

**Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Regularly Scheduled Committee Meeting**  
**Kewaunee County Fairgrounds Office May 10, 2016 9:00 AM**  
**Minutes**

**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, Charles Wagner, & Clark Riemer ; LWCD Staff present: County Conservationist, Davina Bonness ; Kewaunee County Board Chair Robert Weidner, and County Board Members Gary Paape & Larry Kirchman ; Joe Johnson NRCS

**3) Approval/Repair of Agenda:** Motion to amend the agenda to add election of officers and approve the amended May 10th agenda was made by Ron Paider and seconded by Lee Luft. Committee vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**3a). Election of Officers:** Lee Luft made a motion to elect Charles Wagner as Vice Chair and Lee Luft as Secretary, Charles Wagner seconded that motion. Committee vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

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

Chairman Pagel asked the LWCD come in and introduce themselves:

**LWCD Staff:**

Davina Bonness – County Conservationist / Department Head  
Paul Fredrich – Conservation Technician  
Travis Engels – Conservation Specialist  
Erin Hoff – Conservation Specialist  
Terri Albrecht – Program Specialist  
Terri Marcusen --- Secretary (1/2 time)

**NRCS Staff:**

Joe Johnson – District Conservationist  
Eric Schram –Conservation Technician  
Laura Watson – Soil Conservationist

**5) Public Comments regarding the regularly scheduled Land and Water Conservation Meeting:**

There were 6 public comments that discussed (1) there are numerous people who cannot drink their water and are forced to buy bottled water, (2) How can we bring Wisconsin from Air to Kewaunee County to film? (3) East Twin River and AgroPur’s chloride discharges, (4) Rotavirus / Salmonella in the well water, (5) urging LCC to adopt Chapter 23, (6) and how big agricultural has failed the citizens of Kewaunee County with too many cows and too much manure.

**6) Department Reports:**

- a) *Animal Waste Storage Permits: None*
- b) *Farmland Preservation/Standards and Prohibitions Walkovers:*

Five letters of full compliance were filed and mailed to the landowners. Letters stated that all practices are currently in full compliance with all agricultural performance standards and prohibitions currently in effect. Four of the five were completion of compliance schedules for waterways and deficient nutrient management plans that were sent out last year. Waterways were reseeded and deficient NMP were turned into our office.

- c) *Conservation Plans for Approval: None*
- d) *Notice of Non-Compliance Updates: None*

**e) Nutrient Management Plan Reviews:**

Erin is currently reviewing all 2016 NMPs submitted to our LWCD office. So far, the most common issues are soil types, corrected soil types causing fields to be over T, not having restriction maps, and reducing P in fields with +50ppm P and not including whey applications.

**f) Public Health & Groundwater Protection Ordinance Update**

Summary: 9 violations (7 landowners) were cited. 2 landowners (Smka Farms & DeGrave Farms) were both issued a fine for second violations. These fines were sent out by the Corporation Council office.

g) Well Testing June 6<sup>th</sup> Program: Registration Open, can have up to 150 wells tested, so far 77 are registered.

h). Discussion of Rotavirus / Salmonella in 11 Wells.

As part of a DNR-funded study, test results reported late Monday afternoon show the presence of salmonella and/or rotavirus in 11 private Kewaunee County wells. Property owners have been notified of the findings, which are typically associated with fecal contamination. No illnesses have been reported in connection with these findings. Property owners within a half mile radius of the affected wells are being advised by Kewaunee County to have their wells tested. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will cover the cost of the test within a half mile radius. The research team will conduct further analysis of the 11 wells.

Early indications from the researchers suggest the rotavirus may be bovine. However additional analysis is needed to confirm. According to DHS, bovine rotavirus is typically not transmissible to humans.

**7) Cooperating Agency Reports:**

- a) **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):** Joe Johnson explained that they received 5 new participants for CRP and that NRCS is working with the LWCD on CREP signup and re-enrolls.

**8) Other Matters to Discuss (if needed)**

1. Lee Luft would like a general area location of the rotavirus / salmonella, for example, NE ¼ of Carlton...ect. Davina said she would check with Russ Rasmussen and the Research Team.

2. Lee Luft would also like the LCC to gather more information regarding AgroPur and their current operations, including their discharge amounts. After the information is gathered, Luft would like the LCC to send a resolution to the DNR to ask for further testing on the East Twin River.

3. Chuck Wagner discussed his 13 acre demo plot on this homestead. They are going to plant no-till / cover crop rotations.

4. Davina gave a brief update on the DNR Workgroups. Compliance and Short Term are finished, and BMP/Sensitive Area group ranked their final recommendations. The Communications team is working on the final report. For more information, see

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Groundwater/CollaborationWorkgroup.html>

**9) Scheduling of Future Committee Meetings:** June 14, 2016 at 9:00am; July 6, 2016 at 9:00am

**10) Approval of Bills:** Motion to accept the May 10th bills as presented was made by Chuck Wagner and seconded by Lee Luft. Committee vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**11) Chairman's Wrap Up Comments:**

Good to hear from the public on their concerns and looking forward to working with the new committee and the staff from Land and Water and NRCS to continue our efforts for water quality improvement

**12) Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 am was made by Ron Paider and seconded by Lee Luft. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Davina Bonness – Kewaunee County, County Conservationist