

MINUTES
Land Conservation Committee Meeting
Date: August 9, 2012

1. Meeting called to order at: 5:30 pm

- 2. Present:** Bob Bunker, Dave Ladd, Dan Nankee, John Meyers, Greg Parman, and Ron Benish and Roger Dax

Absent: None

Others Present: Jim McCaulley, Lucas Conmey, Andy Walsh, Bill Grover, Greg Holmes

Notice of Meeting Certification:

Motion to accept by: Ron Benish

Seconded by: John Meyers

Additions to agenda: Move agenda item # 11 (Blackhawk Lake Updates) to top of agenda, NRCS report by Andy Walsh, Passing of former LCC member Evan Larsen, Youth day at County Farm, Farm Bureau position on County LCDs.

MEETING NOTES: Nothing to report

3. Officer Election

Three positions were voted on—Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary.

Motion by John Meyers to nominate Bob Bunker as Chairman.

Seconded by Ron Benish. Motion by Greg Parman, seconded by Ron Benish to close the nominations. Motion carried. Bob Bunker elected as the new Chairman.

Motion by Roger Dax to nominate John Meyers as Vice Chairman.

Seconded by Greg Parman. Motion by Ron Benish, seconded by Greg Parman to close the nominations. Motion carried. John Meyers elected as Vice Chairman.

Motion by Dave Ladd to nominate Dan Nankee as Secretary.

Seconded by Roger Dax. Motion by Ron Benish, seconded by John Meyers to close the nominations. Motion carried. Dan Nankee elected as Secretary.

4. LCC Composition

Discussion on expanding LCC composition to include Bill Grover. Motion made by Ron Benish to not expand the LCC composition. Seconded by Greg Parman. Motioned carried.

5. Blackhawk Lake Update

Buck Holmes presented the Annual Report to the Committee. Profits are up \$62,000 from last year; revenue up \$33,000 from 2011. County by-laws require checking with county for any borrowing over \$10,000. Camper registration is down due to heat. The Annual Report can be electronically provided through the Land Conservation Department. Copies will be provided to the County Administrator, Finance Department and Clerk's Office.

Motion made by Greg Parman to approve the report and updates. Seconded by Ron Benish. Motion carried.

6. LCD 2013 Budget

Budget was reviewed as well as the top 10 LCD priorities. Len Olson's cost savings position allows for a truck purchase. Some rent discussion and possible Land Conservation physical move. Department of Agriculture possibly lowering their monetary portion.

Ron Benish moved to pass the budget discussion. Seconded by Roger Dax. Motion carried.

7. LCD Staff Update

Tammy Havlick had a baby girl. Tammy will return mid October. In the interim LTE Nancy Mueller is working Mondays and Friday; everything is working out very well. Len Olson's spot checks are done and went well. Lucas Conmey is working to complete the engineering projects and will start his reviews soon. Discussion on the "exempt status" of the Land Conservation Engineering Technician, Planner/Conservationist position.

Motion made by Roger Dax to endorse the "exempt status" of the job description. Seconded by John Meyers. Motion carried.

8. LWRM Project Approvals/Payments

Matrix was presented on the projects. Total cost of LWRM projects contracted this time is \$15,814 with cost share portion being \$11,734.

Greg Parman moved to accept, approve and make payments. Seconded by John Meyers. Motion carried.

9. WLI/PFF & CREP/CRP DATCP Waiver

The Agriculture Department was asked for a waiver. Discussion on planting cover crops.

Motion made by Roger Dax to accept the waiver. Seconded by Dan Nankee. Motion carried.

10. Cobb-Highland Commission Composition

Conversation on the Corporation Counsel's opinion that the Village Boards direct the composition of the Cobb Highland Recreation Commission.

Motion made by Ron Benish to accept and recognize Corporation Counsel's opinion. Seconded by Roger Dax. Motion carried.

11. Southern Area Conservation Summer Tour

Jefferson County Land and Water Conservation Department is offering a 2012 WLWCA Conservation Tour for August 28. Registration is required. Discussion on who wishes to attend. Attending will be Bob Bunker, Dan Nankee, Greg Parman, John Meyers, Ron Benish, Jim McCauley, Lucas Conmey. Planning to leave LCD at 7 a.m. Jim McCauley will drive his van.

Motion made by Greg Parman to approve attendance. Seconded by John Meyers. Motion carried.

12. Thursday Notes

A copy was sent to members for review. No comments.

13. Other Business

- Andy Walsh presented NRCS Report and information to release CRP hay. 195 requests were made (40 in Lafayette and Green). There were 90 new CRP contracts. Driftless Area has \$1.2 million statewide available with \$250,000 in applications statewide. There is \$400,000 available statewide for cover crops (\$20/acre). Cover crop must be forage crop, not commodity crop. Cost share deadline is August 24.
- Evan Larsen, past LCC member, passed away. Services are Sunday
- Dave Ladd shared information on the youth day at the County Farm
- John Meyers reported there is nothing to report on the Farm Bureau's position on the Land Conservation Department

14. Comments

Questions about the building and keeping the NRCS and LCD together. LCC supports concept of co-location.

15. Set Date of Next Meeting and Adjournment

Thursday, October 11 at 8:30 a.m. in the LCD conference room

Motion made by Greg Parman to accept date and location. Seconded by Dan Nankee. Motion carried.

DRAFT