

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Conference Room 5, County Annex  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
January 14, 2014

Members present: Roger Bacon, Bo DeDeker, Leif Erickson, Barry Jacowski, Dale O'Brien

Member absent: Allen Haga, Jr.

Others present: Jennifer Glad, Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D); Steve Bradley and Patty Benedict, Planning and Zoning Department, Land Conservation Division.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Jacowski.

Jacowski read the **Public Notice** statement: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order. No one registered to speak.

2. Review/Approval – Minutes of December 3, 2103

Motion by O'Brien, second by Erickson to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Correspondence

No correspondence presented.

4. Review Vouchers, Purchases and Procurement Card

Voucher approval numbers 20130965, 20130993, 20140029, CWWP purchases in the amount of \$183.71, and CWWP procurement card charges in the amount of \$153.18 were reviewed.

5. Natural Resources Conservation Service Report

District Conservationist Knipfel did not attend. No report.

6. Review/Approval - Conservation Plans

No conservation plans presented.

7. Committee Representative Reports

**a. Lakes Management District - Erickson** – No report.

**b. Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) - Haga/Bacon** – The next meeting is January 16.

**c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA) - Jacowski/DeDeker-Alternate** – No meeting.

**d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partners (CWWP) - Jacowski/Erickson-Alternate** – Jacowski attended the December 9 CWWP Board meeting. A policy regarding planting windbreaks under utility lines was considered (see agenda item #8). Discussion took place regarding a proposal to have the Project Manager become a Golden Sands RC&D employee (see agenda item # 9). A summer intern is being considered (see agenda item #10). There

was discussion regarding bringing in AmeriCorps volunteers to assist with windbreak maintenance.

**e. Portage County Drainage District - O'Brien/Bacon-Alternate** – No report.

**f. Mill Creek Watershed - Erickson/O'Brien-Alternate** – Erickson reported the Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, February 26.

**g. Little Plover River (LPR) - Haga/DeDeker-Alternate** – No report.

8. Discussion/Possible Action – CWWP Policy Regarding Planting Windbreaks Adjacent to Power Lines

Bradley drafted a policy, included in meeting packets, using guidelines from a Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) brochure (Lines, Limbs, and the Landscape). The policy was reviewed by WPS, Adams-Columbia Cooperative, and Portage County's Corporation Counsel. The CWWP Board approved the policy. Motion by O'Brien, second by DeDeker to accept as policy. Motion carried by voice vote.

9. Discussion/Possible Action – RC&D Proposal for CWWP Project Manager to Become a Golden Sands RC&D Employee

Jacowski stated Rohde indicated he prefers to remain a Portage County employee. RC&D's proposal included incentives for Rohde when windbreak sales exceed the goal of 15.5 miles. RC&D was asked to prepare a proposal for the April CWWP Board meeting to provide increased promotional, advertising, outreach and education services. Motion by Bacon, second by O'Brien to abide by the recommendation made by the CWWP Board for Rohde to remain a Portage County employee. Motion carried by voice vote.

10. Discussion/Possible Action – CWWP 2014 Summer Intern

Bradley was approached by a UWSP professor offering to provide funding for a summer intern to assist the CWWP. The CWWP Board voted in favor. Glad said she understands the summer intern will replace, or limit the hours of one of the summer Limited Term Employees (LTEs), which affects RC&D's budget. She said RC&D intends to propose directing the unused funding from the LTE agreement to provide marketing, promotion, education and outreach for the CWWP. RC&D works with a professional public relations person, who can provide grant writing experience, explore easements and other avenues for revenue, and educate people on the benefits of windbreaks. The CWWP Board meets in April and will consider RC&D's proposal. The Board's recommendation will be forwarded to LCC at their May meeting. Erickson asked if there are any issues with redirecting the funds. Glad said the redirection of funds will provide wages and fringe benefits for RC&D staff to work with the CWWP. Corporation Counsel will be consulted. Erickson asked if the intern receives credit toward their degree. Bradley said the intern will receive credit, plus earn a wage paid by UWSP through Portage County. CWWP must pay social security and workers' compensation. LCC approval is needed to move forward. Motion by Erickson, second by O'Brien to approve hiring an intern. Motion carried by voice vote.

11. Discussion/Possible Action – Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) Elections

Bradley said the WLWCA is responsible for electing three candidates to serve on the LWCB, which advises the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) on conservation activities. WLWCA requests that each of the eight area associations nominate one candidate. Currently, Tom Rudolph (Oneida County) represents the NCLWCA area, and serves on the LWCB. If more than one candidate is interested in an area, an election will take place at the area association meeting. Nominees must forward a one page biography to the WLWCA by January 31. Since the NCLWCA area is not meeting before January 31, the election will be done via email. None of the LCC members were interested in being a

candidate. Motion by O'Brien, second by Erickson to support Tom Rudolph. Motion carried by voice vote.

12. Watershed Projects

**a. Updates** – Bradley said the projects using cost share funds being carried over to 2014 are: Hubert Dombrowski – Water and sediment control basin, Kevin Skinner – Manure storage abandonment, Lori Hamerski – Windbreak, Matt Molski – Windbreak, and Francesco Sciarrone – Terraces.

**b. Review/Approval - Cost Share Contracts** – Cost share contract amounts were presented for the carryover projects: Dombrowski - \$10,870, Skinner - \$2,916, Hamerski - \$6,629, Molski, \$1600.07, and Sciarrone - \$2,940. Motion by Bacon, second by Erickson to approve cost share contracts. Motion carried by voice vote.

13. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. The poster and speaking contests take place at this meeting. There was discussion on alternate meeting dates. The first Tuesday of the month conflicts with Farm Technology meetings. The first Monday of the month may be a possibility.

14. Adjournment

Motion by O'Brien, second by DeDeker to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Patty Benedict/

Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved at February 11, 2014 Land Conservation Committee meeting.

/Barry Jacowski/  
Barry Jacowski, Chair

/Bo DeDeker/  
Bo DeDeker, Secretary

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Conference Room 5, County Annex  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
February 11, 2014

Members present: Roger Bacon, Bo DeDeker, Leif Erickson, Allen Haga, Jr., Barry Jacowski, Dale O'Brien

Others present: Barry Benson, USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services; Steve Bradley and Patty Benedict, Planning and Zoning Department, Land Conservation Division.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Jacowski.

Jacowski read the **Public Notice** statement: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order. No one registered to speak.

2. Review/Approval – Minutes of January 14, 2014

Motion by Haga, second by Erickson to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Correspondence

Copies of DATCP's February 2014 report were distributed.

4. Review Vouchers, Purchases and Procurement Card

Voucher approval numbers 20140073, 20140118, purchases, and procurement card charges in the amount of \$237.93 were reviewed.

5. Natural Resources Conservation Service Report

District Conservationist Knipfel provided a written report.

6. Review/Approval - Conservation Plans

No conservation plans presented.

7. Committee Representative Reports

**a. Lakes Management District - Erickson** – No report.

**b. Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) - Haga/Bacon** – Bacon reported many topics were discussed at the January 16 RC&D Council meeting.

**c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA) - Jacowski/DeDeker-Alternate** – Benedict reported the Area Poster and Speaking contests and planning meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 21 in Wausau. Anyone interested in attending should contact Benedict by the registration deadline of February 19. (On Wednesday, February 19, an announcement was emailed that the meeting was postponed due to weather and rescheduled for Monday, February 24.) Bradley noted Dave Solin, Langlade County, was elected from the North Central area to be added to the ballot for the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB). At the March LCC meeting, members will select from four candidates for three LWCB positions. Voting will take place at the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association (WLWCA) Annual Conference in March.

**d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partners (CWWP) - Jacowski/Erickson-Alternate** – No report.

**e. Portage County Drainage District - O'Brien/Bacon-Alternate** – O'Brien reported that advertising for candidates to apply for a commissioner appointment will appear in the newspaper in March. The Agriculture and Extension Committee will conduct interviews and make a recommendation to the judge. An appointment will be made by June 1. There are three commissioners serving three year terms. Each year, one commissioner position is up for appointment.

