



Walworth County
Land Conservation Committee Meeting
Monday, September 16, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.
Walworth County Government Center
County Board Room 114
Elkhorn, WI 53121

Land Use and Resource
Management Department

Dan Kilkenny – Chair, *Nancy Russell* - Vice Chair
Tim Schiefelbein - Supervisor

Sue Bellman – USDA/FSA Representative, *Rosemary Badame* – Citizen Member

(Posted in Compliance with Sec. 19.84 Wis. Stats.)

It is possible that a quorum of the County Board or a committee of the County Board could be in attendance.

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Approval of the Agenda Pg. 1
4. Approval of Minutes from May 20, 2013 LCC Meetings, and July 18, 2013 Joint LCC and CZA meeting. Pg. 2-4
5. Public Comment
6. Discussion/Possible Action – General Discussion of Ordinance amendment regarding requested review of a determination – David Bretl Pg. 5-6
7. Discussion/Possible Action - Operational Agreement Between Walworth County and the United State Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service – Lou Olson Pg. 7-15
8. Discussion/ Possible Action Item: WLWCA Thursday Note – Lou Olson Pg. 16-19
9. Discussion / Possible Action Item: Volunteer Notice of Non-Compliance Farmland Preservation Program: Arthur L. Anderson, Erkfitz Revocable Trust, Perry Moyer, Carolyn Rambow – Lou Olson
10. Discussion & Possible Action - Southeast Land & Water Conservation Association Tour - October 9, 2014 Milwaukee – Lou Olson Pg. 20-21
11. Next meeting date: Monday, October 14, 2013, 2:00 p.m.
12. Adjournment

**Submitted by: Michael P. Cotter, Director, Land Use and Resource Management Department,
Louise Olson, Deputy Director, Land Conservation Committee Designee**

Posted: September 11, 2013

Walworth County Land Conservation Committee

MINUTES

May 20, 2013 – 2:00 p.m.

County Board Room 114 – Government Center
Elkhorn, Wisconsin

DRAFT

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Kilkenny.

Roll call – In attendance were Chairperson Kilkenny, Vice Chairperson Russell, Supervisor Schiefelbein and Citizen Member Badame. Citizen Member Bellman was absent. A quorum was declared.

Others present – Supervisor Carl Redenius; David Bretl, County Administrator; Michael Cotter, Deputy Corporation Counsel/LURM Director; Louise Olson, Deputy LURM Director; Fay Amerson, Urban Conservation Specialist, Matt Zangl, LURM Student Intern, and Merilee Holst.

Approval of the agenda was moved and seconded by Supervisor Schiefelbein and Vice Chair Russell, with no withdrawals, and carried 4 – 0.

Approval of the April 22, 2013 Land Conservation Committee meeting minutes was moved and seconded by Supervisor Schiefelbein and Citizen Member Badame, with no withdrawals, and carried 4 – 0.

Public comment: None.

Discussion/Possible Action – Volunteer Notice of Noncompliance Farmland Preservation Program: Donald Klaehn, Trust; Thomas Woellert, Baker Farms, Inc., Joyce Welch Trust, Payne Family Trust, Robert P. Joost, Etheleen Haak, Wayne & Carl Redenius, Leroy Redenius Trust - Louise Olson (enclosure, pages 1-23) Discussion by Deputy LURM Director Louise Olson regarding the notices of non-compliance for Farmland Preservation having been initiated at the request of property owners. Said requests are noted by the Committee.

Discussion/Possible Action – State Support for County Land Conservation Departments/ Division submitted to Governor Scott Walker, Walworth County -Wisconsin Senators and Representatives – Louise Olson (enclosures, pages 24-26) Discussion by Deputy LURM Director Louise Olson regarding correspondence submitted to Governor Walker and Walworth County Legislators, and response from Rep. Dave Craig regarding budget issues to be presented on May 21, 2013 to the Joint Finance Committee at the State Capital.

Discussion/ Possible Action - Wisconsin Water Use – 2011 Report - Louise Olson (enclosure, pages 27-28) Discussion by Deputy LURM Director Louise Olson regarding Walworth County

Draft

receiving 3rd new grant with the WI DNR to prepare county-wide Ground Water Usage / Lake Planning Grant to assist in reduction of water usage and education.

Discussion/ Possible Action – Urban Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program Grant - Fay Amerson (enclosure, pages 29-30) Discussion by Urban Conservation Specialist Fay Amerson regarding the grant to assist communities in developing storm water pollution prevention plans and municipal permitting.

Discussion/Possible Action – General Discussion of Administrative Hearings under Chapter 68 of the Wisconsin Statutes – David Bretl. Discussion by Administrator Bretl regarding due process rights and procedures pursuant to statute and alternatives. Discussion at a later date.

