Meeting Minutes

Forest County Land Conservation Committee

Wednesday, July 27th, 2016 4:00pm

1. The call to order was given by Chairman Millan at 4:00p.m. In Room 107 the Forest County Boardroom.
2. The roll was called; members present were Chairman Paul Millan, Committee members Lance Laabs, Alan Marvin, Karl Tauer, FSA members Dave Bula and Larry Sommer. Administrator Pam LaBine and Technician Bill Lester were present. Members absent included Dan Huettl.
3. Motion by Larry Sommer to approve the amended agenda. Second by Dave Bula. All in favor. Motion approved.
4. Discussion was held regarding the status of Bog Brook Dam.
5. The Committee was informed that the Bog Brook Dam is currently not a designated state wildlife area instead It’s considered a “Flowage.”
6. The committee was also notified that currently there is no path or trail over the spillway (which is lined with boulders). Because Bog Brook has a “public” fishing pier it must be ADA compliant. Motion by Karl Tauer to apply for a $10K Lumberjack RC&D grant for an ADA compliant access trail across/over the spillway and fishing pier. Second by Lance Laabs. All in favor. Motion approved.
7. The Dam Gate Hoist was successfully installed with the oversite of Lemke Industries. The committee feels there is no need to immediately modify the hoist, should continue as is until we have a few rain events and we can set a stream gauge and determine the correct water levels for the flowage. Motion by Lance Laabs to continue operations as is. Second by Larry Sommer. All in favor. Motion approved.
8. The annual Land & Water paper insert costs us approximately $500 to complete. Motion by Alan Marvin to split the costs of the LCC newspaper between the LCC & Recycling Budget. Second by Larry Sommer. All in favor. Motion approved.
9. Discussion was held regarding LCC Grant Funding.
10. The committee was advised that we could spend some LCC grant money on the bridge replacement project in Wabeno. The stabilization of the banks during that install could be potentially cost shared. Motion by Alan Marvin to approve not more than $5K of LCC Cost Share funds for stabilization during the install of the Wabeno Bridge replacement. Second by Dave Bula. All in favor. Motion approved.
11. Karl Tauer informed the committee of a failing culvert in the Town of Hiles on Wild Cat Creek. There seems to be significant erosion along the inlet & outlets of these culverts. Motion by Lance Laabs to approve not more than $10K of LCC Cost share funds for the Town of Hiles culvert replacement. Second by Alan Marvin. All in favor. Motion approved.
12. Discussion was held on a possible Aquatic Plant Survey for the Little Rice Flowage. There is not a lakes association for Flowage but a group of land owners who would like to see it through have been in contact with Pam LaBine regarding a possible grant. They would do the work and come up with the match. Motion by Dave Bula to sponsor the grant application for the Aquatic Plant Survey on the Little Rice Flowage, Second by Alan Marvin, all in favor, motion approved.
13. Discussion was then held regarding the Land & Water plan revisions. Now that the Zoning Ordinance has been updated the Land & Water Resources Department will now be focusing its attention on the Land & Water Plan. The Committee was advised as to the possible benefits of creating a county wide Lakes plan. Short of that just including the desires of many lakes in th land and Water Plan would be helpful. Larry Sommer said he knew of someone that could write up suggestions of what we could possibly include in the plan. The committee was then informed of the WI DNR grants project guidance is available online and the revisions made would force the counties to use old (5 years) Land and Water Plans when applying for grants. A problem could fester for 5 years before being eligible for a grant. Motion by Larry Sommer to strongly oppose Section C, Summary item #2……., send on to the DNR and our legislators. Second by Lance Laabs. All in favor. Motion Approved.
14. Discussion was held regarding the Tri County AIS Coordinator. The Committee was informed that John Pruss grant funding will finish in December 2016, and he will no longer be the AIS Coordinator. He has been very knowledgeable and extremely helpful working with the local lakes associations. The three counties (Forest, Lincoln, Langlade) must now come up with approx. $5K a year total. Equaling around $1600 a year per county. Motion by Larry Sommer to table the issue until next meeting. Second by Karl Tauer. All in favor. Motion approved.
15. Possible future items include Tri-County AIS Coordinator & Lumberjack RC&D Grant application.
16. Motion by Larry Sommer to Adjourn. Second by Dave Bula. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned at 5:55pm.

Submitted by Bill Lester