**f. Mill Creek Watershed - Erickson/O'Brien-Alternate** – Erickson reported the annual meeting will be held on February 26 at the Town of Eau Pleine hall. The agenda includes election of officers and a grazing presentation. Jacowski asked if there has been any further action on studying the presence of prescription drugs in the headwaters of Mill Creek near Marshfield. Erickson said the DNR indicated testing for the many possible chemicals is cost prohibitive. Jacowski asked Bradley to investigate possible grant opportunities. There was discussion on proper disposal of unused prescription drugs and the need for public education. Bradley will talk with Ray Schmidt, Water Quality Specialist.

**g. Little Plover River (LPR) - Haga/DeDeker-Alternate** – Haga attended a meeting at the Village of Plover regarding the LPR. The DNR explained the limits of their authority and provided information on a model being developed. Jacowski added the DNR indicated that, after the LPR model is complete, data from any watershed can be input into the model. The model is being developed for the LPR because it is a small watershed and a large amount of data has already been collected.

#### 8. Discussion/Possible Action – Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association Annual Conference Representative(s)

The conference takes place Monday, March 10 through Wednesday, March 12 at the Radisson Paper Valley in Appleton. Motion by Haga, second by O'Brien to have Jacowski to attend the conference. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### 9. Discussion/Possible Action – Wildlife Damage Program 2013 Claims

Benson distributed copies of the Wildlife Damage Summary. He explained the participants under ACT 82 were issued shooting permits, but opted out of submitting a claim. Those participants are not required to allow hunting access. A total of 130 deer were harvested on ag tags, 20 more than 2012. Total payable claims were \$19,029.25, up from just over \$10,000 in 2012. In addition to deer damage, there were two wolf and one goose shooting permits issued, and two participants in the bear program. Benson noted Dale Behrend's claim amount should be \$1,170.62. All participants with shooting permits met their objectives with the exception of Tony Kruzicki. Motion by Haga, second by O'Brien to deny Tony Kruzicki's, and approve all other claims. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### 10. Discussion/Possible Action – Conservation Camp Scholarships

Benedict reported the LCD received a grant from the Bill Cook Chapter Izaak Walton League for conservation camp scholarships as follows: \$200 for one full or two \$100 scholarships for the Youth Conservation Camp (students entering grades 9-12 in fall), and \$180 for three \$60 (full) scholarships for Sand Lake Conservation Camp (students entering grades 6-8 in fall). Benedict noted there is \$400 in the LCD's Information/Education budget line item, and because there are no expenses for the poster and speaking contests, some of those funds could be put toward camp scholarships. The LCC is in favor of offering full scholarships. Benedict said teachers/youth leaders recommend students and submit their name, age, school, and grade. If there are more students recommended than available scholarships, names are drawn by lottery at an LCC meeting. Benedict will send information to teachers and youth leaders and get an

idea of student interest. Several LCC members offered to contribute personal funds if there is a need for more scholarships. Motion by Erickson, second by Haga to apply the budgeted amount of \$400, in addition to the grant funds, if a sufficient number of students are recommended for scholarships. Motion carried by voice vote.

11. Watershed Projects

**a. Updates** – Bradley received a call from a custom manure hauler who will be emptying a manure pit that was not emptied in the fall. Spreading has been approved. The hauler will remove enough manure to make room until spring. He will scrape snow and apply the manure on a flat area.

**b. Review/Approval - Cost Share Contracts** – No cost share contracts presented.

12. Next Meeting Date

Farm Technology Days meetings are scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month, conflicting with the usual LCC meeting time. The LCC decided to meet Monday, March 3 at 6:00 p.m. Bacon asked to be excused from the March meeting.

13. Adjournment

Motion by Haga, second by O'Brien to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Patty Benedict/

Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved at March 3, 2014 Land Conservation Committee meeting.

/Barry Jacowski/  
Barry Jacowski, Chair

/Bo DeDeker/  
Bo DeDeker, Secretary

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Conference Room 5, County Annex  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
March 3, 2014

Members present: Roger Bacon, Bo DeDeker, Allen Haga, Jr., Barry Jacowski, Dale O'Brien

Member absent: Leif Erickson

Member excused: Roger Bacon

Others present: Lyle Eiden, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; Steve Bradley and Patty Benedict, Planning and Zoning Department, Land Conservation Division.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Jacowski.

Jacowski read the **Public Notice** statement: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order. No one registered to speak.

2. Review/Approval – Minutes of February 11, 2014

Motion by O'Brien, second by DeDeker to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Correspondence

No correspondence presented.

4. Review Vouchers, Purchases and Procurement Card

Voucher approval numbers 20140164, and procurement card charges for LCD in the amount of \$16.40 and CWWP in the amount of \$261.77 were reviewed. Special meeting attendance approvals were given for Bacon attending the Golden Sands RC&D Council Meeting at the County Annex on January 16, and O'Brien attending the Friends of Mill Creek Annual Meeting at the Town of Eau Pleine Hall on February 26.

5. Natural Resources Conservation Service Report

District Conservationist Knipfel was not in attendance.

6. Review/Approval - Conservation Plans

No conservation plans were presented.

7. Committee Representative Reports

**a. Lakes Management District - Erickson** – No report.

**b. Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) - Haga/Bacon** – No report.

**c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA) -**

**Jacowski/DeDeker-Alternate** – Bradley reported the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association (WLWCA) Board is proposing a resolution to the WLWCA membership at the business meeting on March 12 regarding groundwater and high capacity wells. WLWCA Executive Director, Jim VandenBrook, asked for feedback from the counties in central

Wisconsin. Summarizing the resolution, Bradley said WLWCA opposes any new legislation until scientific studies and the (Lake Beulah Supreme Court) decision are complete. Jacowski stated he is opposed to the resolution. He feels current legislation is unclear and should be changed. He supports allowing reconstruction or redrilling of an existing well without having to apply for a new permit, and allowing permits to be transferred to new landowners in cases where the property is sold. Bradley stated Jacowski can vote on behalf of the LCC at the WLWCA business meeting. Bradley offered to have VandenBrook contact either Jacowski or O'Brien.

**d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partners (CWWP) - Jacowski/Erickson-Alternate** – No report.

**e. Portage County Drainage District - O'Brien/Bacon-Alternate** – No report.

**f. Mill Creek Watershed - Erickson/O'Brien-Alternate** – O'Brien attended the Annual Meeting on February 26. There was a presentation on grazing. Current officers were re-elected.

**g. Little Plover River (LPR) - Haga/DeDeker-Alternate** – The next meeting is Thursday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room 5, County Annex. Bradley said, Ken Bradbury, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), may be present to give an update on the LPR modeling project.

(Agenda items were switched in order to address action items while a quorum was present.)

#### 9. Discussion/Possible Action – 2015 Soil and Water Resource Management (SWRM) Grant Application

Bradley explained \$242,903 will be requested from the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) for staff, which represents the funding formula of 100% for the first position, 70% for the second position, and 50% for each additional position; however, between \$114,000 and \$134,000 has been awarded in the last couple of years. Cost share funds in the amount of \$100,000 will be requested, but approximately \$60,000 has been awarded in recent years. From the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) projects, \$300,000 is being requested for two manure storage projects. Estimated expenditures for 2013 for the LCD are \$567,322 in expenses and \$396,549 in grant and non-county funding, leaving \$170,773 funded by Portage County. Bradley noted the CWWP budget is included in the figures. There are five full time staff, of which 2.5 are funded by Portage County, 1.5 funded by the SWRM grant, and one staff funded by CWWP revenues. Bradley explained the duties of LCD staff. Members asked to have the technicians attend an LCC meeting. Motion by DeDeker, second by Haga to approve the SWRM Grant application. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### 10. Discussion/Possible Action – Targeted Runoff Management Grant Applications

Bradley proposed completing TRM grant applications for Laverne Lepak and Zoromski Farms for \$150,000 each. Total cost of each project is estimated at \$300,000. Motion by Haga, second by DeDeker to approve the TRM grant applications. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### 11. Discussion/Possible Action – WLWCA Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) Elections

Biographies for the four LWCB candidates were included in LCC packets. There are three positions. After discussion, motion by Haga, second by DeDeker to vote for David Solin, Joe Piechowski, and Charles Wagner. Motion carried by voice vote. Benedict will place the ballot in the box at the WLWCA Annual Conference.

