



APPROVED MINUTES
LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, February 12, 2015 – 5:00 p.m.
Iowa County Land Conservation Conference Room
Dodgeville, Wisconsin 53533

**Iowa
County
Wisconsin**

1	Meeting was called to order by Chair Bunker at 5:00 p.m.
2	Roll Call: Member present: R. Benish, B. Bunker, D. Nankee, G. Parman, C.L. Anderson Excused: D. Ladd, J. Meyers Absent: R. Dax Others present: R. Hemling, C. Kephart, S. Marr, J. McCaulley, D. Terrill, A. Walsh
3	Approve agenda for this meeting. Sup. Benish moved that the agenda for the February 12, 2015 meeting be approved with two modifications (Add Report from Committee Members and an Opportunity for Members of the Audience to Address the Committee and move item 16 – APHIS Report to follow the address the committee). Sup. Nankee seconded the motion. Approved
4	Approve minutes of the December 11, 2014 meeting. Sup. Parman moved to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2014 meeting. Sup. Benish seconded the motion. Approved
5	Comments or reports from the audience or committee members. Sup. Nankee shared an Agri-View article on Gov. Walker’s budget that includes \$4 million for dam repair. Sup. Benish mentioned that the Blackhawk Lake Commission rejected an idea of having stickers for entry into Blackhawk Lake available at Palan’s Outpost. Commission members were receptive to the idea of a joint meeting with Palan, DNR, and the Commission around topics of mutual interest.
6	APHIS Update and Action D. Terrill presented the 2014 Claim Summary for the Iowa County Wildlife Damage Program. There were 15 farmers in the program and claims were explained. Sup. Benish moved that a total of three claims for \$9,163.23 be approved and that waivers be granted for efforts being made to harvest the deer. Sup. Anderson seconded. Approved
7	NRCS Update Walsh updated committee members on the following: 1) NRCS is currently waiting for funds so that they can enter into 2015 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) cost share agreements; 2) Signup for the Conservation Stewardship Program is open through February 27; and (3) it is anticipated that Cover Crop signup will occur late spring.
8	Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) L. Olson provided a written report. The deadline for full compliance with standards is December 31, 2015. LCC has a record of 699 current participants. Of this number approximately 285 have not yet reached full compliance which is primarily the required nutrient management plan. A postcard due by March 15 will indicate whether or not a farmer wants to remain eligible for tax credits and work toward compliance or want to drop out of FPP or have already discontinued credits. Those that want to remain the program but are not in compliance will be the target for the next months. All Notices of Non-Compliance will be brought to the Land Conservation Committee for review and signature. Compliance notifications are signed by the County Administrator. Laurie Miess had requested the fee be waived. Sup. Nankee moved that the fee for L. Miess be waived. Sup. Parman seconded. Approved

9	<p>LWRM & NMP Projects and Payments The WI DATCP has allocated \$40,000 to Iowa County for a cost share of \$8/acre for farmers to develop a Nutrient Management Plan. As of this LCC meeting, 40 applications for the cost share funding have been made and these exceed the available allocation. J. McCaulley will be working with DATCP so that funds from counties not making use of their allocation might be added to what is available in Iowa County. Contracts will be fully signed in April or May. A spreadsheet related to 2015 Cost Share Interest for LWRM was shared and progress is being made. Sup. Parman moved acceptance of reports; Sup. Benish seconded. Approved</p>
10	<p>Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) Plan Top 10 Priority Survey J. McCaulley shared that a LWRM Plan is a basis for natural resource conservation management work in Iowa County and helps to set the work plan for the LCD. A new plan needs to be developed and groups such as the Citizens Advisory Committee and this committee are identifying the Top Ten Concerns. It is intended that by mid-May, a draft of the new plan will be available for review and discussion.</p>
11	<p>Municipal Phosphorus Trading and LCDs Wastewater treatment plant “P” limits are being challenged and an attempt to trade phosphorus reduction with agriculture procedures is becoming an option. Sup. Benish moved that the role of the Land Conservation Department would be to offer watershed maps and landowner lists in consultation with the GIS Office as a first step and a second step would be to set up the availability of cost share funds between municipalities and the LCC to farmers. Sup. Parman seconded. Approved</p>
12	<p>NRCS Letter regarding Twin Parks Floodwater regarding Structure #7 (Birch Lake Dam) and Structure #8 (Trout Creek Dam) J. Bramblett, State Conservationist sent a letter regarding the 50-year Operation and Maintenance Agreement that went into effect in 1964. The letter encourages continuing the annual O&M inspections and evidence of adequacy of maintenance is documented.</p>
13	<p>Future of the Birch Lake Dam (TP7) The Village of Barneveld is considering asking Iowa County to remove this dam. The Village Board has discussed the park area being annexed into the Village, the DNR signing an easement with the Village for the use and maintenance of the park, and the DNR helping with the improvement of the park area. A meeting that included participants from the Village of Barneveld, Iowa County, and the DNR was recently held. The DNR is interested in improving the fish habitat in Trout Creek and this could become an economic development generator for the area. Iowa County could access DNR Dam Removal Grant Funds possibly up to 100%. Discussion revolved around options for mitigation and liability. Sup. Parman moved to accept the report and encourage continuation of the dialogue. Sup. Anderson seconded. Approved</p>
14	<p>Iowa County and Iowa County Ag, LLC Lease The lease has been signed by all parties and the move-in date is projected for June 1, 2015. Sup. Parman moved that this committee approve the lease. Sup. Benish seconded. Approved</p>
15	<p>LCD 2015 Workload Projection and Goals The 2015 LCD Program of Work Staff Allocation Summary was reviewed. No action was taken.</p>
16	<p>Blackhawk Lake Deposit Policy and Operation Agreement The Operation Agreement will be reviewed by Corporation Counsel as there are conflicting statements especially related to insurance and also it has not been brought up-to-date since 1986. J. McCaulley and C. Kephart will follow. There was discussion regarding deficiencies that have been annually identified in the audit. The Blackhawk Lake Commission has been working on options for correcting the deficiencies. Sup. Benish moved that the Operation Agreement be updated and that between September 16 and May 14, deposits shall be made on a weekly basis or when \$250.00 of revenue has come in. Sup. Anderson seconded. Approved</p>
17	<p>Liquid Manure Resolution Dodge County developed a liquid manure resolution that encourages a statewide committee be formed to</p>

	create an action plan for alternative on-farm liquid manure management systems for Wisconsin livestock farms. Other counties are supporting this action via resolution. Sup. Benish moved that Iowa County prepare a supporting resolution for action at a County Board meeting. Sup. Anderson seconded. Approved
18	Other Business The WI Land & Water Conference is scheduled for March 9-11, 2015 in Appleton. If interested, committee members need to let J. McCaulley or S. Marr know in the next few days.
19	Next Meeting and Adjournment There was discussion regarding whether or not this committee needs to meet monthly. If enough business, the committee will meet monthly. Next meeting – Thursday, March 12, 2015 – 1:00 p.m. Sup. Benish moved, Sup. Parman seconded adjournment. Approved
	Notes by Carol L. Anderson