Discussion/Possible Action - Non Metallic Mining Bonding Discussion Joint Meeting with CZA – Michael Cotter. Discussion by Michael Cotter, Deputy Corporation Counsel/LURM Director regarding possible joint meeting with LCC and CZA to discuss general bonding issues on July 18, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

Chairperson Kilkenny did not have any announcements.

The next regular meeting of the land conservation committee was confirmed for Monday, June 17, 2013, 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment. On motion and second by Supervisor Schiefelbein and Citizen Member Badame, Chairperson Kilkenny adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sheril Oldenburg, LURM Assistant.
These minutes are subject to approval by the committee.

Walworth County
Joint Land Conservation Committee – County Zoning Committee
MINUTES

Thursday, July 18, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.
Walworth County Government Center
County Board Room
Elkhorn, WI 53121

**** DRAFT ****

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rick Stacy at 4:02 p.m.

Roll Call – Committee members present included: For CZA, Chairman Rick Stacey, Vice-Chair Dave Weber was absent-excused, Supervisors Rich Brandl, Carl Redenius and Tim Brellenthin, Citizen Members Richard Kuhnke, Sr. and Jim Van Dreser; A quorum was declared. For LCC, Supervisors Dan Kilkenny, Nancy Russell and Tim Schiefelbein, USDA/FSA Representative Sue Bellman was absent, Citizen Member Rosemary Badame; A quorum was declared.

County staff present – David Bretl, County Administrator was present for a portion of the meeting, Michael Cotter, Director of Land Use Resource Management (LURM), Louise Olson, Deputy Director/LURM, Fay Amerson, Urban Conservation Specialist, and Associate Planner Matt Weidensee. Present for a portion of the meeting / hearing was Neal Frauenfelder, Senior Planner;

A “sign-in” sheet listing attendees on July 18, 2013, is kept on file as a matter of record.

Details of the July 18, 2013, meeting / hearing are recorded and available to the public upon request / video to view on our website: www.co.walworth.wi.us

Rich Brandl motioned to approve the agenda. Seconded by Carl Redenius. Motion carried. 10-favor 0-oppose

Discussion General Bonding Issues. LURM Director Michael Cotter summarizes discussions to be had during the meeting. Fay Amerson addresses Board members concerning bonds for mining and reclamation plans and reviews documents contained in the handout. Questions by Dan Kilkenny concerning rights of bonding company to cancel the bond on 90 days notice. Discussion concerning rights of County to call in the bond. Statement by Michael Cotter regarding notification of cancellation of bond and calling in a bond. Matt Weidensee addresses Boards regarding current inspection of gravel pits and bonding issues. Statement by Fay Amerson concerning DNR partnership in permitting. Closing statement by Michael Cotter concerning possible further discussions. Matter can be discussed at CZA and send further to LCC. Nancy Russell recommends discussion of junk yards.

Richard Kuhnke, Sr. motioned to have matter rescheduled to CZA August meeting. Second by Rich Brandl. Motion carried 10-favor 0 opposed.

Disc Count #4:04:25 to 4:49:07

Adjournment

Rich Brandl motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Dan Kilkenny. Motion carried. 10-favor 0-oppose

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m..

Submitted by Sheril Oldenburg, Recording Secretary.

Minutes are not final until approved by the committee(s) at its next meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. xxx – xx/13

CREATING SECTION 1-14 OF THE WALWORTH COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO _____

THE WALWORTH COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

PART II: That Section 1-14 of the Walworth County Code of Ordinances is hereby created to read as follows:

“Sec. 1-14. _____

Unless otherwise specifically provided in this Code, if review of a determination is requested under Chapter 68 of the Wisconsin Statutes, it shall be conducted as follows:

(a) A review of the determination shall be conducted by the Department Head or officer in charge of the department or office that made the determination. Procedures set forth in Section 68.11 Wis. Stats. shall be followed in this review. The aggrieved party shall be notified that it may at its option:

- (1) Request a review of the decision by the appropriate standing committee.
(2) Treat the decision as a final determination and seek judicial review within 30 days of receipt of said final determination.
(b) A standing committee of the board which exercises policy direction over the subject may, at its option, elect to hear the case.”

PART II: This Ordinance shall become effective upon passage and publication.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Walworth County Board of Supervisors this ___th day of _____ 2013.

Nancy Russell
County Board Chair

Kimberly S. Bushey
Attest: County Clerk

County Board Meeting Date:

Policy and Fiscal Note is attached.
Reviewed and approved pursuant to Section 2-91 of the Walworth County Code of Ordinances:

David A. Bretl Date
County Administrator/Corporation Counsel

Nicole Andersen Date
Deputy County Administrator - Finance

If unsigned, exceptions shall be so noted by the County Administrator.

**OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
WALWORTH COUNTY WISCONSIN
And the
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**

I. Purpose:

The purpose of this Operational Agreement is to identify the responsibilities of Walworth County Wisconsin, hereafter called "County" and the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, hereafter called "NRCS," regarding the employment, administration, and training of field office employees; the provision, use, and responsibility for either County or NRCS owned/maintained equipment and supplies; the maintenance of fiscal and activity reports; and to define roles and responsibilities relating to the development of conservation priorities and policies.

II. Background:

The County, acting through its Land Conservation Committee or equivalent conservation organization partner, is responsible for planning, setting priorities and implementing land and water conservation programs as authorized under Chapter 92, Wisconsin Statutes.

The NRCS is authorized and directed under the terms of various federal statutes to carry out an assortment of Soil and Water Conservation Programs and to provide landowners, state and local governments, and other entities with natural resource conservation technical assistance, counseling, planning/design, and implementation activities. The NRCS has been granted specific authority to enter in to agreements with local Conservation Departments to share/leverage human and capital resources to address local resource concerns of each party's respective missions, goals, and objectives.

It is mutually agreed that because this memorandum provides guidelines for rendering specialized and technical services to State and local units of government pursuant to Title III, Section 302, of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1968 (P.L. 90-577), and OMB Circular No. A-97 the roles of the county and NRCS will be defined as follows.

A. The NRCS will:

1. Designate the Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations as the NRCS liaison to the County for this Agreement.
2. Provide technical training to county employees in the art and science of soil conservation and water quality technology, the techniques of maintaining

NRCS records and the techniques of supervision and management, to the extent that NRCS personnel and facilities can be made available.

3. Provide consultation and guidance to the Land Conservation Committee Members, County Conservationist, and County Conservation Staff on NRCS policy and technical issues when requested.
4. Through the District Conservationist:
 - a. Collaborate with the county to develop work strategies designed to meet the soil and water conservation goals and objectives of the county's Land and Water Resource Management Plan, as well as NRCS's Local Work Group, State Technical Committee, and Agency Priorities.
5. Acknowledge the County Land and Water Resource Management Plan when convening the Local Work Groups (LWG) for developing and updating county conservation priorities.
6. Assist county employees when operating under the technical guidance of the NRCS to become proficient in doing technical work.
7. Assist county office personnel to become proficient in office procedures. Office personnel will assume responsibility for such office activities as mutually agreed to by the county and NRCS.
8. Authorize county employees, with proper clearance, to use NRCS equipment and supplies that are available within the county when such use will increase the effectiveness of the program of work of the county.
9. Require NRCS employees who use county equipment and supplies to follow the regulations and procedures required by the county.
10. Assume responsibility for damage or loss of county equipment, due to negligence or inappropriate use by an NRCS employee.
11. Ensure NRCS employees working within the county have a solid grasp and understanding of all relevant federal, state, and local laws and ordinances for which conservation program participants must comply.
12. Acknowledge state and county standards and specifications related to conservation work, and help inform prospective participants of such requirements. NRCS has no authority to assume joint responsibility when the county adopts standards and specification that differ from NRCS standards and specifications. NRCS has no authority to help the county apply practices for State or County programs using standards or specifications that are not contained in the FOTG.

13. Assume all responsibility for certification of need, practicability and performance of NRCS financial assistance program practices within the county.

B. The County will:

1. Designate the County Conservationist, or equivalent, as the County staff supervisor and liaison for this Agreement.
2. Provide training to NRCS employees on state and/or county laws and ordinances related to conservation program implementation.
3. Provide technical support to NRCS with the agency's conservation program implementation at the county level.
4. Through the County Conservationist, or equivalent:
 - a. Collaborate with the NRCS to develop work strategies designed to meet the soil and water conservation goals and objectives of the county's Land and Water Resource Management Plan, as well as NRCS's Local Work Group, State Technical Committee, and Agency Priorities.
5. Include county resource concerns and priorities as set by the Local Work Groups (LWG) when developing and updating the County Land and Water Resource Management Plan.
6. Acknowledge NRCS standards and specifications contained in the FOTG related to federal conservation work, and help inform prospective participants of such requirements.
7. **ACKNOWLEDGE OF SECTION 1619 COMPLIANCE.** The County shall only utilize NRCS customer files and information to carry out work of the NRCS programs, to include conservation planning activities and technical assistance. Use of NRCS customer case file information is not be used outside of official NRCS business, without consent from Landowner. The purpose of this Acknowledgment of Section 1619 compliance is to require acknowledgment by County partners of the requirements of Section 1619 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (the 2008 Farm Bill), which prohibits disclosure of certain information by the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and its cooperators(partners) who assists NRCS in the delivery of conservation-related service. Those individuals or organizations that assist NRCS with providing conservation-related services are known as NRCS Conservation Cooperators.