DeDeker left the meeting.

8. 2013 Tree Planter Report – Lyle Eiden, DNR Forester

Eiden reported 2013 was similar when compared to recent years. Considering the last nine years, just under 50% of trees that private landowners ordered are planted using the six tree planters. In 2013, roughly \$1,000 was collected for tree planter rental and gel sales and nearly \$600 for sprayer use. Minor repairs were made to the tree planters. The sprayer required more significant repairs to the tank and replacement of solenoids. Jacowski is providing replacement tires. Eiden reported the beginning balance in 2012 was \$14,800 and the ending balance for 2013 is just under \$17,000. The account may be used to replace and/or repair equipment. Eiden will continue to repair the existing planters for as long as possible as the older models are more heavy duty. He feels the sprayer may need to be replaced in the future. Eiden said the scarifier has been used. He has state land sites in mind to experiment with the scarifier once the timber stands have been removed. Jacowski asked Eiden to provide a figure for the amount of board feet sold. There was discussion regarding oak wilt and the proper time to cut.

12. Watershed Projects

**a. Updates** – No report.

**b. Review/Approval - Cost Share Contracts** – No contracts presented.

13. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 31 at 7:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment

Motion by Haga, second by O'Brien to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Patty Benedict/

Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved at Land Conservation Committee meeting.

/Barry Jacowski/  
Barry Jacowski, Chair

/Bo DeDeker/  
Bo DeDeker, Secretary

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Conference Room 5, County Annex  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
May 5, 2014

Members present: Roger Bacon, Bo DeDeker, Allen Haga, Jr., Barry Jacowski, Dale O'Brien, Jerry Walters

Others present: Steve Bradley and Patty Benedict, Planning and Zoning Department, Land Conservation Division.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Bradley.

2. Election of Officers – Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary

Bradley called for nominations for Chair. O'Brien nominated Jacowski. Bradley called three times for further nominations. There being no further nominations, motion by Haga, second by DeDeker to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Jacowski. Motion carried by voice vote. Jacowski accepted the Chair position.

Jacowski called for nominations for Vice Chair. Jacowski nominated O'Brien. Jacowski called three times for further nominations. There being no further nominations, motion by Haga, second by Walters to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for O'Brien. Motion carried by voice vote. O'Brien accepted the Vice Chair position.

Jacowski called for nominations for Secretary. Jacowski nominated DeDeker. Jacowski called three times for further nominations. There being no further nominations, motion by O'Brien, second by Haga to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for DeDeker. Motion carried by voice vote. DeDeker accepted the Secretary position.

3. At Approximately 7:05 p.m. Adjourn into Closed Session as Specified in Section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes to Discuss Performance Evaluation of the County Conservationist.

Motion by Haga, second by DeDeker to adjourn into closed session. Motion carried by roll call vote. Adjourned into closed session at 7:05 p.m.

4. At Approximately 7:20 p.m. Return to Open Session For Action on Above Performance Evaluation

Motion by Walters, second by Haga to return to open session. Motion carried by roll call vote. Returned to open session at 7:15 p.m. No action was taken, material presented was for informational purposes.

Jacowski read the **Public Notice** statement: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order. No one registered to speak.

5. Appointment of Committee Representatives:

- a. Lakes Management District – Walters (Appointment made by County Executive)
- b. Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) – Bacon – Representative, Haga - Alternate
- c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA) – Jacowski – Representative, DeDeker - Alternate

- d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership Group (CWWP) – Jacowski – Representative, Walters - Alternate
- e. Portage County Drainage District – O'Brien – Representative, Bacon - Alternate
- f. Mill Creek Watershed – O'Brien – Representative, DeDeker - Alternate
- g. Little Plover River (LPR) Work Group – Haga – Representative, Walters - Alternate

#### 6. Review/Approval – Minutes of March 3, 2014

Motion by O'Brien, second by Haga to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### 7. Correspondence

No correspondence presented.

#### 8. Review Vouchers, Purchases and Procurement Card

Voucher approval numbers 20140207, 20140246, 20140271, 20140327, 20140362, LCD procurement card charges in the amount of \$478.17 for stewardship materials, and CWWP procurement charges in the amounts of \$165.88 and \$203.86 were reviewed. Special meeting approvals were given for: Jacowski attending the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association Annual Conference March 10-12 in Appleton, and the CWWP Board meeting on April 29 in Hancock; and former LCC member Leif Erickson attending the Friends of Mill Creek Annual meeting February 26 at the Town of Eau Pleine Hall.

#### 9. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report

Knipfel was unable to attend, but provided a written report and packet of information, which was distributed to LCC members. There was discussion on Farm Bill funding and irrigation of liquid manure. Discussion also took place on large corporate farms, with a suggestion to provide public education to citizens. Bradley said the LCD provides a lot of one on one education when calls are received in the office. He explained DNR permitting and regulations are in effect for operations with over 700 milk cows or 1,000 head of beef. Bradley said the DNR and DATCP have publications, and press releases can be done to provide education. He noted there are three operations in Portage County just under the threshold of animal numbers for DNR oversight. There was discussion regarding livestock siting and methane digesters.

#### 10. Review/Approval - Conservation Plans

No plans presented.

#### 11. Committee Representative Reports

- a. Lakes Management District - Walters** – No report.
- b. Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) - Bacon/Haga** – Bacon attended the March 20 meeting.
- c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA) - Jacowski/DeDeker-Alternate** – No report.
- d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partners (CWWP) - Jacowski/Walters-Alternate** – Jacowski attended the April 29 meeting. Bradley reported the same officers were elected. A revision was made to the policy for planting near utility lines, taking into consideration NRCS standards when NRCS cost sharing is used to fund windbreaks. Approximately fifteen miles of windbreaks are lined up to be installed. Bradley explained the CWWP is funded by windbreak sales and other service revenues; no County levy is used to support the CWWP. A proposal was presented by Golden Sands RC&D to provide marketing assistance for \$35/hour to include publications, presentations, networking, website design, etc. The proposal will be considered at a future Board meeting.
- e. Portage County Drainage District - O'Brien/Bacon-Alternate** – One commissioner is up for reappointment. The Agriculture and Extension Committee has gone through the interview

process and forwarded their recommendation to the Circuit Court judges. An appointment is expected by June 1.

**f. Mill Creek Watershed - O'Brien/DeDeker-Alternate** – No report.

**g. Little Plover River (LPR) - Haga/Walters-Alternate** – The next meeting will be held in October. There was discussion on the LPR modeling project.

12. Discussion/Possible Action – Governmental Responsibility Resolution – Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Grants

Bradley explained the DNR requires the resolution as part of TRM grant applications, authorizing him to oversee the grants on behalf of Portage County. Motion by Haga, second by O'Brien to approve the resolution. Motion carried by voice vote. Members signed the resolution.

13. Discussion/Possible Action – Award Conservation Camp Scholarships

Benedict reported one SPASH student is interested in a scholarship for the Youth Conservation Camp at Trees for Tomorrow, and an Almond-Bancroft student will confirm by May 6. Motion by Bacon, second by O'Brien to approve awarding the scholarships. Motion carried by voice vote.

14. Stewardship Report

Benedict explained activity booklets are offered free of charge to teachers in Portage County schools. Orders were received from teachers at Jefferson and Plover-Whiting, St. Paul Lutheran, Almond-Bancroft, and Boston School Forest. Booklets were also provided to the UW-Extension for use at Farm Technology Days.

