

Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Regularly Scheduled Committee Meeting
Kewaunee County Fairgrounds Office June 16, 2015 9:00 AM

1) Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman John Pagel

2) Roll Call: Committee Members present: John Pagel, Ron Paider, Lee Luft, Bob Garfinkel; LWCD and Cooperating Agency Staff present: Davina Bonness. Kewaunee County Board Chairman, Ron Heuer; County Board Members Larry Kirchman and Robert Weidner and County Administrator Scott Feldt were also present. Joe Johnson USDA/NRCS and Aerica Bjurstrom (UWEX) were present.

3) Approval/Repair of Agenda: Motion to accept the June 16th agenda as presented was made by Bob Garfinkel and seconded by Ron Paider. Committee vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

4). Approval/Repair of May 12, 2015 Meeting Minutes: Motion to accept the May 12, 2015 meeting minutes as presented was made by Bob Garfinkel and seconded by Ron Paider. Committee vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

5) Public Comments regarding the regularly scheduled Land and Water Conservation Meeting: There were 8 public comments.

Tom Reczek : Commended LCC/County Board on being progressive and doing the right thing, but also wants the LCC to focus on Lake Michigan and addressing fields with soil erosion. Wants those contributing to water contamination held accountable with legal action.

Bill Iwen: Discussed extreme flooding and rainfall events and climate change

Joe Musial: Discussed sustainability with clean water and Agropur discharge in the East Twin River, handed out a document referring to endangered species in the East Twin.

Joe Mills : Discussed how DNR has the legislative power but lacks the manpower. Asked the LCC when they were going to locally adopt NR151 like Door County and assume this power. He wants this issue on the agenda for the next KCLWCC meeting. Luft will ask Chairman Pagel to add this item to our July agenda.

Nancy Utesch: Item request – When will Kewaunee County get a DNR Warden? Discussed her walkover and how 3 employees walked her farm. Handed out a map that she received from the DNR regarding industrial waste and would like to know all the amounts/fields in Kewaunee County that are receiving this waste.

Lynn Utesch: Discussed “The Rap Sheets” report and DNR’s inability to enforce and fine bad actors. He would request LCC and County Board to act upon giving LWCD local enforcement through NR151 like Door County, including substantial fines for repeat offenders.

Jodi Parins: Discussed how large farms are taking human waste and would like a list of human waste in Kewaunee County and know which farms are accepting it, because it is not just septic. Discussed how we should provide incentives to farmers to decrease manure spreading.

Tom Konop: Chairman Pagel read an email from Tom Konop discussing how we should start doing some cover crop presentations and field demonstrations. Also, work with the local CCA’s about karst features and mapping nutrient management plans.

6) Department Reports:

a) **Animal Waste Storage Permits:** 2 new permits (Ebert Enterprises for a manure processing facility which is part of the existing manure transfer system and Kinnard Highland Farms for a new manure storage), \$2000 brought in with permit fees

b) **Farmland Preservation/Standards and Prohibitions Walkovers:**

I (Davina) am postponing the FPP/NR151 walkover document that you requested at the last meeting (with pictures and notes on Travis's walkovers). I want to make sure the report I present to the LCC addresses all the concerns Travis is finding, but also showcase what farmers are doing right. I will have something together for the July's meeting.

- c) **Cost Share Agreements:** None
- d) **Conservation Plans for Approval:** Ms. Boness submitted one new conservation plan in the Farmland Preservation Program for approval. This conservation plan came from Alan Dettman
- e) **Notice of Non-Compliance Updates:** None
- f) **Public Health and Groundwater Protection Ordinance Update:**
Letters are in the mail for landowners/operators who have land in the 20' to bedrock areas. Farmers are coming in and working with our office to get stacking pads, cost sharing, stacking locations, and to answer their questions. All our SWRM funding has been used up for hard practices, but I have sent an email asking for more BOND funds from other counties.
- g) **Well Testing Program**
Finished up last Monday, letters to those with unsafe wells were sent out Friday (12th) from Stevens Point. The cumulative test results were as follows: 124 wells tested, plus 25 more in the Town of Lincoln.

7) Cooperating Agency Reports:

- a) **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):** Joe Johnson spoke briefly about how NRCS is also working with landowners in the ordinance (20' to bedrock area). They are signing them up for CNMP's, which is the first step in getting cost sharing for manure storages, ect. Chairman Pagel then discussed how he is currently working with NRCS, EPA, and DNR at the Ponderosa site to create a model to improve VTA (Vegetative Treatment Areas).
- b) **University of Wisconsin Extension (UWEX) and Farm Technology Days Update:** Aerica Bjurstrom spoke briefly about Small Ruminant Clinic at Lotto's Lazy Acres and Farm Market Kitchen, for more information visit <http://kewaunee.uwex.edu/2015/06/05/small-ruminant-clinic/> Also discussed a Corn-Soybean Field Day on August 20th at Clark Riemers (more information contact Aerica).

8) Other Matters:

a. Landowner Communication Letter (referencing Manure Ruling / Door County)

Lengthy discussion about how to communicate and if it is necessary to communicate the Manure Ruling and liability issues associated with spreading manure on your land. It was discussed whether the LCC should construct a public notice, newsletter, and email website. In answer to a question from Supervisor, Weidner, regarding whose responsibility it is to inform landowners, Luft reminded the KCLWCC that we are a Wisconsin State mandated entity with the responsibility to carry out policies that will "halt and then reverse the depletion of the state's soil resources and pollution of its waters." Then we discussed how to reach absentee landowners, and the potential to send only the absentee landowners a fact sheet.

Investigate number of out of county land owners to send a press release and website with a link in the article. Aerica Bjurstrom indicated she could use the UW Extension website and the Foghorn publication to get the approved information out to local landowners.

Action Item: Luft/Wisnicky will create a rough draft of the press release and Q & A for July's meeting for the LCC to review

- b. **May 28th Phosphorus Summit Roundtable with County Conservationists, County Executives and 3 members from the Town of Lincoln.** Discussed Phosphorus issues and what's happening in the surrounding counties. Brown County discussed their Phosphorus trading program and demo farms. Other counties talked about needing more staff and "boots on the ground" especially when it comes to implementing nutrient management plans and best management practices. Mr. Ribble did mention follow up meetings, but no timetable was discussed.
- c. **May 28th Meeting update with EPA/DNR/Petitioners.** Davina Bonness did attend. Same information given to this group as was the CAFO group; including all the handouts that Chairman Luft handed out at the May Ground Water Task Force Meeting. DNR presented the proposed approach and solicited input and participation. Outcome; Mr.

Rasmussen is going to establish workgroups to include short/long term goals like getting people clean water to drink, enforcement, susceptible areas, BMP's, ect. Russ would like to attend one of our Groundwater Task Force meetings in the upcoming months. Action item: Davina Bonness will provide dates for upcoming Groundwater Task Force meetings to Mr. Rasmussen.

9) Scheduling of Future Committee Meetings: Next meeting dates: Tuesday July 14th at 9:00 AM and Tuesday August 11 at 9:00 AM

10) Approval of Bills: Motion to accept the June 16th bills as presented was made by Lee Luft and seconded by Ron Paider. Committee vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

11) Chairman's Wrap-Up Comments: Chairman Pagel discussed how he is working with a company and implementing a demo unit at Ponderosa which will remove phosphorus from the manure.

12) Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 AM was made by Ron Paider and seconded by Lee Luft. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Davina Bonness – Kewaunee County, County Conservationist