8. Adopt and require county employees to use NRCS standards and specifications contained in the FOTG in conservation planning and the application of soil conservation and water pollution abatement practices when assisting property owners, units of government and others. Reimbursement for technical assistance may be requested under terms of a separate agreement.
9. Provide equipment and supplies for county staff working under the terms of this agreement.
10. Authorize NRCS employees to use county equipment and supplies as appropriate in carrying out the County's Land and Water Resource Management Plan.
11. Assume responsibility for damage or loss of NRCS equipment when such damage or loss is due to negligence or inappropriate use by a county employee.
12. Maintain records of work activities and accomplishments on federally funded projects to ensure that:
 - a. Conservation planning and application and other required conservation activities can be reported as needed by the County and NRCS.
 - b. County employees are performing within their engineering job approval authority, as indicated on the NRCS /DATCP joint engineering job approval practitioners' certification.
 - c. Documentation is available for quality assurance reviews.
13. Use NRCS Government Owned Vehicle(GOV) *provided*:
 - a. Use is for official business and does not cause any conflict of interest or appearance issues as determined by the NRCS.
 - b. County submits proof of current liability insurance policy that names the USDA as an insured and in an amount approved by the NRCS (Minimum \$500,000)
 - c. Each County driver applicant provides a copy of their valid state driver's license which will be verified on the attachment A form.
 - d. County Driver receives written NRCS authorization prior to beginning use. This will be a *Letter of Authorization for NRCS Vehicle Use* issued by the NRCS Liaison to this agreement (generally the Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations in your NRCS Admin Area). *A COPY OF THIS LETTER MUST BE IN POSSESSION of THE COUNTY USER WHILE OPERATING A USDA NRCS VEHICLE.*
 - e. Vehicle is otherwise available (not scheduled for NRCS user), prior to use. Local NRCS approval is provided by the NRCS District Conservationist or Acting, and the employee using the vehicle properly signs for the GOV on the local NRCS sign-out sheet.

III. It is mutually agreed that:

- A. By signing this agreement, the parties agree that all programs and/or activities provided for under this agreement will be conducted in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and policies.
- B. Civil rights policies will be complied with by entities that assist NRCS in administering its programs and services and are recognized as Partners. The Department of Agriculture Regulation 7 CFR, Part 15.5, DR 4330-2, and the NRCS GM 230, Part 405 set forth agents of the agency's responsibilities in program delivery with respect to Equal Opportunity.
- C. Ethics/Conflict of Interest; NRCS staff are required to inform their Supervisor when attempting to participate in NRCS Programs (i.e. applying, contracting, etc.), and remove themselves from certain decisions (i.e. developing ranking questions, ranking certain applications, etc.) that may influence how programs are administered within their jurisdiction. NRCS encourages County Staff to be cognizant of potential conflicts of interest when they are supporting NRCS Programs, and attempting to be a Program Participant at the same time. It is recommended County Staff pursue the same ethical standards as NRCS to avoid any potential for, or the appearance of a conflict of interest.
- D. This agreement shall become effective on the date of the last signature hereto and shall continue in effect for a period of five years from that date unless terminated by either party. Any party to this agreement may terminate the agreement as it applies to that party upon notice in writing to the other parties at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of termination. Any party may request amendment of the agreement by notifying the other parties in writing of the nature and purpose of the requested amendment.
- E. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU's) and associated agreements between NRCS, conservation partners and American Indian Tribes are to be evaluated and modified to avoid conflicts of interest. NRCS policy for support comes from the General Manual (GM) Section 504.14 (Amend.68-November 2012) Conservation Partners and includes the following guidance as it relates to support of partners who solicit to obtain reimbursement for services provided:

1. Conservation partners who are co-located in NRCS offices and decide to compete as third-party vendors of Technical Service Providers (TSP) assistance must relocate their TSP-associated business outside NRCS offices and information systems.
2. In order to provide fair access to competitive grants and agreements, those conservation partners that wish to compete for TSP contracts and/or agreements, must find separate arrangements when they share NRCS office space, customer files and information, and NRCS equipment. These separate arrangements will ensure that partners wishing to act as TSPs will not have an unfair competitive advantage when soliciting competitive contracts and agreements with NRCS or when contracting with program participants.

As a condition of a grant, cooperative working, Operational, Cooperative or contribution agreement with the (insert name of county Department or Land Conservation Committee) assures and certifies that it is in compliance with and will comply in the course of the agreement with all applicable laws, regulations, Executive Orders and other generally applicable requirements, including those set out in 7 CFR 3015.205(b) which hereby are incorporated in this agreement by reference, and such other statutory provisions as are specifically set forth herein.

