Meeting Minutes

Forest County Land and Water Resources LCC

Monday, March 30th, 2015

1. The call to order was given by Chairman Millan at 5:00 p.m. in room 107 of the Forest County Courthouse.
2. The roll was called. Members present included; Chairman Millan, Dave Bula, Mike Albrecht, Administrator Pam LaBine, and Technician Bill Lester. Members of the public included, Will & Kathleen Hamilton along with Bill Connors.
3. Motion by Dave Bula to approve agenda. Second by Paul Millan. All in favor, motion approved.
4. Motion by Paul Millan to approve minutes of the last meeting. Second by Dave Bula. All in favor, motion approved.
5. Discussion was held on Individualizing non-metallic gravel pit reclamation bonding. Pam LaBine informed the committee that the state wants counties to individualize and estimate Non-metallic reclamation plan bonding cost per acre on a case-by-case basis. The Forest County Highway department will assess each gravel pit and tell us how much they think we should charge per acre in order to comply with the gravel pits current reclamation plan. Then the LCC committee will take their recommendations into account when deciding what to charge each pit per acre to be able to complete their reclamation plan. Motion by Mike Albrecht to reinstate the fees under non-metallic section 34 with the financial assurance per acre to be set by committee with jurisdiction upon renewal and review by the Forest County Highway Department. Second by Dave Bula. All in favor, motion approved. Motion by Mike Albrecht to go to public hearing. Second by Dave Bula. All in favor. Motion approved. Public hearing will be during the next LCC meeting.
6. Discussion was held regarding the LCC Advisory Committee. Pam informed the group that the current Land conservation plan will expire on January 1st 2016. We will need to decide on who our advisory committee is. Motion by Dave Bula to remove John Harter & Dave Campbell from the advisory committee due to cost restrictions and to approve the LCC Advisory Committee list. Second by Mike Albrecht. All in favor, motion approved.
7. Discussion was held regarding the possible action on Expenditures for 2016. Pam informed the committee that we will be working on the new 2016 Land & Water Plan and Farmland Preservation Plan which are in contingence with the State Budget. Motion by Dave Bula to approve the 2015 work plan and the salary expenditures for 2016. Second by Mike Albrecht. All in favor. Motion approved.
8. A Discussion was held on the Bog Brook dam. The Members of the public voiced their concern. Bill Connors stated, “The dam was drawn down last fall in order to do the inspection, since then there are no boards/plates in place at the dam and no water is being built up. Can we have an update on what’s going on?” The Hamilton’s have also observed the area in person and stated “currently there is only a small stream flowing through the area now and that very soon the birds and wildlife from the area will be looking for a place to nest, without water in it they will start looking elsewhere.” Pam LaBine then said we have no specific contact from the DNR since their “dam manager” was removed. This previous DNR employee instructed us to do the drawdown, when in reality it could have been inspected by using a small coffer dam and a camera to inspect the inside of the dam. The highway department is currently in charge of maintenance on the dam and keeping the water level in check. The members of the public present also informed the committee that the Inlet pipe is crushed and could be replaced. Also the culvert is not big enough to support a big rain; in fact the water level raises 3-4 feet during some rain events. In order to do any repairs or modifications to the dam we will still need to perform the Dam Break Analysis and Flood Shadow. Also once these are complete we are then eligible for the Municipal dam grant. The Good Neighbor Grant is also available but will only be able to cover repairs and basic maintenance. Motion by Mike Albrecht for John Rogers the Forest County Highway Department Commissioner to replace existing plate to allow the water level to reach the pre inspection level and/or the usual water level at this time of year, and also to move forward with plans, bids, Dam break analysis, flood shadow etc… Second by Dave Bula. All in favor. Motion Approved.
9. Pam LaBine explained the “Green Tier” to the committee. Basically it’s a method of administration where the county has an environmental management plan. Motion by Dave Bula, for Pam LaBine to investigate “Green Tier” and determine if it’s plausible for our county. Second by Mike Albrecht. All in favor, motion approved.
10. Discussion was held on the new DNR wetland maps they provided. The committee agreed that the new maps leave too much out and do not give the proper information. Members of the public must pay for wetland delineation if they find themselves in an undetermined area on the new maps. The old maps are all inclusive and show soils, and the different types of wetlands. Whereas the new ones only show “Green” wetlands, “purple” high ground, and “White” being undetermined. Undetermined areas indicate wetland delineation might be necessary. Motion by Mike Albrecht for Pam LaBine to question the new DNR Maps and see if we can continue to use our old comprehensive maps. Second by Dave Bula. All in favor, Motion approved.
11. No discussion needed for next meeting.
12. Motion by Dave Bula to Adjourn. Second by Mike Albrecht. All in favor, Meeting adjourned at 5:55pm.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_