15. Watershed Projects

**a. Updates** – No update.

**b. Review/Approval - Cost Share Contracts** – Bradley presented cost share recipients and amounts for: Robert Jinsky – streambank and shoreline protection and a diversion – \$787.50; Chris Brooks – windbreak - \$2,290.75; Linda and Euge Isherwood – windbreak - \$2,146.90; Julie King/Gerard St. Hilaire – windbreak - \$2,232.48; Larry Adams – windbreak - \$1,214.50; Okray Family Farms – windbreak - \$1,864.80; Paul Cieslewicz – windbreak - \$4,355.05; Randy Fox – windbreak - \$9,084.60. Motion by O'Brien, second by Bacon to approve cost share contracts. Motion carried by voice vote.

16. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 2, at 7:00 p.m., Conference Room 5, County Annex.

17. Adjournment

Motion by Haga, second by O'Brien to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Patty Benedict/

Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved at June 2, 2014 Land Conservation Committee meeting.

/Barry Jacowski/  
Barry Jacowski, Chair

/Bo DeDeker/  
Bo DeDeker, Secretary

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Conference Room 5, County Annex  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
June 2, 2014

Members present: Roger Bacon, Bo DeDeker, Leif Erickson, Allen Haga, Jr., Barry Jacowski, Dale O'Brien

Others present: Barry Benson, USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services; Steve Bradley and Patty Benedict, Planning and Zoning Department, Land Conservation Division.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Jacowski.

Jacowski read the **Public Notice** statement: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order. No one registered to speak.

2. Review/Approval – Minutes of May 5, 2014

Motion by O'Brien, second by Haga to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Correspondence

Copies of a resolution regarding controlling the Wisconsin wolf population, received by Jacowski, were distributed. Twenty one counties have passed resolutions. Jacowski asked members to review the resolution and, if agreeable, an item will be placed on the next meeting agenda. Benson said there have been five verified attacks on cattle, and four more possible attacks in the Town of Buena Vista. He distributed a map highlighting the location. Benson gave a timeline of events. Benson noted he was in the area on May 19 and noticed the cattle were spooked. On May 20, the landowner contacted a DNR warden, who then called Benson. The landowner reported he found two dead calves in the pasture a couple of days prior. Benson investigated and observed a set of wolf tracks. He explained the process for the landowner to receive compensation, noting there is a \$500 deductible and that DNR pays current replacement price versus future value of the animal. When there is a documented wolf kill, Benson said a shooting permit may be issued, which is valid on all of the landowner's properties. He noted the surrounding landowners gave permission to place traps. The landowner called again on May 27, stating he found two more dead calves on May 26. Benson confirmed the calves were attacked by wolves and was authorized by the DNR to set traps. He set 10 traps on May 28. On May 31, another dead calf was found. An additional calf was injured and treated by a veterinarian. Benson and a colleague will set at least 15 more traps in the coming week. He does not believe it is a pack of wolves as he has observed one set of tracks. He explained the process of setting and scenting the traps. He stated if the population goes below 350, wolves would be put back on the endangered species list, and getting approval for trapping becomes extremely difficult in attack situations. Benson said he has some night vision equipment and plans to spend some time the next couple of nights observing. A resolution will be presented at the July LCC meeting.

Benedict reported a third conservation camp scholarship was awarded. Between the grant received from the Izaak Walton League and the LCD budget line item, there are adequate funds for the additional scholarship.

#### 4. Review Vouchers, Purchases and Procurement Card

Benedict noted a correction. The charge for Badger Evergreen Nursery on the voucher report is a duplicate from the previous month. Voucher approval numbers 20140403 and 20140431, a purchase in the amount of \$140.00, and procurement card charges in the amount of \$490.53 were reviewed. Special meeting attendance approval was given for Bacon attending the Golden Sands RC&D Council meeting on March 20 at the County Annex.

#### 5. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report

District Conservationist Knipfel was not in attendance.

#### 6. Review/Approval - Conservation Plans

No conservation plans presented.

#### 7. Committee Representative Reports

**a. Lakes Management District - Walters** – No report.

**b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) – Bacon/Haga-Alternate** – Bacon was unable to attend the May 15 meeting. Jacowski spoke with Jennifer Glad, who reported the DNR has hired a 20 hour per week Limited Term Employee (LTE) for the Central Wisconsin Grasslands Conservation Area (CWGCA).

**c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Assn (NCLWCA) - Jacowski/DeDeker-Alternate** – A meeting was held in Antigo on May 29. No one attended.

**d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership Group (CWWP) - Jacowski/Walters-Alternate** – The next meeting is scheduled for June 16. (The meeting date was subsequently changed to June 25.)

**e. Portage County Drainage District - O'Brien/Bacon-Alternate** – O'Brien reported that Judge Flugaur reappointed and swore in Drainage District Commissioner Paul Cieslewicz.

**f. Mill Creek Watershed - O'Brien/DeDeker-Alternate** – No meeting.

**g. Little Plover River (LPR) - Haga/Walters-Alternate** – No meeting.

#### 8. Discussion/Possible Action – CWWP Windbreak Planting Policy Amendment

Jacowski explained when taxpayer dollars are used to cost share windbreaks, the LCC felt there should be a policy that the trees/shrubs must be set back from utility lines so future trimming is not necessary. Bradley said the amendment addresses when Federal cost sharing is involved, NRCS technical standards must be followed. Motion by Haga, second by DeDeker to approve the policy amendment. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### 9. Discussion/Possible Action – LCD 2013 Accomplishments

Bradley referred to the Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) Plan accomplishments included in meeting packets. The report outlines 2013 projects and funding. Bradley considered 2013 to be a routine year. Motion by O'Brien, second by Haga to approve the LCD 2013 accomplishments. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### 10. Watershed Projects

**a. Updates** – Bradley reported Randy Slagg, LCD Conservation Technician, has been working with shoreland owners promoting revegetation of shoreline buffers. Twenty four owners participated, planting an average of 15 trees and 15 shrubs within 35 feet of the water line. This is the third year of the program.

**b. Review/Approval - Cost Share Contracts** – Bradley presented cost share contracts for two windbreak projects – Isherwood Company, four 300' rows, total cost \$2,669 at 70% cost share =

\$1,868; Charlie Sankey, single shrub row, total cost \$1,191 at 70% cost share = \$793. Motion by Walters, second by Haga to approve cost share contracts. Motion carried by voice vote.

11. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 7 at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room 5, County Annex.

12. Adjournment

Motion by O'Brien, second by Haga to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Patty Benedict/

Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved at July 7, 2014 Land Conservation Committee meeting.

/Barry Jacowski/  
Barry Jacowski, Chair

/Bo DeDeker/  
Bo DeDeker, Secretary

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Conference Room 5, County Annex  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
July 7, 2014

Members present: Roger Bacon, Bo DeDeker, Allen Haga, Jr., Barry Jacowski, Dale O'Brien, Jerry Walters

Others present: Barry Benson, USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services; Laurie Groskopf, Tomahawk; Steve Bradley and Patty Benedict, Planning and Zoning Department, Land Conservation Division.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair B. Jacowski.

B. Jacowski read the **Public Notice** statement: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order. Laurie Groskopf registered to speak on agenda item #8.

2. Review/Approval – Minutes of June 2, 2014

O'Brien noted a correction under Members Present, Leif Erickson's name should be replaced with Jerry Walters. Motion by O'Brien, second by Haga to approve minutes as amended. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Correspondence

Benedict distributed copies of a news article regarding the study on chemicals in Minnesota's groundwater.

4. Review Vouchers, Purchases and Procurement Card

Voucher approval numbers 20140478 and 20140519, purchases in the amount of \$21,680.50, procurement card charges for the LCD in the amount of \$2.76, and for the CWWP in the amount of \$1,054.21, were reviewed.

5. Natural Resources Conservation Service Report

A written report was provided by District Conservationist, Melissa Knipfel, who was unable to attend.

