

MANITOWOC COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2023
County Office Complex, 4319 Expo Dr. Rm 300

Chairperson Catherine Wagner called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

Roll Call: Catherine Wagner, Ryan Phipps, Tim Jadowski, Biff Hansen and Lee Engelbrecht were present. W. Michael Slattery and Ted Hoffmann were excused.

Also, in attendance were: David Wetenkamp and Joe Henson, Soil & Water Conservation Department.

Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Lee Engelbrecht and seconded by Tim Jadowski. Motion carried unanimously.

Review July 20, 2023 LCC Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes was made by Biff Hansen and seconded by Ryan Phipps. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None

2024 Budget – SWCD Grants: SWCD Director shared with the LCC (4) possible grants that the department would like to apply for to be incorporated into the 2024 budget if approved and awarded. Supervisor Jadowski asked for clarification on grants, the fiscal detail and if the grants were going to be ongoing or one-time ventures. SWCD Director explained the PLG Grant (DATCP funded Producer Led Grant) and TNC (The Nature Conservancy) Grant would be for developing a Farmer Led Producer group in Manitowoc County. The mission is to form a proactive and “all farms” friendly group to mentor all farmers and showcase to the community the environmental efforts farmers are making to improve our resources. Supervisor Engelbrecht shared his approval and need for positive farmer relations in the community. A Cellcom Green Gifts Grant and SARE (Sustainable Agricultural Research & Education) Grant would be used for developing and buying materials to create a mobile classroom to bolster outreach and education activities with schools, community groups and conservation field days. Supervisor Hansen stated the benefit to schools, our youth and education from this type of project. Total grant ask for the (4) grants is 26K. As proposed, they are one-time grants, but if the producer led group organizes and establishes itself with members, mission, name and 501C3 status, additional grant funds can be applied for in the next 2-3 years until the group takes on full administrative and fiscal responsibility of the newly formed organization. At this point the SWCD Department would become only a collaborator and technical supporter of the group according to a MOU.

Motion was made by Supervisor Phipps, “To support and approve applying for the (4) grants and incorporate them into the 2024 budget accounts”, was seconded by Supervisor Engelbrecht. Motion carried unanimously.

USDA Cost Share Contracts/Amendments/Agreements: In LCC agreement with FSA/NRCS to assign oversight and signature responsibility of CRP contracts to SWCD Director, (6) CRP re-enrollment contracts were signed by SWCD Director. **Motion** to approve the contracts was made by Biff Hansen and seconded by Tim Jadowski. Motion carried unanimously.

SWCD Cost Share Contracts/Amendments/Agreements: (21) contracts were presented to the LCC for consideration and approval. Supervisor Hansen asked for clarification on harvestable buffer payment costs. SWCD Director explained this stream corridor protection practice is contracted as a payment to remove cropland out of production for 5/10/15 year

agreements and costs are higher than normal one-year bmp payments. **Motion** to approve the contracts was made by Lee Engelbrecht and seconded by Biff Hansen. Motion carried unanimously.

Livestock Facility Licensing Update: Since last meeting, one existing farm has submitted a complete application to apply for a Livestock Facility License. The town and adjacent landowners have been notified by mail of the process and ongoing 30-day comment period. The farm is not asking to expand, just be licensed to meet Manitowoc County Ordinance, Chapter 28 – Livestock Facility Licensing.

Next Meeting: Is scheduled for September 21, 2023 at 4:45 p.m.

Adjournment: **Motion** to adjourn was made by Biff Hansen and seconded by Ryan Phipps at 4:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
David Wetenkamp
Department Director

Minutes recorded: David Wetenkamp