



**UNAPPROVED MINUTES**  
**LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Thursday, August 14, 2014 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Blackhawk Lake**  
**2025 County Highway BH Highland, WI 53543**

**Iowa  
County  
Wisconsin**

1	<b>Meeting was called to order by Chair Bunker at 5:32 p.m.</b>
2	<b>Roll Call</b> was taken. Member present: R. Benish, B. Bunker, R. Dax, G. Parman, C.L. Anderson Excused: D. Ladd, D. Nankee Others present: R. Hemling, P. Jackson-Kelly, C. Kephart, J. McCaulley, A. Walsh
3	<b>Approve the agenda for this meeting.</b> Sup. Benish moved to approve the amended agenda for this August 14, 2014 meeting. R. Dax seconded the motion. Carried.
4	<b>Approve the minutes of the June 12, 2014 meeting.</b> Sup. Parman moved to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2014 meeting. R. Dax seconded the motion. Carried.
5	<b>Comments or reports from the audience or committee members.</b> No comments or reports
6	<b>NRCS Update and Operational Agreement</b> A. Walsh provided an update on 1) Cover Crop Signup, 2) 2015 EQIP Signup, and CRP Applications. Applications received for the cover crop signup has been for \$130,000 on 2,200 acres. Current funding received is \$24,000 and additional has been requested. Signup for EQIP has a batching period of October 3. Currently working with approximately 65 applications for CRP with the majority a re-enrollment. An addendum for the Operational Agreement between Land Conservation and NRCS was presented. Sup. Benish moved to approve signing the addendum for operational agreement. R. Dax seconded the motion. Carried
7	<b>WLI/FPP Update</b> Currently 637 are counted as participating in the Farmland Preservation Program. The FFP provides \$1,100,000 credits back to Iowa County with an average landowner credit of \$1,725 per year. Efforts are being made to educate farmers on the benefits of the program. Steve Oellerich, Town of Waldwick has requested to voluntarily be out of the Farmland Preservation Program. Sup. Parman moved to remove S. Oellerich from the Farmland Preservation Program. Sup. Benish seconded the motion. Carried
8	<b>Office Space Issue</b> The LCD location was discussed. Customer service is high priority and therefore, co-location is preferred by staff. If LCD moves with USDA, the rent is projected to be \$12,830, a \$3,830 increase. If moving to the Courthouse, would need a truck and a workstation at the USDA site. If only a work space was needed and 150 square feet for a work space was used, the rent would be \$4,270. Options were discussed at the August 7, 2014 Economic Development Committee meeting.
9	<b>2015 LCD Budget</b> J. McCaulley presented three budgets for 2015: 1) Co-Locate with USDA, Scenario 1; 2) Move to Courthouse, Scenario 2; and 3) Move to Courthouse, Scenario 3. The total for the three was the same -- \$227,030.00. Considerable discussion took place regarding a FPP self-certification fee and both \$15 and \$20 were discussed. No action was taken since this was not on the agenda. Sup. Benish moved to accept and approve Scenario 1 – Co-Locate with USDA. R. Dax seconded the motion. Carried with Sup. Parman and Sup. Anderson voting no.

10	<p><b>E/T Species Removal</b>  R. Hemling attended training to become a Qualified Biologist to remove Endangered/Threatened Species specifically: 1) Wood turtle; 2) Ornate box turtle; and 3) Northern cricket frog. To obtain a DNR permit when there is a hit on one of these species, a qualified person must go to the site a minimum of seven times prior to any permits being released. NRCS had previously done this work; however, they are no longer allowed. This is a costly activity for landowners and if the LCC was willing to pay the \$100 fee for the E/T Species Permit good for five years, the LCD would be able to do the E/T removals. There was discussion regarding a fee for the service to the landowner. R. Dax moved that LC pay the \$100 fee for the E/T Species Permit good for five years so that R. Hemling can conduct the review and if needed removals. Sup. Benish seconded the motion. Carried</p>
11	<p><b>LWRM/NMP Projects and Payments</b>  Sup. Parman moved to accept and approve the following LWRM/NMP projects: 1) Martin &amp; Donna Heil (well decommission), 2) Roy &amp; Cindy March (well decommission), 3) Chester &amp; Esther Gingreich (well decommission), and 4) James Steffes (roof runoff systems and UGO). Sup. Anderson seconded the motion. Carried</p>
12	<p><b>FPP Update and Farm Visit Items</b>  This was discussed earlier</p>
13	<p><b>LCD Staff Update</b>  McCaulley reported Debi Finkelmeyer had taken the Deputy Treasurer position and he is working with HR to refill the Department Assistant position. There were 41 applicants and two are finalists for the position.</p>
14	<p><b>Ihm CAFO</b>  The DNR has been working with the Ihm family on the 1,000AU/CAFO. It is anticipated there will be more CAFOs in Iowa County as this regulation relates to 1,000 animal units.</p>
15	<p><b>Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area Report</b>  Dan Welsh, Park Manager presented the 2014 Annual Update. He reported that the 2013 audit has been completed and a copy of the audit was shared with each LCC member. In past years, segregation of duties had been identified as a deficiency. A Segregation of Duties policy was adopted by the Commission in 2014 and met this requirement. An Office Manager position was created following the resignation of the bookkeeper. Revenues were up 7.8% in 2013 and expenses were down slightly and the overall net income was up over \$22,000.  New equipment has been purchased and updates made to improve the property. June 30<sup>th</sup> a tornado ravaged the park; little structural damage occurred. However, there was a great deal of tree damage. Sup. Parman moved to approve and accept the report and audit. Sup. Benish seconded. Carried</p>
16	<p><b>Next Meeting Date</b>  The next meeting will be <b>Thursday, October 9, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.</b></p>
17	<p><b>Adjournment</b>  Sup. Benish moved to adjourn the meeting. R. Dax seconded the motion. Carried</p>
	<p>Minutes by: Carol L. Anderson</p>