6. Review/Approval - Conservation Plans

No conservation plans presented.

7. Committee Representative Reports

- a. Lakes Management District - Walters – No report.
- b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) - Bacon/Haga-Alternate – No report.
- c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Assn (NCLWCA) - B. Jacowski/DeDeker-Alternate – No report.
- d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership Group (CWWP) - B. Jacowski/Walters-Alternate – B. Jacowski attended the meeting on June 25. Bradley reported staff replanted 2,278 trees and shrubs in 2012 and 2013 windbreaks. The intern from the UWSP is an excellent worker. There was an issue with Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) funding for a windbreak in Waushara County. CWWP Project Manager, Shannon Rohde, was informed by the NRCS office that funding

was approved. After planting the windbreak and laying the fabric, the landowner received a letter stating the funding was not approved. There are communication issues to be worked out. A resolution is in progress. Bradley reported 2014 windbreak sales are at roughly 15 miles. Leftover fabric and stock from 2013 were used. Repairs were made on one of the trucks, and routine maintenance has been done on other equipment. Rohde is working with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and county highway departments promoting living snow fences. There was approximately \$2,500 in damage on the F250, which blew a tire, causing damage to the fender and top. Repairs will be submitted to the County's insurance carrier. The CWWP was expecting assistance from an AmeriCorps team with weeding windbreak sites, which was arranged through RC&D, but the team will not be available. The 2013 final budget report was provided. Discussion took place on RC&D's proposal to provide marketing services to the CWWP. Rohde indicated he couldn't justify the cost of \$35 per hour at this time. Bradley noted he is submitting a preproposal for a grant through NRCS, requesting \$25,000 per year for five years for cost sharing windbreaks. The preproposal is due July 14. After NRCS reviews, Bradley will receive word whether to submit a full proposal. B. Jacowski suggested including photos of wind events. There was discussion on using UWSP students, Huber, Portage House, Oxford House, individuals ordered to do community service, or Salvation Army residents to help with weed maintenance. Bradley will look into liability and management issues this fall/winter.

- e. Portage County Drainage District - O'Brien/Bacon-Alternate – No report.
- f. Mill Creek Watershed - O'Brien/DeDeker-Alternate – No report.
- g. Little Plover River (LPR) - Haga/Walters-Alternate – No report.

#### 8. Discussion/Possible Action – Resolution – Support of Wisconsin Wolf Population of 350 or Less

Groskopf distributed a handout, "Wolves – Why 350 (or less) is the Maximum for Wisconsin". Groskopf was asked how wolf counts are tracked. She explained counts are based on volunteer and agency trackers in 157 tracking units where wolves are living. She passed around a map showing where depredation and threats have occurred in 2013 and 2014. There are 30 radio collared wolves that are flown usually once a week. The over winter minimum count, completed in March, was between 660-689, down from over 800 in 2013, which is an 18% reduction. She noted the count could be flawed due to this winter's deep snow, making it difficult to access where the wolves live, and because 2/3 of the state is not included in the count. The figure of 350 was established based on research done at the University of Wisconsin on landscape types and the most reasonable places to assume wolves would live. In the 2000's, an update was done to show where the wolves are actually living, some areas being outside of the assumed areas. The 1999 wolf plan was approved with 350 and re-approved in 2007. An advisory committee is working on another revision of the plan. The DNR is encouraging citizen input on the quantity of wolves. Groskopf said pack wolves are fairly easy to count; however, lone wolves are difficult. Other states use an add on percentage to account for lone wolves, but Wisconsin does not. She said literature indicates between 9 and 15 percent of the total population are lone wolves. She stated trackers are supposed to put in a minimum of 60 miles per unit. Each of the units she counts is 200 square miles. The Natural Resources Board establishes a quota for the required harvest season, which was passed by the legislature. In 2013, the quota was 275.

Benson stated a fifth calf was killed during the time he had traps set at the Town of Buena Vista farm, which was discussed at the last LCC meeting. On June 4, traps were set. On June 5, an adult male wolf, 75 pounds, was caught and on June 6, an adult female, 65 pounds, was caught. Genetic testing was done on both animals. The male was determined to be a full Wisconsin wolf. The female had the Skinner Creek gene type. Approximately 10-15 years ago, there was a pack of wolves in Price County called the Skinner Creek pack. The pack had known dog/wolf hybrids. The gene type is present in depredating wolves more often than usual. Benson was called by the farmer on June 23, reporting another dead calf. Benson investigated, but found no sign of a wolf attack.

There was discussion on wolves being placed on the endangered species list if the population falls below 100. Groskopf said Wisconsin will be implementing additional types of counting based on newer research. The LCC thanked Groskopf for providing information. She said the wolf plan revision draft should be available later this year for public comment. She encouraged voicing opinions either in writing or in person. Groskopf was invited to come to an LCC meeting when the plan draft is available.

Motion by Haga, second by O'Brien to approve the resolution. Motion carried by voice vote. The resolution will be presented at the July 15 County Board meeting.

B. Jacowski mentioned the recently hired Central Wisconsin Grassland Conservation Area (CWGCA) Coordinator resigned as of June 30.

9. Watershed Projects

**a. Updates** – Bradley reported a farmer expressed concerns of feed leachate and manure running onto a neighbor's property. The issue was addressed and resolved.

**b. Review/Approval - Cost Share Contracts** – No cost share contracts presented.

Benedict mentioned the WLWCA has updated the LCC Supervisor Handbook. She will download a copy and send to LCC members.

10. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for August 4 at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room 5, County Annex.

11. Adjournment

Motion by O'Brien, second by Walters to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Patty Benedict/

Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved at August 26, 2014 Land Conservation Committee meeting.

/Barry Jacowski/  
Barry Jacowski, Chair

/Bo DeDeker/  
Bo DeDeker, Secretary

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Conference Room 5, County Annex  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
August 26, 2014

Members present: Roger Bacon, Bo DeDeker, Allen Haga, Jr., Barry Jacowski, Dale O'Brien, Jerry Walters

Others present: Steve Bradley and Patty Benedict, Planning and Zoning Department, Land Conservation Division.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Chair B. Jacowski.

B. Jacowski read the Public Notice statement: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

2. Review/Approval – Minutes of July 7, 2014

Motion by O'Brien, second by Bacon to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Correspondence

Benedict read an email from Miles Geske, reporting on his Trees for Tomorrow camp experience and thanking the LCC for the scholarship.

Benedict sent the 2013 Wisconsin Land and Water Annual Progress Report to LCC members via email. Those without email can access the report on the DATCP website.

B. Jacowski referred to statements he made during the joint meeting of the Planning and Zoning and Land Conservation Committees, asking Bradley about taking a more active role with County water issues. Bradley replied LCD's Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) Plan refers to groundwater quality and quantity. He has been involved with the Little Plover River (LPR) Work Group since 2005. With the County Executive's announcement that the county will be putting efforts into developing a groundwater quantity management plan, Bradley hopes he and Water Quality Specialist Ray Schmidt, will be invited to be involved with the process. He feels the LCC should also be involved. For 2015, Bradley said the lake management planning program is winding down and he will have more time to devote to groundwater issues. O'Brien believes the County Agriculture Agent should be involved. Because of his expertise and professional connections, B. Jacowski feels Bradley can bring a lot to the table. Walters added, personally and professionally, there is a need for a neutral person. Bradley stated the LPR Work Group is a good model, with a good mix of representatives, including vegetable growers. There have been good discussions and, despite some opposing opinions, the group is still working together toward a common goal. It is hoped the County Executive will invite some of the same representatives and expand countywide. There was discussion on the process used to form a committee. Haga will contact County Board Chair Idsvoog.

4. Review Vouchers, Purchases and Procurement Card

Voucher approval numbers 20140567, 20140611, 20140651, 20140694, a LCD procurement card charge in the amount of \$1.56, and CWWP procurement card charges for Rohde - \$791.82 and \$192.05, and Ewan - \$233.91 and \$75.95 were reviewed.

