



Pepin County Land Conservation Department

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PEPIN COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION AND PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

June 14, 2010

Members Present

Dan Weiss, Brent King, Adolph Pichler and Kurt Manore

Members Absent

Jim Kraft

Others Present

Chase Cummings, Dennis Reimers, Chris Gaetzke and John Egli (8:35 a.m.)

Dan Weiss, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Approval of May 10 2010 Minutes

Motion was made by Brent King and seconded by Kurt Manore to approve the May 10, 2010 meeting minutes. Motion carried by voice vote.

NRCS

Dennis discussed updates and happenings with NRCS. The CStP sign-up has been extended through June 25. Twenty-Two Pepin County landowners have applied for the program. HEL/Wetland status reviews are almost complete for the year. Engineering designs are over half completed. NRCS is celebrating their 75th Anniversary. Dennis reminded the committee of Farm Technology Days July 20-22 in River Falls, WI.

River Country Resource Conservation & Development Representative

Dan Weiss shared with the committee that he would be interested in representing the Pepin County LCC on the RC&D board. A motion was made by Adolph Pichler and seconded by Brent King to have Dan Weiss be the representative for the RC&D. Motion carried.

West Central WLWCA Officer

Chase explained to the members that the West Central Area Association was looking for a member to be an officer with the West Central Area WLWCA. No one was interested at this time.

Non-metallic Mining Violation

Chase updated the committee on the status of R.M. Schlosser, Inc. compliance. To this date, R.M. Schlosser, Inc. has not paid anything for the fine he was imposed with by the LCC. Adolph Pichler made a motion which was seconded by Kurt Manore to forward this matter to corporation counsel for legal enforcement. This motion was carried by voice vote. A motion was made by Dan Weiss and seconded by Adolph Pichler to have Chase draft a letter that will be sent to the Brenner's and to R.M. Schlosser, Inc. giving them until June 22, 2010 to submit all application materials needed or the existing application will be denied and the area would be required to be reclaimed by June 30, 2010. This motion was carried by voice.

PL566 Structure Repairs

Chase discussed with the LCC that Pepin County owns six PL566 structures with a 50-year maintenance agreement with NRCS which has expired on most of them. After inspecting Plum Creek #12, it is felt that there is some leaking taking place and Chase asked the committee if they felt it necessary to deal with it now. The LCC suggested leaving this area for now but to watch it and if the LCD noticed more of a problem then it should be addressed. The DNR recently sent out letters on inspection of these structures. They said that professional engineers are needed to conduct the inspections. Chase said Mary King, NRCS, would be willing to inspect these structures when it is convenient.

Hubbard's Landing

Chase shared with the LCC damage that occurred to the newly completed canoe access at Hubbard's Landing. The question was who would pay for this to be repaired. Dan Weiss suggested that Chase call the organizations that were instrumental with this canoe access to see if they would donate towards the repairs and have the Highway Department place guardrails along this area to hopefully cease further damage. Adolph Pichler suggested calling the previous contractor of the project, C & D Larson, and have him return to repair the damages.

Manure Storage Ordinance and WPDES Permitting

Chase shared his concerns with the committee on compliance with Marshland Acres and to what the owner's plans are. John Egli joined the meeting to share his environmental concerns with this same issue. John Egli had spoken of these concerns to the Law Enforcement Committee and they suggested John draft a letter to be sent to the DNR Regional Director so they are aware of these existing problems and request that they follow through with their WPDES permitting requirements. John asked the LCC if this letter could be a joint letter with the Zoning and the LCD. A motion was made by Kurt Manore and seconded by Brent King to co-draft a letter to the DNR regional director expressing our concerns with Marshland Acres. This motion was carried by voice vote.

Water Sampling Program

Chase reminded the LCC that in 2008, LCD conducted a water-sampling program with 50 home wells in Pepin County. The program was implemented by the summer intern who tested the water, which was sent to a lab in Stevens Point with data on nitrates and bacteria. The cost for this was \$2,000.00 John Egli has a summer intern and he made the request to the LCC to have these same wells tested again to see if there are any differences. John offered to do all the work but asked if the LCD would pay for the lab testing. A motion was made by Adolph Pichler and seconded by Brent King to take the necessary cost for water sample testing out of county cost-share. Motion carried.

Park Updates

Chase updated the committee on happenings with the Arkansaw Creek Park. Plans for a new bridge are in place. They are still waiting for a permit from the DNR to be issued to install the bridge. Chase had a request from an Arkansaw Fur Fish & Game member to have the lower part of the park wired for electricity. He wanted to know the proper way to have this done. Could the lines be trenched it or would overhead lines be better? John Egli was going to check to see what regulations there were since this was in a floodplain area.

Chase mentioned that the \$1, 000.00 Wal-Mart donation was still in place. Should it be used for one of these projects? Members suggested that it could be and that some type of plaque be made to recognize their donation.

Conservation Poster Contest

The committee judged the 2010 conservation posters entered from three area schools. First place winners will be submitted to the Area level contest. This year's theme is "Conservation Habits=Healthy Habitats."

Any Other Business that may come before the committee

Chase talked about doing the transect survey and results show that tillage in Pepin County looks good. Chase reminded the committee of Farm Technology Days in River Falls, WI July 20-22. The LCD has been asked to volunteer at one of the days and plans to donate four hours. The Pepin County Fair will be July 23-25, 2010. LCD plans to have a booth there. The Land and Water board has approved the Pepin County Land and Water Plan. Chase will present it to the full county board on June 16, 2010 for approval.

Review and Approve Vouchers

The vouchers for May and June were presented for approval. A motion was made by Brent King and seconded by Kurt Manore to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.

Meeting Date

The next meeting date was set for Wednesday, July 7, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. in the county boardroom.

Adjourn

Adolph Pichler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 a.m. The motion was seconded by Brent King and carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Poeschel, Conservation Program Specialist