For **WALWORTH COUNTY:**

Louise A. Olson
County Conservationist

8-22-13
Date

County Land Conservation Committee
Chair

Date

County Board of Supervisors Chair (as applicable) Date

For **UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**

Gregory J. Dyer
NRCS District Conservationist

8-22-13
Date

NRCS Assistant State Conservationist for
Field Operations

Date

NRCS Wisconsin State Conservationist
Jimmy Bramblett

Date (effective date)

NOT APPLICABLE AT THIS TIME

(Attachment A)

LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION FOR NRCS VEHICLE USE

Approval Period: (Insert date to reflect the date of or after operational agreement signed by the State Conservationist)

(ADDENDUM TO OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN Walworth County Land Conservation Department and the United States Department of Agriculture-NRCS-WI)

Walworth County Land Use Resource Management Department's conservation staff located at the Elkhorn Field Office will use NRCS Government Owned Vehicles (GOV) provided:

- a. Use is for official business and does not cause any conflict of interest or appearance issues as determined by the NRCS. Storage at a private residence is not allowed under this agreement without specific, prior, approval via the NRCS Assistant State Conservationist – Field Operations on a case-by-case basis.
- Examples of County related activities that are acceptable when using NRCS GOV
 - Meeting with Cooperators to complete any stage of the Conservation planning process.
 - Design, layout, and construction of conservation practices
 - Acquiring signature(s) and/or additional documentation needed for Financial Assistance Program participation
- b. County submits proof of current liability insurance policy that names the USDA as an insured and in an amount approved by the NRCS (Minimum \$500,000 unless otherwise noted)
- c. Each County driver applicant provides a copy of their valid state drivers' license to District Conservationist.

Approved by: _____
(ASTC-FO)

Authorized County/Partner driver

Authorized County/Partner driver

Authorized County/Partner driver

Authorized County/Partner driver

Note: Copy of authorized County/partner driver's licenses is to be submitted to the Area office.

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

ISSUE DATE: 12/18/2009

AEGIS CORPORATION
 18550 W. CAPITOL DRIVE
 BROOKFIELD, WISCONSIN 53045
 TEL: (800)236-6885
 FAX: (262)781-7743

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW.

COMPANIES AFFORDING COVERAGE

INSURED:
 Juneau County
 Courthouse Annex - Room 14
 220 East LaCrosse Street
 Mauston, WI 53948

SAMPLE

COMPANY
 LETTER A
 WISCONSIN COUNTY MUTUAL INSURANCE CORPORATION

COVERAGES:
 THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

CO. LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	POLICY NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE	EXPIRATION DATE	LIMITS
A	LIABILITY GENERAL LIABILITY LAW ENFORCEMENT LIABILITY PUBLIC OFFICIALS B&O AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY ALL OWNED AUTOS HIRED & NON-OWNED AUTOS UNDERINSURED MOTORISTS UNDERINSURED MOTORISTS	12910	1/1/2010	1/1/2011	EACH OCCURRENCE \$10,000,000

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS/LOCATIONS/VEHICLES/SPECIAL ITEMS:
 Certificate Holder is named as additional insured with regards to County use of U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service vehicles: 2003 Chevy S10 Pickup, 2002 Chevy Silverado 1500 Pickup & 2001 Jeep Cherokee Sport Utility

CERTIFICATE HOLDER:
 United States Department of Agriculture
 Soil Conservation Service
 c/o Greg Lowe
 Juneau County Land Conservation Committee
 220 East LaCrosse
 Mauston, WI 53948

CANCELLATION
 SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, THE ISSUING COMPANY WILL ENDEAVOR TO MAIL 10 DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER NAMED TO THE LEFT, BUT FAILURE TO MAIL SUCH NOTICE SHALL IMPOSE NO OBLIGATION OR LIABILITY OF ANY KIND UPON THE COMPANY, ITS AGENTS OR REPRESENTATIVES.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
Karen Flynn

EXAMPLE OF CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE



Thursday Note

An Update on Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Issues

Volume 16, Issue 4

August 15, 2013

2013 Budget

Success! The Governor signed the 2013-2015 budget into law on June 30, 2013. It included restoration of the Governor's proposed county staffing cuts of \$998,000 in 2014 and \$815,000 in 2015. This will mean that 2014 and 2015 county staff allocations will be roughly \$11,000 to \$14,000 higher than they would have been. Few conservation issues prevailed in this budget so restoring funding for land conservation was a notable victory. It took a lot of hard work on the part of LCD staff, LCC supervisors, Wisconsin Counties Association, WLWCA's legal team, WLWCA staff, and many conservation organizations. Also critical to the effort was strong local engagement of many counties with local Farm Bureau chapters as well as with Farm Bureau's state staff.

