



APPROVED MINUTES
LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, December 3, 2015 – 3:00 P.M.
Land Conservation Office Conference Room
Dodgeville, WI 53533

**Iowa
County
Wisconsin**

1	Meeting were called to order by Chair Bob Bunker at 3:00 P.M.
2-4	Roll Call, Approval of this Agenda and Approval of the Minutes of October 8th, 2015. Members present: Bob Bunker, Roger Dax, Dan Nankee, Ron Benish, Carol Anderson, Dave Ladd, and Greg Parman. Others present: Jim McCaulley, Debi Finkelmeyer, Andy Walsh, Len Olson, Robert Bauer, Wendy Warren and Bill Grover. Sup. Benish made a motion to approve the agenda of the December 3rd, 2015 meeting. Seconded by Sup. Parman. Motion carried. Motion by Sup. Anderson to approve the minutes of the October 8th, 2015 meeting. Sup. Nankee seconded the motion. Motion carried.
5	Comments or reports from the audience or committee members. Sup. Benish inquired as to whether or not the EDP Committee superseded the LCC Committee. His thought is that the LCC Committee should be able to advance to the County Board the request to apply for grants for the dams.
6	Wolf Resolution. A letter from Laurie Groskopf was sent to the Land Conservation Department proposing Iowa County support taking a stand on the wolf minimum count. 32 other County Boards in Wisconsin have passed similar resolutions. Sup. Benish made a motion support the Wolf Resolution and advance it to the County Board. Sup. Parman seconded the motion. Motion carried.
7	Farmland Preservation Program Update. Len Olson presented the report to the Committee members. On October 8 th approximately 680 Annual Conservation Compliance Certificates were mailed to participants. As of November 23 rd there have been 500 forms returned with 180 outstanding. We will be working with those landowners to get their forms returned. From that mailing we have collected approximately \$10,000.00 in filing fees. The DATCP/DOR has granted counties an additional year to get landowners into compliance. Sup. Nankee made a motion that landowners who are not in compliance as of December 31 st , 2015 write a letter of intent that a consultant has been contacted to soil sample and develop a plan. Or the landowner is signed up for producer training. Sup. Benish seconded the motion. Motion carried. There are also approximately 38 landowners requesting to drop out of the program. We had 24 landowners sign and return a voluntary Notice of Non-Compliance form which required
8	LWRM Plan. McCaulley presented the Land and Water Resource Management Plan to the Land and Water Board at DATCP on December 1 st , 2015. The plan was approved. Sup. Nankee made a motion to advance the LWRM Plan to the County Board. Sup. Dax seconded the motion. Motion carried.
9	Southwest Badger Report, Dues and New Grazing Broker. The new Grazing Broker, Robert Bauer gave a report to the Committee on what his duties are throughout the region. In addition, Wendy Warren, Executive Director provided a report to the Committee on the value Southwest Badger has on the region and that they focus on work that improves the environment and improves the economic stability of the region. This year they are asking each county for \$2,500.00. The amount of money available in the budget was discussed and was decided that McCaulley will talk to the Finance Director about available funds. Sup. Benish made a motion to pledge up to \$2,500.00 to Southwest Badger. Sup. Parman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

10	<p>Southern Area WLWCA Tour. McCaulley reported that Iowa County will be hosting the Southern Area tour in 2016. McCaulley asked Committee members to come up with dates and ideas for the tour. Some ideas for the tour have included Gollon's Fish Farm, Cummins Emissions Solutions, Grandview, Pendarvis/Shake Rag, Railroad Depot restoration, Brewery Creek restoration and a beef farm operation. Sup. Benish made a motion to set the date for the tour as either June 21st, 22nd or 23rd. Sup. Parman seconded the motion. Motion carried.</p>
11	<p>Special LCC+2 Committee. McCaulley stated that a new Committee has been formed to deal with the issues of the dams in Iowa County. The name of the Committee is Committee on County Owned Dams and the additional members will include Dave Gollon and Ryan Walmer.</p>
12	<p>NRCS Update Andy Walsh reported NRCS has a Monarch Butterfly Initiative through the EQIP program with targeted funding for field borders and native plantings with any of the milkweed species. Iowa County is one of 4 counties in a high priority area. No signup dates have been announced. General CRP signup is December 1st-February 26th. Interested producers should schedule an appointment with FSA. For the General EQIP signup, Walsh reported that they anticipate obligating high priority contracts in January and there is another batching date for applications of March 4th.</p>
13	<p>Other Business Sup. Dax reported that CRP contracts are paying in the range of \$200.00 an acre. McCaulley stated that Green County has a 5,800 cow dairy coming.</p>
14	<p>Motion to Set the Next Meeting Date and Adjourn Sup. Benish made a motion to set the next meeting for Thursday February 11, 2016 at 1:00 P.M. in the conference room at the new building and adjourn the meeting. Sup. Nankee seconded the motion. Motion carried.</p>