

Monroe County Land Conservation, Forestry & Parks Committee Minutes

Date and Place:

Tuesday March 15, 2016 at the Monroe County Ag Services Center, Sparta, WI

Call to Order:

Chairman Chapman called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. Present were: J Rasmussen; D Hall; B Micheel, LCD; B. Richardson, LCD; C Ziegler, Monroe Co. Forestry; C. Walroth DNR; M Modjeski DNR; public. **Van Wychen and Olson absent.**

Minutes Approval 2/16/16 meeting:

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Hall to approve the February 16, 2016 minutes with the following corrections. Correction of spelling from Shawn Davidson to Sean Davison, DNR. Motion carried 3-0-2.

Public Comment Period:

None

Review Land Conservation Bills:

Micheel reviewed monthly bills.

Budget Adjustment (Cost Sharing):

Micheel explained the budget adjustment for carryover of cost sharing from 2015 in the amount of \$274,269.64

**Motion by Rasmussen, second by Hall to approve the budget adjustment.
Motion carried 3-0-2.**

Proposed Administrative Assistant Position:

Micheel explained the position history, expected duties and anticipated costs associated with the Administrative Assistant I position. This is a jointly funded position between Monroe Co. LCD and NRCS with each funding 50% of the position. The position will be reevaluated after three years.

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Hall to support the Administrative Assistant I position.

Motion carried 3-0-2.

Budget Adjustment (Administrative Assistant I position):

Micheel explained the LCD budget will cover this position with a July 1st start date. No county levy dollars needed in 2016.

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Hall to support the Administrative Assistant I budget adjustment.

Motion carried 3-0-2

Soil and Water Conservationist Position:

Micheel stated that five interviews were conducted on Friday March 11, 2016. The position has been offered to one of the interviewees. Acceptance is pending confirmation with the Personnel Department.

County Conservationist Report:

Micheel reported on:

Strong activity in Farmland Preservation signup in the Scenic Ridge and Valley AEA's, including interest by a few townships in Farmland Preservation Zoning. An informational webinar relating to FP Zoning will be conducted in the near future.

Continued planning for the Oak Management Workshop.

Phosphorus trading discussions with Valley Pride in Norwalk, and the City of Tomah. Also conducted a presentation on Phosphorus Trading at the Wisconsin River Symposium.

Fishing Easement Layer is now on the Monroe County GIS website.

WLWCA conference summary and career day presentation were also discussed.

Summer Camp Scholarships:

Micheel discussed the two conservation camps available to Monroe County students. Historically the LCC has paid for part of the registration to send 2 students to camp. Rasmussen suggested we pay 50% of the registration cost. (\$175 total)

The committee was in complete support to help send 2 students to conservation camp.

Soil and Water Conservationist Report:

Richardson discussed nonmetallic mining items, construction planning, and training.

Staff and Supervisor Open Discussion:

Micheel and Ziegler discussed committee realignment.

NRCS Report:

None

DNR Private Lands Report:

Modjeski reported on a citation issued to Gerke Excavating for a solid waste littering violation.

Walroth reported on annual tree planting, MFL changes and oak wilt prevention noncutting window due to the warmer than normal spring.

Forestry & Parks Update:

Forestry: Timber sale 2460 preparation, county forest boundary marking, DNR Liaison position has been filled with mid-May start date, Tri-Creek recon work started

Park: burning brush, re-hiring park LTEs from last year, cutting up trees, spring clean up preparations

Approve Emergency Fire Wardens:

Ziegler presented the Emergency Fire Warden List.

**Motion by Rasmussen, second by Hall to approve the Emergency Fire Wardens.
Motion carried 3-0-2**

Review Forestry & Park Bills:

Ziegler reviewed the past months bills.

Set next Meeting Date:

The next meeting will be in May due to the supervisor election in April.

Adjourn:

**Motion by Hall, second by Rasmussen to adjourn at 9:50 a.m. Motion carried
3-0-2**