~Jim VandenBrook, Executive Director

Mergers and Acquisitions

Look for a survey soon to help get a better handle on the state of departmental mergers in counties and the impact on land conservation offices. On July 11th, WLWCA in conjunction with DATCP presented data to the Adams County "Transition Committee" that was set to take action on merging the Land Conservation office with the Planning and Zoning office, as well as eliminating the County Conservationist position. The committee asked questions and then moved to retain the County Conservationist position and did not take action on departmental merger. The WLWCA officers and staff subsequently met with DATCP to review the response to mergers and how best to provide counties with accurate and useful information as they make these important decisions. A short survey directed to county conservationists and Land Conservation Committee chairs will help determine how best to support local land and water conservation.

~Jim VandenBrook, Executive Director

DNR's Nutrient Reduction Strategy

DNR has hosted a number of meetings to discuss how the agency should respond to EPA's directive to develop a comprehensive strategy to manage nutrient runoff from all sources. As you might imagine, there are many stakeholders worried about the possible impacts of such a strategy. WLWCA and a number of county staff have been providing input. DNR hosted a June 27th meeting of phosphorus management stakeholders and had an open discussion about the impacts of the DNR Phosphorus rules, especially as it pertains to Adaptive Management/Trading and municipal discharge limits. The potential impact of the Phosphorus rules and how they are implemented could mean a brighter or dimmer future for LCDs.

~Jim VandenBrook, Executive Director

Farewell to Kirsten Moore and Welcome to Kim Warkentin

Kirsten Moore, WLWCA's Office Manager and Youth Education Coordinator is now the Director of Cooperative Services with a Madison-based food cooperative, the Willy Street Co-op. Kirsten began work with WLWCA in 2006 during a very tumultuous time for the organization. She was a steady presence and filled the role of Interim Executive Director during the merger of WLWCA and WALCE. WLWCA owes a tremendous amount to Kirsten and we wish her the best of luck in her new career. WLWCA has hired Kim Warkentin to take the position of WLWCA Office Manager/Executive Assistant. Kim has an extensive background working for, managing, and directing non-profit organizations. She has experience in grassroots organizational development, fund-raising, communications, board development, training, and event planning. She has a BA degree in Journalism and Communications from the University of Iowa. Please welcome Kim as she settles into the WLWCA shop in early September.

~Jim VandenBrook, Executive Director

2013 North American Envirothon – August 4-9, Bozeman, Montana

Wisconsin was represented at the largest high school environmental competition in North America by a five-person team from Luxemburg-Casco High School. This year's competition was held at Montana State University from August 4-9, where 57 teams representing 47 U.S. states, nine Canadian provinces and one Canadian territory competed for a share of \$175,000 in scholarships, host grants and Canon products from the event sponsor.

The North American Envirothon tests teams on their knowledge of soils and land use, aquatic ecology, forestry, wildlife and a current environmental issue. Each team's knowledge is tested under the supervision of foresters, soil scientists, wildlife specialists and other natural resource professionals. Teamwork, problem-solving and presentation skills are evaluated as each team offers a panel of judges an oral presentation with recommendations for solving the specific challenge that is presented during the competition. The environmental issue for this year's competition was sustainable rangeland management: achieving a balance between traditional agricultural uses with non-agricultural uses on Montana rangelands.

Wisconsin hosts its own state competition and sends its winner on to the North American competition. Throughout North America, it is estimated that approximately 500,000 high school students participate in the program. From these participants will come the next generation of resource management professionals. Two of the Wisconsin Envirothon team members intend to pursue a natural resource management degree at UW-Stevens Point.

~Jim VandenBrook, Executive Director

Standards Oversight Council Update

One of the several methods SOC uses to invite your feedback is through participating in the biennial Technical Standards Needs Survey. SOC conducts this survey every two years and encourages conservation technicians, agency staff, municipality reviewers, farmers, private sector developers and all technical standard users to participate and provide data on which technical standards need to be updated. Two-thirds of the survey responses were from Land and Water Conservation Department staff. Thank you! Receiving feedback from those of you that install these conservation practices on a regular basis and follow these technical standards is incredibly valuable.

The NRCS standards that rose to the highest priority for revision are Standard 632, Solid and Liquid Waste Separation Facility, Standard 393, Filter Strip, and Standard 395, Streambank Habitat Improvement and Management. The top priority projects for DNR Standards are the development of a new technical standard, Filtration Devices and the revision of Standard 1060, Storm Drain Inlet Protection for Construction Sites. Both DNR Standard 1060 and NRCS Standard 393 are already in the beginning stages of revision and have dedicated staff to lead the revision process. Both of these draft standards will be available broad review comment through the SOC website.

