

MANITOWOC COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2026

Manitowoc County Office Complex, Rm 300

LCC Chairman, Ryan Phipps called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

Roll Call: Ryan Phipps, Lee Engelbrecht, Scott Schiesl, Larry Bonde, Tim Jadowski, Michael Slattery and Ted Hoffman were present.

Also, in attendance: David Wetenkamp (SWCD), Bob Ziegelbauer (County Executive), and Tyler Martell (County Board Chairman) were present.

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

Minutes: Minutes from the November 20, 2025 LCC meeting were reviewed. **Motion** to approve minutes by Scott Schiesl was seconded by Tim Jadowski. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Public Comment: No Public Comment.

5-Year NMP Manure & Waste Form: SWCD Director shared a copy of the previous manure agreement form with suggested edits from Steven Orth he shared during the November 20, 2025 LCC meeting. SWCD Director took those edits and incorporated them into a new form called, "5-Year NMP Manure & Waste – Application Form". Chairman Phipps requested discussion to consider a vote to un-table the 5-year manure agreement form and discuss the new form. **Motion** to un-table the 5-year agreement form by Scott Schiesl was seconded by Lee Engelbrecht. Vote (6) Ayes, and (1) No (Ted Hoffman), **Motion Carried.** New form was reviewed and discussed. Consensus of LCC was to share this form with as many farmers and community members as possible, especially the ones who have attended past meetings for feedback. **Motion** by Lee Engelbrecht to, "inform the public and farm community members with the new form to get feedback using SWCD departmental contact lists and local media and put the 5-year nmp manure & waste application form as an action item at the March 19, 2026 LCC Meeting" was seconded by Scott Schiesl. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Livestock Facility Licensing & AWO Reviews Status: SWCD Director gave a brief update on the status of (4) current livestock facility license modification applications and shared there are currently 30 licensed farms with over 750 animal units in Manitowoc County with (2) new license applications in progress.

Manitowoc County WDNR NOD 2025 Project: In 2020, a local farm was issued a Notice of Discharge (NOD) and was under enforcement status with the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) for NR 151 non-point discharges of waste runoff to waters of the state. In 2023 the SWCD Director was contacted by the WDNR Regional Non-point Coordinator and local farmer to act as a liaison to develop a solution correcting the farms runoff problems and secure funding for construction costs. SWCD Department evaluated site, surveyed, designed and developed a construction plan meeting state and federal standards. An NOD Grant was applied for and received from the WDNR to cost-share the project. The project was installed in 2024 & 2025. A presentation with picture documentation of the project was shared with the LCC. The WDNR and farm owner are satisfied with project results. LCC members discussed and commented on project.

73rd Annual WLWCA Conference: This annual professional development conference is administered through Wisconsin Land & Water to provide training, collaboration, technology and networking to county, state and federal staff along with conservation professionals and elected officials including land conservation committee members and state and federal legislators. Conference is scheduled for March 4-6, 2026 in Wisconsin Dells. SWCD director shared

breakout session information and invited LCC members to attend. Conference fees and lodging would be paid by county due to it benefiting education of local supervisors in conservation and governance decisions. **Action:** No LCC members are able to attend. SWCD will send (3) staff.

Lake Michigan Area Land & Water Conservation Association (LMALWCA) Meeting January 9, 2026:

SWCD Director attended meeting held at UW-GB STEM building in Brown County hosted by the Brown County Land Conservation Department (LCD). The area association's agenda, minutes, activity schedule and budget document were shared. UW-Extension (Kevin Erb) & grad student gave a presentation on results of bacteria and brown water incidences in wells after area counties enacted proactive ordinances and policies in efforts to address the 2007 NE Karst Task Force recommendations to protect groundwater contamination from land uses from fertilizers and land applications of waste. Results showed proactive ordinances like Manitowoc County's Chapter 19 with winter spreading restrictions, waste storage permits and livestock facility licensing have shown benefits reducing issues with spills, complaints, bacteria detects and brown water incidences in rural wells after implementation. Counties that did not enact more stringent rules did not see significant changes in those parameters. SWCD director shared the tiling subcommittee report developed through the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association to address increased complaints with tiling from pipe outlets on downstream property lines, erosion, flooding/swamping and legal issues. Discussion focused on how grid tiling practices are increasing, how this may increase nitrate and chemical discharge potential and problems with tile outlets including hydrologic effects to waterways, fields and neighbor relations.

Next Meeting Date(s) & Time: March 19, 2026 at 4:45 p.m.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Tim Jadowski was seconded by Scott Schiesl at 5:58 p.m. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,
David Wetenkamp
Department Director

Minutes recorded: David Wetenkamp