

**Walworth County Land Conservation Committee**

**MINUTES**

Monday, September 17 at 1:00 p.m.

Walworth County Government Center

Committee Meeting Room 111

Elkhorn, WI 53121

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Chair Lightfield called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Roll call - Committee members present included: Chair Lightfield; Supervisors Burwell, Guido, Morrison, and Muzatko; Citizen member Petersen; and USDA/FSA Representative Papcke. A quorum was declared.

County staff present – David Bretl, County Administrator; Michael Cotter, Director of Land Use & Resource Management (LURM); Louise Olson, Deputy Director /LURM; Peg Reedy, UWEX; and Joann Douglas, Recording Secretary

Also in attendance –. David Terrall, and Michael Jones, USDA; Nancy Russell, County Board Chair.

**Supervisor Burwell and USDA/FSA Representative Papcke moved and seconded approval of the agenda. The motion carried 7-0.**

**Supervisors Muzatko and Morrison moved and seconded approval of the July 16, 2007 minutes. The motion carried 7-0.**

Public Comment – None

USDA Wildlife Abatement budget – Mr. Jones and Mr. Terrall said the 2008 budget of \$8,526.00 required approval by October 1, 2007 and is based on 2007 cost of damage within the county, overall state enrollment, and Wildlife Services salaries. This is a pass through, with no cost to Walworth County, with administrative costs recovered. **Supervisors Burwell and Citizen Member Petersen moved and seconded approval of the 2008 Wildlife Abatement budget. The motion carried 7-0.**

Resolution from Vilas County related to “Opposition to NR115 Amendments” – Nancy Russell gave background of the NR115 Advisory Committee’s actions thus far, which were met with positive response by the public. The Committee wanted input from a southern county to balance the northern county that has already been giving input on the amendments. Main elements are, no more than 20% impervious surface within 300 feet of a lake (with mitigation possible) and change in minimum lot size from 10,000 square feet to 20,000 square feet on new, unrecorded lots. NR115 went into effect in 1972 and only covers single family shoreland zoning. Walworth County zoning is more restrictive and there will be minimal impact from the amendments proposed. **Supervisors Burwell and Guido moved and seconded placing the Vilas County resolution related to “Opposition to NR115 Amendments” on file. Motion carried 7-0.**

Communication from Pine Knolls Subdivision requesting detachment – Michael Cotter said the request cannot be acted on at the LCC level and would go to the circuit court next. **Supervisors Muzatko and Morrison moved and seconded placing the Pine Knolls Subdivision communication requesting detachment on file. Motion carried 7-0**

Department of Agriculture and Department of Natural Resources 2008 Allocation Plan for Soil and Water Resource and Non-point Source Program – Louise Olson provided information on state funding for Walworth County bonding agricultural practices and staffing for 2008 so committee members could compare Walworth County with the other 72 counties. She has already included these revenues and expenditures related to conservation in the county's 2008 budget.

Possible statewide Phosphorus/lawn fertilizer ban, Senate Bill 197 – Louise Olson said Senate Bill 197 has not been voted on as yet, but a statewide ban would make it easier for local enforcement. Some of Walworth County's lakes like Lauderdale and Delavan already have a ban. Citizen Member Petersen said the City of Lake Geneva also passed a Phosphorus ban ordinance and even though fines are included it is primarily based on good faith. Chair Russell said the City of Lake Geneva ordinance has local fertilizer dealers posting signs of the ban, but many products are often sold outside the city. Mr. Petersen suggested contacting contractors. **Supervisors Burwell and Petersen moved and seconded having Michael Cotter draft a resolution to be sent to the County Board urging their support of passage of Senate Bill 197. Motion carried 7-0.**

Oneida County Board of Supervisors Resolution Opposing the Release of Aquatic Invasive Species from ocean going ships in the Great Lakes – Supervisor Burwell said we need to take a strong position on the resolution even if we are not in the Great Lakes basin, since we often ask for support from other counties like Oneida. Also, Walworth County and its lakes are directly impacted by the quality of the Great Lakes and invasive species. **Supervisors Morrison and Guido moved and seconded sending a resolution to the Walworth County Board asking their support of the Oneida County Resolution opposing the release of aquatic invasive species.** Mr. Bretl suggested amending the resolution and sending it only to Governor Doyle, Senator Kedzie, Walworth Counties Association, Congressman Ryan and senators, rather than those stated on line 30-35 of Oneida County Resolution. **The motion carried as amended 7-0.**

Correspondence from Symboint Inc., regarding proposal to assist Walworth County in Brownfield Grant applications – Michael Cotter said Fred Burkhardt, Economic Development, referred the proposal to the County. David Bretl said he did not know of any current contaminated properties identified in Walworth County at this time. **Supervisors Muzatko and Burwell moved and seconded placing the Symboint Inc. Brownfield Grant proposal correspondence on file. Motion carried, 7-0.**

WLWCA Annual Conference – Louise Olson said the conference is December 5-7 in Madison. She will be participating in a panel discussion on December 5 at 4:15 p.m. on the future of Land Conservation Departments/Committees and the challenges of merging with other departments. She said this is a conference Supervisors may attend, but there is no money in the 2007 budget available for reimbursement. This is an important state conference to attend since it provides the final information in resolution form referred to the state for the 2009 budget.

Next Meeting Date – Monday, October 15, 2007, 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment - **On motion and second by Supervisors Muzatko and USDA/FSA Representative Papcke, Chairman Lightfield adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:49 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.**

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Submitted by Joann Douglas, Recording Secretary. Minutes are not considered final until approved by the committee at the next regularly scheduled meeting.