Through the survey, we also collected specific comments on standards tentatively scheduled to be revised and comments on standards that should be added to the list of standards that need revision. Two additional technical standards, NRCS Standard 643A, Shoreline Habitat, and DNR Standard 1061, De-watering are being added to the next two-year Work Plan based on survey comments. The Council has reviewed all the comments, and is still in the process of incorporating the results into the 2014 – 2016 Work Plan. This updated Work Plan will be posted online in November. You can review more details of the survey results and specific comments from participants through the [2013 Technical Standard Needs survey summary](#).

In other updates, the two active SOC teams are continuing to work towards their goals. The Permeable Pavement standard development team is planning to post the draft standard for broad review by end of year, with an expected publication in the second quarter of 2014. The Nutrient Management standard revision team currently is working through nitrogen management concerns and in the fall will begin discussing concerns of winter spreading of manure. The NRCS is planning to work with various stakeholders to receive feedback on portions of the standard revision as they are drafted, in particular those that already have contacted NRCS with specific feedback.

~Gini Knight, Standards Oversight Council Coordinator

Fall Poster and Speaking Contest moving to Winter-Spring 2014!

This past spring, the Board of Directors created a Youth Education workgroup to discuss options for reinvigorating the current WLWCA poster and speaking contests for youth as well as assess the delivery of the organization's youth education activities. The workgroup developed several recommendations to improve the Poster and Speaking Contest. The WLWCA Board already approved a couple of those recommendations, including:

1. Move the contest from Fall to Spring.

- Gives teachers more time to work with their students and fit the contest into their curriculum.
- Potential for students to create one speech for multiple speaking contests (i.e. FFA, Forensics)
- Able to coordinate with the WLWCA Annual Conference.

2. State Competition will be done in conjunction with the WLWCA Annual Conference next spring.

- Saves money by fully utilizing rooms already reserved for the conference.
- Posters can be on display in the silent auction room (proceeds of the silent auction helps fund WLWCA youth education programming).
- More volunteers are likely to be available for the contest.
- Potential for an audience to be in attendance during the awards ceremony.

Please make any necessary scheduling adjustments to your Local Competitions to ensure judging is completed in time for the state competition. Final deadlines are still to be determined, but use following general timeline:

- August 2013 – Notify participants/schools about the contest and the associated changes.
- January 2014 – Local Speaking and poster contest
- February 2014 – Area Speaking and Poster Contest
- March 2014 – State Speaking and Poster Contest

A few other items that are still being considered (stay tuned for future updates):

3. Remove the "special needs" category option for the contest participants.

- WLWCA received various complaints over the years regarding publicity of a child's special need.
- Special need has been self-determined by participant (no verification requirement or guidelines).
- The national competition does not have a special needs category.

4. Create an additional category: Multimedia Presentation (i.e. Video, Powerpoint, etc.)

- Opportunities for teachers to more easily work entries into existing curriculum requirements.
- Increased ability for WLWCA to utilize the presentations/videos as outreach tools.
- *Note: Currently, there are no national competition opportunities for speaking contest participants.*

5. Create an additional category: Photo Contest.

- An alternative to the Poster Contest that allows for additional participation from individuals and counties that normally wouldn't compete with a poster or other presentation.
- NACD already has a framework set up for this in the national competition.
- Could allow for WLWCA to utilize the photographs in outreach materials and program materials.

6. Develop a separate Youth Education Committee.

- Oversight committee would provide direction and develop a strategic approach to all WLWCA youth education activities and would ensure that we reach out to the largest number of youth in WLWCA member counties.
- Youth education programs provide opportunities to reach out to not only to youth, but also their families and school districts as well as provide newsworthy items to help highlight the importance of our conservation efforts.

NACD has announced the 2014 theme that will be used for our upcoming contest as: **"Dig Deeper – Mysteries in the Soil"**. We will be skipping the 2013 theme and NOT be using "Where does your watershed" during this transitional year. Please look for additional information & themed resources as they become available later this summer at www.nacdnet.org/education/resources.



