

**Walworth County Board of Supervisors  
Land Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes  
Monday, September 19, 2022  
Walworth County Government Center, County Board Room 114  
100 W. Walworth Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin**

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The meeting was called to order by Chair Brian Holt at 1:00 p.m.

Roll call was conducted and the following members were present: Chair Brian Holt; Supervisor Rick Stacey; Citizen Members Richard Kuhnke, Jr. and Sharon Travis. Vice Chair Sheila Reiff was absent. A quorum was declared.

**Others in Attendance either in person or remotely:**

County Staff: Corporation Counsel/Director-Land Use and Resource Management (LURM) Michael Cotter; Deputy Director of LURM/County Conservationist Mandy Bonneville; Senior Conservation Technician Brian Smetana; Senior Planner Matt Weidensee; Code Enforcement Officers/Conservation Technicians Casey Mullett and Samantha Stawarz; and County Administrator Mark W. Luberda

**On motion by Supervisor Stacey, second by Citizen Member Kuhnke, the agenda was approved with no withdrawals.**

**On motion by Supervisor Stacey, second by Citizen Member Kuhnke, the minutes of the July 18, 2022, Land Conservation Committee meeting were approved.**

**Public Comment** – There was none.

6. Lake District Representatives

Corporation Counsel/Director-Land Use and Resource Management (LURM) Michael Cotter indicated Walworth County is currently seeking to fill two Lake District positions: one for Booth Lake and one for Lauderdale Lake. Cotter noted Lauderdale Lake is typically more of a commitment than other lake districts. Cotter anticipates all proposed appointments will be presented at the November Land Conservation Committee (LCC) meeting for approval.

7. Introduction of Code Enforcement Officers/Conservation Technicians: Casey Mullett and Samantha Stawarz  
Deputy Director of LURM/County Conservationist Mandy Bonneville introduced Casey Mullett and Samantha Stawarz as the new Code Enforcement Officers/Conservation Technicians. Mullett and Stawarz are issuing erosion control permits, while learning the zoning aspect of the permitting process. Eventually, they will have their own township territory. Cotter and Bonneville noted there were several vacancies within the LURM Department in the past that provoked implementation of new reorganization strategies and permitting processes.

8. Farmland Preservation Plan Recertification Update and Authorization of Public Hearing

Bonneville provided an overview of her Memorandum (Page 5) relative to the Farmland Preservation Plan that requires an update and recertification with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) every 10 years. A Draft of the plan can be found on the County's website and a hard copy is available upon request. Deadline for recertification is December 31, 2022. Senior Conservation Technician Brian Smetana and Senior Planner Matt Weidensee were present to answer any questions. **Supervisor Stacey, offered a motion, second by Citizen Member Travis, authorizing a public hearing to be held in conjunction with the October 17, 2022 Land Conservation Committee meeting. Motion carried 4-0.**

9. Department Budget Process and Fee Schedule Updates for Fiscal Year 2023

Bonneville noted both divisions within the LURM Department requested a total 1.8% increase to the tax levy with no other major changes to the proposed 2023 Budget. Bonneville referred to the Land Use and Resource Management Fee Changes for Fiscal 2023 document (Pages 6-19) and briefly explained the purpose for the proposed modifications.

10. Resolution Authorizing the Land Use & Resource Management Department to Apply for the 2023 Lake Monitoring & Protection Grant through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Bonneville provided an overview of her Memorandum and proposed draft application for a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Lake Monitoring and Protection Network Grant through the Surface Water Grant Program (Pages 20-23). Bonneville requested authorization to make application and forward the proposed resolution (Pages 24-25) to the full County Board in October. Discussion ensued. Cotter noted that in the past the County Conservationist has provided a letter of support to Lake Management Districts in good standing with the County who have also made application for grant funding. **Citizen Member Travis offered a motion, second by Citizen Member Kuhnke, to make application and forward the proposed resolution to the County Board. Motion carried 4-0.**

11. WI Land & Water Southeast Area Association Tour Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in Ozaukee County  
Bonneville announced the WI Land & Water Southeast Area Association Tour, hosted by Ozaukee County Natural Resources Committee and Ozaukee County Land and Water Management Department, will be held on Wednesday, October 12. A flier containing supplemental information was distributed prior to the meeting. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Mandy Bonneville prior to the October 27<sup>th</sup> registration deadline.

**Confirmation of next meeting** – The next meeting was confirmed for Monday, October 17, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.

**Adjournment**

**On motion and second by Supervisor Stacey and Citizen Member Travis, Chair Holt adjourned the meeting at 1:32 p.m.**