



Winnebago County

The Wave of the Future

**LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (LCC) MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025**

A. Call to Order

Convene:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Farrey at 9:01am

Present:

- **LCC Members:** Bruce Bohn (on Teams), Chuck Farrey, Kristl Laux, Timothy Macho, Doug Nelson, Dan Stokes (on Teams) & Doug Zellmer
- **LWCD Staff:** Chad Casper, Jody Bezio (on Teams)
- **Other(s) present:** Levi Schultz, NRCS
- **Absent:** None

B. Confirm meeting/agenda has been properly public noticed in accordance with County policy.

Chairman Farrey confirmed with Director Casper that the meeting had been properly public noticed.

C. Approval of Minutes

1. December 5, 2024, Meeting Minutes
A NELSON / LAUX motion to approve the minutes passed 5-0.

D. Public Comments on Agenda Items

None.

E. Agency Reports

1. Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
Levi Schultz, NRCS informed the LCC that their office is still busy processing EQIP contracts from the 40 applications they received this year, which is the most applications they've ever received.
2. Other Partner Agency Reports
None.

F. Director's Report

1. Van Dyke Breakwall Project Update
Director Casper reported that the Army Corps permit for the project is in place. The project went out for proposals and received two responses from contractors (Noffke & Radtke, with Radtke having the lowest proposal). The project is continuing to hit obstacles with the DNR.

The Water Regulations Department responded to the permit application that was submitted with a new list of questions and concerns. Casper shared one example brought forward by the DNR Sturgeon Biologist who does not want construction to happen during sturgeon spearing, which coincides with the optimal window for construction on the ice. Casper informed the LCC that the DNR is posting the 30 day public notice that is required as part of the permit application process, so progress is continuing slowly. This means the earliest a permit could be approved is the beginning of February. Typically construction on the ice needs to happen at the end of January/beginning of February, which may mean it will be too late to start construction this year. Chairman Farrey inquired about building the breakwall at a different time of the year and what the cost would be to use barges instead of building on the ice. Director Casper informed the LCC that in the past when he has compared pricing, the cost of barging is 3 times the cost of building on the ice. Casper also stated that construction quotes are typically honored for a couple of years, and that we have 3-5 years to spend the funding that has been secured for this project from other sources so he will continue to move forward with the DNR permit process, even if construction is delayed to another year.

Chairman Farrey inquired on the status of the MOU with the DNR. Director Casper reported that Ethan Hollenberger, County Executive Assistant is continuing to work with Jake Curtis (outside legal counsel), Mary Ann Mueller (Corporation Counsel) and the DNR to complete the MOU.

2. Lake Winnebago Land & Water Conservation Association Meeting

Director Casper reminded the LCC that the Winter Meeting of the Lake Winnebago Land & Water Association is coming up on Friday, January 17 and will be held here at the James P Coughlin Center (JPCC). The day includes a couple of presenters and then a business meeting of the association. Registration is due by the end of the week.

3. Land & Water Conservation Board (LWCB) election results

Director Casper announced the results of the WI Land & Water Conservation Board (LWCB) election: Monte Osterman, Racine County, Rebecca Clarke, Sheboygan County, and our Area Association's nomination Mike Hofberger, Calumet County (Lake Winnebago Land & Water Association).

4. LCC Annual Conference Scholarships

Director Casper informed the LCC that there is a scholarship available through the state organization for an LCC member to attend this year's WI Land + Water Conference in Green Bay March 5-7. The scholarship is \$185 for one LCC member who has never attended the conference before. The scholarship can be used towards the full conference (\$350 total cost) or a one day package.

G. Committee Chair's Report

None.

H. Business Items

Action may be taken on any business items.

1. Approve Amendments to the Land & Water Conservation Department Spirit Fund Program (SFP) Policy Plan

Chairman Farrey stated that the proposed amendments to the Land & Water Conservation Department Spirit Fund Program (SFP) Policy Plan were discussed in detail last month; Farrey asked if there were any additional questions or additions. Director Casper stated that in the No-Till section, there was one place where the term Strip-Till still needs to be added. Casper referred to the meeting packet on page 11 of 26, in the 2nd line item about cost-sharing, Strip-Till should be added so that it reads "No-Till/Strip Till."

A ZELLMER/NELSON motion to approve the amendments to the Land & Water Conservation

Department Spirit Fund Program (SFP) Policy Plan passed 5-0.

2. Action Item - LWCD Spirit Fund Program Cost-Share Agreements (CSAs) – SFP-BMP-24-24, Eric B. & Michelle A. Van Dyke Liv. Tst. Streambank and Shoreline Protection Project
Director Casper informed the LCC that this is CSA is for the Van Dyke breakwall project. The project received 2 proposals from contractors, the low one was for \$865,000 from Radke Construction. Director Casper estimated the new total cost of the project to be \$875,000. Funds are already secured from NRDA (\$300,000), Ducks Unlimited (\$150,000), the Winnebago County Water Quality Program (\$20,000), the land owner (\$20,000) as well as some additional funds from the Monsanto Settlement and the Lake Poygan Sportsmans Club. The remaining amount requested from the Spirit Fund Program for this CSA is \$380,000. Following a short discussion about the construction process, a ZELLMER / NELSON motion to approve SFP-BMP-24-24 Eric B. & Michelle A. Van Dyke Liv. Tst. Streambank and Shoreline Protection Project passed 5-0.

3. Review Land & Water Conservation Department Project Lists
The LCC reviewed and acknowledged the new projects on the lists.

I. Adjourn

A ZELLMER / MACHO motion made to adjourn the meeting at 9:32am passed 5-0.