**Wisconsin Land & Water
Conservation Association, Inc.**
702 E. Johnson St.
Madison, WI 53703-1533
(608) 441-2677
FAX: (608) 441-2676
www.wlwca.org

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Calendar of Events

Northwestern Area Meeting & Summer Tour, Burnett County	Aug. 16
WLWCA Technical Committee Meeting, Stevens Point	Aug. 16
WLWCA Executive Committee Meeting, Appleton	Aug. 22
WLWCA PIC Meeting, Stevens Point	Aug. 26
WLWCA Office Closed, Labor Day	Sept. 2
WI State Technical Committee Meeting, Madison	Sept. 19
WI Counties Association Annual Conference, Madison	Sept. 22-24
WLWCA Fall Technical Tour, Marathon County	Sept. 25
Land & Water Conservation Board Meeting, Madison	Oct. 1
WLWCA Board of Directors Meeting, Wisconsin Rapids	Oct. 2
Fall County Conservationists Meeting, Wisconsin Rapids	Oct. 3-4
WLWCA Board of Directors Meeting, Wisconsin Rapids	Oct. 4
WLWCA Legislative/Administrative Committee Mtg.	Oct. 10
Lake Michigan Area Association Fall Conference, Marinette County	Oct. 11
Northwestern Area Meeting, Poster & Speaking Contests, Spooner	Oct. 18
Lake Winnebago Area Association Fall Meeting	Oct. 25
WLWCA Executive Committee Meeting	Nov. 13
WI State Technical Committee Meeting	Nov. 21

For more information about our events and partner organization events, visit www.wlwca.org/eventscalendar.html

WLWCA Board of Directors

Chuck Wagner, Chair Kewaunee County LWCC	Greg Baneck, Vice Chair Outagamie County LCD
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Executive Director

Vacant

Office Manager

Chris Schlutt

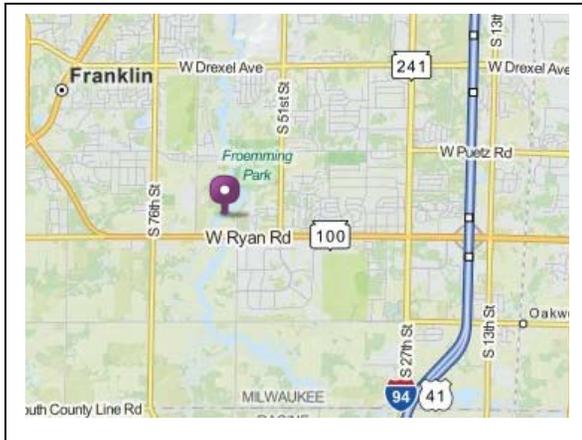
Program Coordinator

Gini Knight

Standards Oversight Council Coordinator

Conserve by subscribing to *Thursday Note* online! Visit groups.google.com/a/wlwca.org/group/newsletter to subscribe with your [Google Account](#) or Email jim@wlwca.org for details.

**Our tour will begin at
Milwaukee County Sports Complex
6000 W. Ryan Road, Franklin
(see map below)**



ATTIRE

Come prepared to walk on trails. Those who prefer to limit their walking distance can skip portions of the tour and ride the bus to the next destination.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Steve Keith at 414-278-4355
or Tim Detzer at 414-278-2988

2013 FALL TOUR

for

SOUTHEAST AREA

LAND AND

WATER CONSERVATION

ASSOCIATION

Hosted by

MILWAUKEE COUNTY

**LAND & WATER
CONSERVATION**

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 9, 2013



FALL TOUR AGENDA

8:30-9:00 AM

Check in at Sports Complex, Franklin

9:00AM – Begin Tour

Tour Stops to Include

Sports Complex Parking Lot

Two acres of brick pavers make this one of the largest permeable pavement parking lots in the region.

The Rock

This former waste landfill is being transformed into a premiere tournament baseball, softball and cycling complex.

Three Bridges Park

A former riverfront brownfield was recently converted into a 24-acre park in the middle of Milwaukee. The park re-connects neighborhoods previously separated by railroad yards to a home for over 2,000 trees, hiking and bike trails and urban gardens.

Palermo's Pizzeria 3301

Lunch break. Buon appetito!

Wheelhouse Park

Local non-profits and public agencies worked in cooperation to transform underused commercial land into a riverfront park.

Rotary Centennial Arboretum

The Urban Ecology Center, in collaboration with several organizations, private businesses and local landowners, is restoring 40 acres of land along the Milwaukee River into an arboretum of native species and improved wildlife habitat. This former industrial land is being planted with over 2,200 trees representing 72 species native to this area and over 70,000 of shrubs and herbaceous plants.

Bradford Beach

Storm water management using a combination of bioinfiltration swales and rain gardens was a key component to the revitalization of this public beach.

4:00 – Return to Sports Complex lot and adjourn

REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip:

Phone: _____

Email: _____

County and Position:

Food allergies? _____

Registration fee: \$40.00

Made payable to SALWCA

**Submit registration form and fee by
October 2, 2013**

Please return registration to

Milwaukee County

Environmental Services

Attn: Steve Keith

2711 West Wells St.

Milwaukee, WI 53208