### 5. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report

District Conservationist Knipfel was not in attendance.

### 6. Review/Approval - Conservation Plans

No conservation plans presented.

### 7. Committee Representative Reports

- a. Lakes Management District - Walters – No report.
- b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) - Bacon/Haga-Alternate – Bacon was unable to attend the last meeting.
- c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Assn (NCLWCA) - B. Jacowski/DeDeker-Alternate – Bradley reported George Mika, Ashland County LCC, was elected to the Land and Water Conservation Board.
- d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership Group (CWWP) - B. Jacowski/Walters-Alternate – Bradley reported there was an issue with NRCS Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) cost share funding for a windbreak in Waushara County. Rohde was told verbally that cost sharing was approved and after installing the windbreak, he was informed some paperwork was not turned in by the landowner and the cost sharing was denied. A resolution of the issue is being worked out and the cost sharing is expected to be reinstated. The 2014 budget projections and 2015 budget were approved. Windbreak installations for 2014 totaled 14.9 miles. For financial sustainability, the break even point is 14.3 miles; however CWWP's target goal is to install 15.5 miles. Rohde told the Board he has stock and fabric remaining that he will use to install a couple of possible fall projects. He also reported he has landowners interested in windbreaks for 2015. Savings from using 2013 leftover stock and fabric, and having a UWSP intern should amount to approximately \$20,000 that can be put into the equipment reserve account. Bradley noted equipment and vehicle maintenance line items were increased for the 2015 budget.
- e. Portage County Drainage District - O'Brien/Bacon-Alternate – No report.
- f. Mill Creek Watershed - O'Brien/DeDeker-Alternate – O'Brien stated Leif Erickson (President of the Friends of Mill Creek Watershed), told him about a meeting on Monday (August 25) which he was unable to attend. Bradley said John Eron, an area farmer, is working with the FOMC group promoting conservation activities done in the Mill Creek Watershed and encouraging others to consider conservation practices. Eron plans to organize tours and partner with other "Friends" groups.
- g. Little Plover River (LPR) - Haga/Walters-Alternate – No meeting.

### 8. Discussion/Possible Action – Authorization to Submit Youth Education Grants to Izaak Walton League-Bill Cook Chapter

Benedict would like to submit grant applications in the amount of \$200 each to the Young Wisconsin Conservationist (YWC) Grant program for the Youth Conservation Camp at Trees For Tomorrow, Sand Lake Conservation Camp, and the Poster and Speech contests. Motion by Haga, second by O'Brien to authorize submitting the grants. Benedict added she would also like to request grant funding from the Bill Cook Chapter-Izaak Walton League for stewardship activity booklets. Haga amended his motion, seconded by O'Brien to include the grant for stewardship booklets. Amendment carried by voice vote. Motion carried by voice vote.

### 9. Update – County Deer Advisory Council

Bradley stated the DNR requested representation from LCC/LCDs on the Deer Advisory Council. B. Jacowski submitted an application. He added that a forestry representative is needed. Anyone interested should contact Bradley or County Supervisor Matt Jacowski.

### 10. Watershed Projects

a. Updates – Bradley reported the preliminary rankings for the Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) grants submitted for Lepak, Modrzewski, and Zoromoski were not high enough to receive funding. Because runoff from Modrzewski’s property discharges to surface waters (Adams Lake/Bear Creek), Bradley noted there is a possibility to fund his project through a different DNR grant program. He added Zoromoski’s may do their project without grant funding.

b. Review/Approval - Cost Share Contracts – No cost share contracts presented.

11. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 6 at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room 5, County Annex.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Haga, second by Bacon to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Patty Benedict/

Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved at October 6, 2014 Land Conservation Committee meeting.

/Barry Jacowski/  
Barry Jacowski, Chair

/Bo DeDeker/  
Bo DeDeker, Secretary

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Conference Room 5, County Annex  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
October 6, 2014

Members present: Roger Bacon, Bo DeDeker, Allen Haga, Jr., Barry Jacowski, Jerry Walters

Member excused: Dale O'Brien

Others present: Barry Benson, USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services; Dan O'Connell and Patty Benedict, Planning and Zoning Department, Land Conservation Division.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair B. Jacowski.

B. Jacowski read the Public Notice statement: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order. No one registered to speak.

2. Review/Approval – Minutes of August 26, 2014

Motion by Haga, second by Bacon to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Correspondence

No correspondence presented.

4. Review Vouchers, Purchases and Procurement Card

Voucher approval numbers 20140732, 20140771, 20140805, and procurement card charges for Rohde (CWWP) in the amount of \$568.18 were reviewed.

5. Natural Resources Conservation Service Report

District Conservationist Knipfel was not in attendance. At Jacowski's request, Benedict will contact Knipfel and ask that she periodically attend LCC meetings.

6. Review/Approval - Conservation Plans

No conservation plans presented.

7. Committee Representative Reports

- a. Lakes Management District - Walters – Walters reported the McDill Lake District has a meeting on Wednesday, October 8.
- b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) - Bacon/Haga-Alternate – Bacon attended the September 18 Council meeting. He reported Bradley's attendance was requested. Discussion took place on the Emerald Ash Borer, which is not in the area yet, but is being watched closely. Green Lake County joined Golden Sands RC&D.
- c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Assn (NCLWCA) - B. Jacowski/DeDeker-Alternate – No report.
- d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership Group (CWWP) - B. Jacowski/Walters-Alternate – The next meeting is in December.
- e. Portage County Drainage District - O'Brien/Bacon-Alternate – No report.
- f. Mill Creek Watershed - O'Brien/DeDeker-Alternate – No report.

g. Little Plover River (LPR) - Haga/Walters-Alternate – A meeting may be scheduled for the end of October.

#### 8. Discussion/Possible Action – Wildlife Damage Venison Donation Program

Benson explained Portage County has been declared a Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) affected county. The only processor participating is People's Meat Market. In order for the meat to be donated, the brain tissue of the deer must be tested. People's Meat Market has agreed to call the DNR to pick up the deer heads. The meat may be processed, but must be kept separate, and cannot be released to a food pantry until test results have come back. The processor is paid \$55 per deer regardless of size. Benson said it is still unknown whether CWD can be passed to humans by eating affected deer meat. Operation Bootstrap, Red Cross, Salvation Army, and other food pantries share the donated meat. Hunting license and bonus tag fees fund the program. Motion by Bacon, second by DeDeker to participate in the venison donation program. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### 9. Discussion/Possible Action – 2015 Wildlife Damage Budget

Benson distributed copies of the budget, explaining Wildlife Services and DNR provide funding for costs such as salaries, mileage, office costs, and abatement supplies. He noted the total budget of \$38,570.46 is up from approximately \$33,000 in 2014 due to the increased number of cooperators in the program. Benson's workload from deer, bear, geese, and wolf claims has increased. An increase was requested for the County administration from \$500 to \$1,500. Benson will make the change on the budget sheet and bring back for approval at the November LCC meeting. He asked to have an email of intent to participate sent to the Wildlife Services office.

There was a discussion on the increased bear activity in Portage County. The LCC thanked Benson.

#### 10. LCC Role in Future Groundwater Issues

B. Jacowski requested to have this item on the agenda. He feels the more minds involved (with a committee to be established), the more ideas that will come about. Walters agreed, stating he believes Bradley needs to be involved. This item will be put on the November LCC agenda, when Bradley is present.

#### 11. Discussion/Possible Action – Poster/Speaking Contest Date

Benedict stated the information has gone out to schools, scouts and 4-H leaders. The Area contest is set for Friday, February 20 in Oneida County. Benedict recommended holding the contests during the February 3 LCC meeting. Suggestions were made to promote the speaking contest through FFA, forensics, and scout troops. Prizes were discussed. County policy does not allow monetary prizes, gift cards or certificates. Haga will discuss the issue with the Finance office. Motion by B. Jacowski, second by Walters to have Benedict choose deadline and contest dates. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### 12. Conservation Camp Report

A video was shown, produced by Emmett and Colton Stanislawski, two of the Trees For Tomorrow conservation camp scholarship recipients. B. Jacowski asked Benedict to draft a letter of thanks to the Stanislawski brothers for signatures by the LCC at their November meeting.

