard rating.

Process

The process to zone downstream of the dam to floodway and lower its rating involves the following:

1. An engineering analysis is done to identify the dam breach analysis. This is the area that, should the dam breach, would be impacted by a rush of water. Historically, the NRCS has provided this engineering to the county through the Land Conservation Department (LCD).
2. The LCD provides the analysis to my office and it is mapped into the GIS so it can be overlaid upon aerial imagery. We review the analysis to determine if there are any potential structures included in the breach area as this will impact the hazard rating. We return the mapping and our findings to the LCD for its approval to move forward with zoning downstream. When there

are structures in the breach area, zoning may be delayed while options for mitigation are determined.

3. Once approved to go forward with the zoning, the Planning & Zoning Committee holds a public hearing to get input from area landowners, the affected town(s), and general public on the area proposed to be zoned as floodway. Notice is also provided to the WDNR, along with the analysis, for review and comment. Action by the P&Z to approve the zoning requires action by the full County Board.
4. After the zoning is in place, the LCD submits a request to the WDNR requesting the hazard rating to be lowered.

Status

Dam	Zoning	Hazard Rating	Comments
TP3	none	low	no need to zone downstream as already low hazard rating
TP4	none	low	no need to zone downstream as already low hazard rating
TP6	yes-Zone A	low	no need to zone downstream as already low hazard rating
TP7	yes-Floodway	high	request in process to lower hazard rating
TP8	yes-Floodway	high	request in process to lower hazard rating
TP9	yes-Floodway	high	request in process to lower hazard rating
TP10	yes-Floodway	high	request in process to lower hazard rating
TP12	yes-Floodway	low	no need to zone downstream as already low hazard rating
OC9R	yes-Floodway	high	request in process to lower hazard rating
OC9L	yes-Floodway	high	request in process to lower hazard rating
OC12	yes-Zone A	low	no need to zone downstream as already low hazard rating
TP15	turning ownership over to WDNR		

In conclusion, the process to lower the hazard ratings of the county-owned dams is in the final stage. Floodway zoning is complete on those currently rated as a high hazard. The Land Conservation Department may be able to provide more information on the exact status of those dams that have been requested for a rating review by the WDNR.

Thank you,



Scott A. Godfrey, Director
Iowa County Planning & Development