

MANITOWOC COUNTY  
LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2026

Manitowoc County Office Complex, Rm 300

LCC Chairman, Ryan Phipps called the meeting to order at 4:44 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), Tyler Martell (County Board Chairman), Susie Maresh (County Supervisor), and Brian Maedke (USDA-APHIS) were present, including attending public.

**Agenda: Motion** to approve agenda by Larry Bonde was seconded by Lee Engelbrecht. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Minutes:** Minutes from the January 15, 2026 LCC meeting were reviewed. **Motion** to approve minutes by Scott Schiesl was seconded by Larry Bonde. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Wildlife Damage Abatement & Claims Program (WDACP):** USDA-APHIS WDACP program wildlife specialist Brian Maedke gave a brief update on the status of program participants, claims and shooting permits for wildlife damage issues in Manitowoc County. Currently Manitowoc County is approved to participate in the WDNR Deer Donation Program and has local vendors who can process and accept donated venison to be distributed through local food pantries for community needs. Currently BRW Processing in Valders is working with Peter's Pantry with venison donations. Please contact us or visit WDNR website <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/hunt/donation>.

**Public Comment:** 5 citizens spoke in-favor of keeping the 5-year manure and waste land application form and process. 14 citizens spoke in opposition to remove the 5-year waste and land application forms use and process for approving livestock facility licenses.

**Livestock Facility Licensing & AWO Reviews Status:** SWCD Director gave a brief update on the status of 13 current livestock facility license expansions & modifications in progress. There are 3 new licensed farm applications in progress, which when approved will bring the total to 34 licensed farms in the county.

**5-Year NMP Manure & Waste Form:** SWCD Director shared the updated manure agreement form and results from the press-release comments received as requested by the LCC during the January 15, 2026 LCC meeting. **Motion** to, "abolish the use and requirement of the 5-year agreement form," made by Larry Bonde was seconded by Scott Schiesl. Discussion occurred considering public comment and results shared from the community press release. Comments were made by Supervisor Larry Bonde, Community Ag Representative Michael Slattery, Chairman Ryan Phipps, Supervisor Lee Engelbrecht and Community Representative Ted Hoffman giving reasoning why they are not in favor of the 5-Year manure and waste application forms use. SWCD Director gave reasoning and background information on why this forms use is valid and is part of a beneficial process for local confidence in monitoring the credibility of livestock facility applications and licenses before being approved. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**LMALWCA & WLWCA Poster Contest:** Every year county conservation organizations promote and request schools to participate in an artistic educational exercise to promote conservation awareness by having students develop criteria based themed posters. Students K-12 in 5 age classes submit their posters to the county for judging, which the top 3 in each age class are then forwarded and judged by the Lake Michigan Area Land & Water Conservation Association. Finals are shared at the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association conference for judging and students are given various award prizes and recognitions. Manitowoc County had 3 students place in the LMALWCA

level divisions with a 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Kindergarten, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place 7-9 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 10-12, winning certificates and cash prizes. All students who participated in Manitowoc County were given certificates of participation and an ice cream voucher to use at Pine River Dairy.

**73<sup>rd</sup> 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. LCC members were invited to attend with fees and lodging included, no LCC members attended the conference this year. 3 SWCD staff attended the conference.

**Soil & Water Conservation Department Activities:** SWCD Director gave an update into the recent and upcoming department activities. Nutrient Management Farmer Education training was conducted by staff partnering with DNR, DATCP and UW-Extension on February 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> with 10 attendees. Manure 101 Training was conducted on March 2<sup>nd</sup> partnering with UW-Extension at the Farm Discovery Center to provide education on proper manure spreading, road safety and spills response, with about 35+ attendees. An invasives workshop on phragmites was given with partners from Glacierland RC&D, WDNR, Stantec and SWCD on March 11<sup>th</sup> at the Collins Marsh Nature Center, with about 30+ attendees. A future field application training day for phragmites is scheduled for July 23<sup>rd</sup>, reach out for information and invite if interested. On February 13<sup>th</sup>, 3 staff attended the NRCS/DATCP Engineering Tech Meeting in Oshkosh to keep up to date with standards, issues and meet continuing education credit requirements. The department just finished groundwater week and free nitrate screening activities documenting over 30 years of well data trends in the county.

**Next Meeting Date(s) & Time: Motion** by Scott Schiesl to "schedule the next LCC Meeting on May 21, 2026 at 4:45 p.m." was seconded by Lee Engelbrecht. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Adjournment: Motion** to adjourn by Larry Bonde was seconded by Tim Jadowski at 6:51 p.m. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
David Wetenkamp  
Department Director

Minutes recorded: David Wetenkamp