#### 13. Watershed Projects

a. Updates – O'Connell reported on a rip rap project along the Plover River at the Stevens Point Country Club. Cost share funds are being used from a Lake Management grant. DNR permit applications have been submitted. There may have to be an endangered resources review for wood turtle.

O’Connell stated the LCD has been working with Dave Eron, Eron Beef, for several years on a volunteer basis. Within approximately the last year, a neighbor has registered complaints about odor and animal numbers. The County Executive and DNR staff have become involved. Eron is planning to install a Weiser tank under a slatted floor barn to house the finishing animals. O’Connell submitted the plan to the State for approval. Eron is paying for the project himself. O’Connell described Eron’s operation. He noted Eron’s efforts to maintain compliance with State regulations, however, he stated the animals and odor will still be there.

O’Connell explained that the cost share agreement with Kevin Skinner to abandon a manure storage facility will be amended to provide a barnyard containment for his heifer lot and drain the barnyard into an existing manure pit. Unused Soil and Water Resource Management (SWRM) cost share funds will be redirected from other projects not being installed. The amended agreement will be presented at the November LCC meeting.

B. Jacowski asked if the LCD has worked with Wayne Peterson regarding issues brought up by the Town of Lanark. O’Connell explained the situation and timeline to correct the issues at the Peterson farm. B. Jacowski asked if there is funding available for Peterson. O’Connell said potential funding sources have been pursued; however, the amount of funding needed to meet standards is not available for 2014. O’Connell explained designs and cost share funding must be approved prior to start of construction. He listed some of Peterson’s options. There is a possibility of applying for a DNR grant; however, if approved, the funding would not be available until Fall 2015. B. Jacowski requested continuing to work with Peterson and the Town of Lanark, try to secure cost share funding, and to keep him up to date.

b. Review/Approval - Cost Share Contracts – Benedict presented a cost share contract for a windbreak, cost share amount just under \$3,500 for Worzalla & Sons. Motion by Haga, second by Walters to approve the cost share contract. Motion carried by voice vote.

14. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 4 at 6:00 p.m., Conference Room 5, County Annex.

Haga asked to check into payments not received for the joint Planning and Zoning/LCC and individual LCC meetings on August 26. Benedict will contact the County Clerk’s office.

15. Adjournment

Motion by Haga, second by DeDeker to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Patty Benedict/

Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved at November 4, 2014 Land Conservation Committee meeting.

/Barry Jacowski/  
Barry Jacowski, Chair

Excused  
Bo DeDeker, Secretary

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Conference Room 5, County Annex  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
November 4, 2014

Members present: Roger Bacon, Allen Haga, Jr., Barry Jacowski, Dale O'Brien, Jerry Walters

Member excused: Bo DeDeker

Others present: Barry Benson, USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services; Shannon Rohde, Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership (CWWP); Steve Bradley and Patty Benedict, Planning and Zoning Department, Land Conservation Division; Lyndsey Mittelstaedt and Michael Wampfler, UWSP-Public Relations class.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair B. Jacowski.

B. Jacowski read the Public Notice statement: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order. No one registered to speak.

2. Review/Approval – Minutes of October 6, 2014

Motion by, second by Haga, second by O'Brien to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Correspondence

At the LCC's request, Benedict composed a letter to Emmett and Colton Stanislawski thanking them for the video of their conservation camp experience. LCC members signed the letter.

4. Review Vouchers, Purchases and Procurement Card

Voucher approval numbers 20140829, 20140886, and CWWP procurement card charges in the amount of \$371.60 were reviewed.

5. Natural Resources Conservation Service Report

District Conservationist Knipfel was unable to attend and submitted a written report.

6. Review/Approval - Conservation Plans

No plans presented.

7. Committee Representative Reports

a. Lakes Management District - Walters – Walters has not attended any meetings. Bradley announced there are meetings scheduled, in conjunction with the UWSP, to update the management plans for the 30 lakes involved in the Lakes Study. Goals, objectives, and accomplishments will be reviewed as well as issues, problems, or new concerns with implementation of the plans. LCC members will be added to the mailing lists for the upcoming meetings. Bradley said the DNR grant funding the project expires at the end of the year.

b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) - Bacon/Haga-Alternate – No meeting.

- c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Assn (NCLWCA) - B. Jacowski/DeDeker-Alternate – No meeting. Beginning in 2015, Benedict noted a rotating meeting schedule within the area counties will be followed.
- d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership Group (CWWP) - B. Jacowski/Walters-Alternate – A meeting is scheduled in December. Shannon Rohde, Project Manager, gave a summary of 2014 CWWP activities. The goal for windbreak installations is 15.5 miles. He reported 81,397 feet, or 15.42 total miles, of windbreaks with fabric were installed. Other projects included open field machine plantings of 3,600 and 500 trees, mowing a previously planted windbreak, sale of extra fabric and staples to a customer, and windbreak renovations. Rohde reported the UWSP College of Natural Resources provided wages for a summer intern, which saved approximately \$4,600 in LTE costs. The intern worked out well and Rohde hopes to get another intern in 2015. Rohde has been working on 2015 windbreak sales. He has been in contact with a Department of Transportation representative from Wisconsin Rapids regarding installing some living snow fences along State Highway 10. Three year windbreak maintenance, winterizing and storing equipment is done for the year. Tractors will be taken to Service Motors in the next couple of weeks for service. Rohde noted the plant survival rate was excellent this year. He estimates needing to replant less than 1,000 trees in the spring, compared to over 5,000 in the spring of 2013 due to 2012 drought conditions. Invoicing is complete and payments are coming in. He will be attending member county LCC meetings as they are scheduled. B. Jacowski asked if AmeriCorps volunteers were able to assist with windbreak maintenance, and Rohde replied no. There was discussion on the need and benefits of windbreaks, and landowners' reasons for removing and/or not planting windbreaks. O'Brien verified that windbreaks installed under power lines will follow the set policy and Rohde replied yes. Regarding tractor maintenance, B. Jacowski suggested asking Service Motors if they offer a discount.
- e. Portage County Drainage District - O'Brien/Bacon-Alternate – The annual inspection and tour will take place on Wednesday, November 12, leaving from Hamerski Farms at 9:00 a.m. Anyone interested in attending should RSVP to UW-Extension.
- f. Mill Creek Watershed - O'Brien/DeDeker-Alternate – No meeting.
- g. Little Plover River (LPR) - Haga/Walters-Alternate – The next meeting is scheduled in December. The agenda will include a report on the research project.

#### 8. Discussion/Possible Action – 2015 Wildlife Damage Budget

Benson presented an amended budget to include \$1,500 for county administrative costs. Total budget is \$39,570.46. Motion by Haga, second by Walters to approve the 2015 Wildlife Damage budget. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### 9. Discussion/Possible Action – 2014 Wildlife Damage Crop Prices

Proposed crop prices were included in members' meeting packets. Crops with damage claims are alfalfa, field corn, soybeans, and sweet corn. There was discussion on market versus contract prices. Motion by O'Brien, second by Haga to approve the proposed prices: alfalfa - \$194.12/ton; field corn - \$4.15/bushel; soybeans - \$11.93/bushel; sweet corn - \$87.89/ton. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### 10. Discussion/Possible Action – Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) Plan Five Year Extension Request

Bradley stated the LWRM document guides Land Conservation activities and was approved by the County Board in 2009 as a 10 year document, with options to update for three, four, or five years. Initially, Bradley preferred a three year extension; however, after discussions with DATCP staff, and their willingness to allow a webcam presentation versus traveling to Madison to present in person, he will be requesting a five year extension. He noted the main change in the goals and objectives is the addition of the youth programs offered, and he pointed out the accomplishments from the last five

years. O'Brien asked if the plan can be amended at any time, and Bradley replied yes. Bradley noted bolded items in the goals and objectives are priority. Other items may, or may not be accomplished based on lack of staff or funding. Motion by Bacon, second by O'Brien to approve requesting a five year extension. Motion carried by voice vote.

