

FOREST COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION-LAND INFORMATION-GIS-UWEXT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

COMMITTEE: FOREST COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION-LAND INFORMATION-GIS-UWEXT COMMITTEE
DATE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021
TIME: 4:30 PM
PLACE: CRANDON CITY HALL

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gretzinger called the meeting to order at 4:30p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Land Conservation-Land Information-GIS-UWEXT Committee: Cindy Gretzinger, Larry Sommer

A Moment of Silence was asked for by Chairman Gretzinger for Karl Tauer

Land Information Council: Brian Piasini

Absent: Jason Neilitz, Lance Laabs, Rick Denton

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Kircher, Kayla Littleton, Jamie Anderson, Amber Rehberg, Terri Kolb, Michelle Gobert, Chris Stark, Karly Harrison

APPROVE AGENDA:

Motion by Brian Piasini to approve agenda, seconded by Sommer. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment; None in attendance

APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES from the July 28, 2021, Joint Land Conservation and Land Information - GIS - UWEXT Committee. Motion by Larry Sommer approve the July 28, 2021 meeting minutes, second by Brian Piasini. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

APPEARANCE BY ROSS MIELKE, USDA APHIS PROGRAM

Ross Mielke presented the 2021 Forest County Wildlife Damage Prices. There were two claims for Wildlife Damage in Forest County, and Three Bear Damage claims to Maple Syrup operations. Chris Starke, UW Extension representative asked if they were actually biting the vacuum lines. Ross reported they had and also are pulling lines apart. Kircher asked if there was any Bear damage to cattle this year. Ross reported that there was no cattle damage by bear or wolves this year.

Ross reported two enrollments for crop loss by deer in Forest County this year and the farmers waived their compensation in lieu of harvest tags. There was one compensation claim for a farm near Armstrong Creek for crop loss by bear. Five bears had been harvested from the farm so far.

Ross presented a corn price submittal at \$5.16/bushel. Chairman Gretzinger called for approval of the set price. Brian Piasini made the motion to accept the \$5.16/bushel price for corn loss, seconded by Larry Sommer. All present voting AYE. Motion carried. Ross reported that Claim information will be presented to the Committee at a later date, probably in January.

Ross Mielke presented the 2022 proposed budget for USDA APHIS Program and Forest County's portion. Ross reported a slight increase in wages for USDA employees and they plan to assist 5 growers that may have wildlife damage claims in the amount not to exceed \$5000. Larry Sommer asked about the Deer Donation Processing program in Forest County. In the past, Schaefer's Market would process deer for food pantry donations. Ross reported that they no longer participate in the program and a replacement service hasn't been found. Chairman Gretzinger called for the Motion to approve the 2022 USDA APHIS Forest County Budget. Approved by Larry Sommer, seconded by Brian Piasini. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

Ross Mielke reported that he will be leaving his position for a job with the US Forest Service effective November 18, 2021.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A UAV PROGRAM. Steve Kircher presented the bid package for purchase of a drone for the Land Conservation/Land Information program. Chairman Gretzinger asked that the program be tabled until Scott Williams presents his drone program pending approval of a grant he is processing. If he receives the grant, he has offered a drone to Forest County. Larry Sommer asked if the drone would meet the needs of the Land & Water department. Steve Kircher responded that he thinks Scott would be able to provide a similar drone that would meet the requirements. Chairman Gretzinger also reported that Forest County Potawatomi and Mole Lake will also receive a drone. No action was taken on the UAV Program until Scott Williams is contacted.

LAND INFORMATION PROGRAM

There was an update on the PLSS given by Steve Kircher and Jamie Anderson. Jamie Anderson reported that all Tie Sheets have been scanned and are being reviewed and processed for addition to the GCS and State Cartographer's websites. The additional Survey maps and Platt of Surveys are being scanned and will soon be available for addition to the websites. Jamie Anderson reported that with this addition, he expects more Survey work and more Surveyors available in Forest County. Steve Kircher reported that he wanted to have the program available to show Karl Tauer before his passing. He had previously attended a County meeting and reported that Forest County was lacking in providing Tie Sheet information for Surveyors in Forest County.

LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Kircher reported completion of the Shoreland project for the City of Crandon. Reimbursement from the State DOA has been requested. He also reported on several other projects that will probably be completed in 2022.

Kircher also reported on receiving a FEMA Grant for the Lilly River project and possibility of completing the Highway W project.

Kircher reported that Kayla Littleton has completed the Soil Sampling for the Northern Sands Farms and is working on the data for the Nutrient Management Plan. Land & Water is planning on completing the NMP in December.

UWEXT UPDATES

Amber Rehberg, New Area 4 Director, announced that UW-Extension Contracts will be presented to Chairman Gretzinger via email at the November meeting. November meeting was pushed into December and people would be back in Courthouse in December. Chairman Gretzinger will sign Contracts as she receives them and brought back to Committee in December. Amber will bring contracts to the LCC Meeting in December.

Amber discussed a future County Needs Assessment. A draft will be presented at a future date. Terri Kolb reported that a Needs Assessment had been done a few years ago and a new one is needed.

There was an educator update given by UWEX staff:

- Michelle Gobert, Youth Development Educator
- Terri Kolb, Health and Well-being
- Chris Stark, Community and Economic Development Educator
- Karly Harrison, Foodwise Coordinator, Florence/Forest/Oneida/Vilas counties

Amber Rehberg presented the need and use of a County Vehicle for transportation of Youth Leadership students for the various programs that Michelle Gobert is involved with. Chairman Gretzinger and Michelle Gobert will check on availability and process of vehicle use with the County Clerk and County Maintenance.

SET DECEMBER MEETING DATE, TIME AND LOCATION

A discussion to set the next meeting date, time, and location in December. Next meeting will be held on December 22nd @ 4:30pm. Location was determined pending return to the County Courthouse.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The UAV Program will be brought back for discussion and possible action at next meeting. UW-Extension 2022 Budget will also be presented and discussed at the next Committee meeting.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Brian Piasini to adjourn, second by Sommer. All present voting AYE. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

These minutes are not official and are subject to change. They will be officially approved at the next scheduled Land Conservation – Land Information – GIS – UWEXT Committee meeting.