11. Discussion/Possible Action – LCC Role in Future Groundwater Issues

B. Jacowski strongly suggested that Bradley should be involved and keep the LCC informed. Bradley anticipates being heavily involved in the planning process once information from the groundwater listening sessions is pulled together. B. Jacowski stated, with the exception of Amherst and Plover, he is disappointed in the attendance at the listening sessions. He asked to continue to have this item on future agendas.

12. Watershed Projects

a. Updates – Bradley reported O'Connell has been working on projects with Kevin Skinner, Dave Eron, and Wayne Peterson to remedy various compliance issues.

b. Review/Approval - Cost Share Contracts – Kevin Skinner's cost share contract will be amended, increasing the amount to approximately \$42,000, which should use the remainder of the 2014 cost share allocation. Motion by Haga, second by O'Brien to give Bradley the authority to determine whether to go forward with the project. Motion carried by voice vote.

Walters asked whether cold weather procedures are used for concrete pouring and curing. Bradley replied there are standards to be followed and O'Connell has been onsite to inspect.

B. Jacowski asked Bradley if anyone from the Town of Lanark has been in contact regarding Wayne Peterson. Bradley has not heard from them since a meeting with Town officials two months ago. At that meeting, Bradley believes the Town officials were satisfied with the proposed resolution.

13. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 2, in Conference Rooms 1 and 2, County Annex. Benedict pointed out that Conference Room 5 is unavailable for meetings through April 2015. The January meeting will take place in Conference Room 3. February (Poster and Speaking Contests), March, and April will take place in Conference Rooms 1 and 2. Walters and DeDeker are excused from the December meeting. Benedict asked the remaining members to be aware that if anyone else cannot attend, there will not be a quorum.

14. Adjournment

Motion by Haga, second by Bacon to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Patty Benedict/

Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved at December 2, 2014 Land Conservation Committee meeting.

/Barry Jacowski/  
Barry Jacowski, Chair

Excused  
Bo DeDeker, Secretary

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Conference Room 5, County Annex  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
December 2, 2014

Members present: Roger Bacon, Allen Haga, Jr., Barry Jacowski, Dale O'Brien

Members excused: Bo DeDeker, Jerry Walters

Others present: Melissa Knipfel, Natural Resources Conservation Service (arrived at 6:10); Steve Bradley and Patty Benedict, Planning and Zoning Department, Land Conservation Division; Jim and Barb Gifford.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair B. Jacowski.

B. Jacowski read the Public Notice statement: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order. No one registered to speak.

2. Review/Approval – Minutes of November 4, 2014

Motion by Haga, second by O'Brien to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Correspondence

Bradley stated he received a letter from the Town of Stockton regarding a meeting on November 25 to consider an application to approve a highway to an applicant's real property. Bradley explained the property is landlocked and the owner proposes to put in a road. According to State Statutes, the Town must give notice to the county LCC. Bradley was unsure of the outcome of the meeting.

Bradley noted he participated in a video conference with the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) meeting in Madison, giving a presentation to extend the Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) plan for five years. The presentation went well.

4. Review Vouchers, Purchases and Procurement Card

Voucher approval numbers 20140919, 20140954, CWWP purchases in the amount of \$179.36, an LCD purchase in the amount of \$14.98, and CWWP procurement card charges in the amount of \$469.70 were reviewed.

5. Natural Resources Conservation Service Report

Knipfel reported she is doing Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) sign ups and renewals from 2010 contracts, which are expiring. Renewals extend the contracts for five years, maintaining practices in the 2010 contract and adding practices to address priority resource concerns. An Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) sign up was held in the fall. High screen application rankings are due on December 19, medium rankings are due in January, and low ranking will be done in February depending on funding remaining. The NRCS office will be moving to the Kirschling Court building in March. Knipfel announced she has accepted the District Conservationist (DC) position in Medford, working in Taylor and Price Counties. Her last day is December 24. The vacancy has not been opened for applications yet. An interim DC from Marathon, Waupaca, or Wood County may be assigned. Knipfel noted she is wrapping up contracts prior to leaving.

## 6. Review/Approval - Conservation Plans

No conservation plans presented.

## 7. Committee Representative Reports

- a. Lakes Management District - Walters – Bradley reported he and Walters attended a meeting, along with two UWSP representatives and the superintendent of the Lions Camp, to discuss the Lions Lake management plan. The initial plan and action items were reviewed. The superintendent will talk with the camp educational program coordinator and discuss getting summer campers involved with water quality, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) monitoring, and identifying plant species. Bradley said there aren't any shoreland erosion issues from the adjacent agricultural land.
- b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) - Bacon/Haga-Alternate – Bacon was unable to attend the November 20 meeting. Bradley will plan to attend the next RC&D Council meeting.
- c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Assn (NCLWCA) - B. Jacowski/DeDeker-Alternate – Benedict referred to the rotating meeting schedule included in the LCC packets. Portage County is scheduled to host the planning meeting in 2016.
- d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership Group (CWWP) - B. Jacowski/Walters-Alternate – The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 15.
- e. Portage County Drainage District - O'Brien/Bacon-Alternate – O'Brien reported the annual tour was held on November 12.
- f. Mill Creek Watershed - O'Brien/DeDeker-Alternate – No report.
- g. Little Plover River (LPR) - Haga/Walters-Alternate – The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 11.

## 8. Discussion/Possible Action – Authorization to Submit Youth Programs Grant Proposal to Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB)

Benedict requested authorization to submit a mini grant to WEEB, up to \$1,000, to support the poster and speaking contests, conservation camp scholarships, and stewardship week materials. Motion by B. Jacowski, second by O'Brien to authorize submitting a grant proposal. Applications are due in February 2015. Gifford mentioned the Finance Committee must approve applying for the grant. Motion carried by voice vote.

## 9. Discussion/Possible Action – LCC Role in Future Groundwater Issues

B. Jacowski requested to continue to have this item on LCC agendas until the Groundwater Management Plan (GMP) update is complete. Because of Land Conservation's close relationship with Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Department, B. Jacowski would like Bradley to be very involved, and asked that he provide updates to the LCC as necessary. Bradley feels he will become more involved after the listening sessions are complete. He suggested having joint LCC/P&Z meetings during the development of the GMP. Bradley said Ray Schmidt, Water Quality Specialist, will take the lead in writing the updated plan, which ultimately will be presented to the County Board. O'Brien feels the County Ag Agent should also be involved. Bradley noted a staff meeting was held regarding the GMP and the Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) plan update. It was felt the LCC and Ag and Extension Committees should be involved with both plans.

B. Jacowski reported that last week, Ken Bradbury gave a presentation on the Little Plover River modeling project. Some adjustments were suggested for the model. Bradley said Bradbury will be presenting again at the Little Plover River Workgroup meeting on December 11.

10. Watershed Projects

a. Updates – Bradley reported there have been weather and subcontractor coordination issues with Wayne Peterson’s project. Bradley explained a change to the manure transfer system now requires putting concrete where the pipes connect to the tanks, which is difficult in cold weather and creates additional costs. Bradley said the project is slowly progressing. Regarding the Skinner barnyard runoff project, Bradley said the gravel and sand base has been laid and the hope is for warmer weather to allow for pouring concrete. The rip rap project to stabilize and control streambank erosion at the Stevens Point Country Club is complete and went well.

b. Review/Approval - Cost Share Contracts – No cost share contract presented.

11. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for January 6, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room 3, County Annex.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Haga, second by O’Brien to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/Patty Benedict/

Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved at January 6, 2015 Land Conservation Committee meeting.

/Barry Jacowski/  
Barry Jacowski, Chair

/Bo DeDeker/  
Bo DeDeker, Secretary