

**WAUPACA COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes — September 13th, 2021**

Chair DuWayne Federwitz called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and gave the open meeting statement.

**Roll Call:** Chair DuWayne Federwitz, Vice Chair Bob Ellis, Supervisors James Nygaard, , Cindy Hardy, Ken Jaeger and FSA Rep Craig Nelson. Bernie Ritchie excused. Others present: Brian Haase, Lisa Neuenfeldt (via Zoom).

**Review and Approve Agenda:** Motion by Ellis, seconded by Jaeger to approve the agenda. Motion carried without a negative vote.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting, August 5th, 2021:** Motion by Jaeger, seconded by Hardy to approve the August 5th, 2021 minutes. Motion carried without a negative vote.

**Public Comment:** None

**Agency Reports:**

**NRCS Report — Neuenfeldt** – The Waupaca USDA service center is limited to 50% staffing in the office and is still closed to the public. We continue to meet with customers in the parking lot and in the field. Our new Soil Conservationist, Ben Galewski, starts today. All new EQIP contracts have been approved and obligated for the year. There were 33 new contracts for a total of \$1,286,340. The next signup deadline has not been announced, but will most likely be sometime later this fall or early winter. Cover crop reminder letters went out a few weeks ago. We will be checking planted cover crops for 29 contracts this month and next. EQIP practices completed/paid since the August 19<sup>th</sup> meeting: Three deer enclosure projects, three prescribed grazing implementations, three brush management for invasive species projects, completion of no-till planting on 1140 acres, a comprehensive nutrient management plan, a water/sediment control basin, a high tunnel, a fence system for a grazing farm, and 280 acres of low-disturbance manure application.

Two Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contracts were approved for funding. For all contracts, we will begin reviewing practices/activities that were implemented this year and starting to work on annual payments.

The Farm Service Agency's General Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) signup closed in August. Six new applications were accepted. NRCS finished up the plans and contracts for those last week. Nationwide, 5.3 million acres were newly enrolled in the program.

**FSA Report – Bourget** – None

**Meeting Reports:**

**UF-W Demonstration Farms** – Haase stated the Inter-seeder project had not gone as planned to date. The company building it will be remodeling it over winter. Full payment will not be made until 2022.

**Tree Sale Update** – Haase stated that the trees had been ordered and the 2022 order forms were on the website. Order forms are also mailed or e-mailed to existing customers. Like last year some species were not available however some that were unavailable in 2021 were able to be ordered for 2022.

**2022 LWCD Budget** – Haase stated that a couple errors existed on the version of the budget that was passed last month. A Demo Farm income stream was accidentally used twice, however a TRM grant expense was accidentally over estimated in a similar amount. The two errors nearly offset and the remainder was made up by a slight reduction to the contracted services line item. The budget was still at 0% increase for 2022.

Motion by Nygaard, seconded by Ellis to re-approve the 2022 budget. Motion carried without a negative vote

**USGS Monitoring Station** – Haase explained that the department may have an opportunity to grant fund a side by side USGS monitoring station to be placed in a location that could compare real time water quality data in adjacent small watersheds. Similar systems are in use in the Green Bay area but USGS and NRCS would desire to see one operate in the Waupaca County region due to differing soil types. Haase is exploring several grant opportunities to pay for the stations. Waupaca staff would be expected to donate time to the management of the project. Station costs are well in excess of \$40,000.

**Land & Water Resource Management (LWRM) / Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Cost Share Agreements**

**Approval** – Haase presented a larger list of cost share agreements (attached) to be approved. The CSA's are mostly for cover

crops and harvestable buffers.

Motion by Ellis, seconded by Nygaard to approve the CSA's as one group. Motion carried without a negative vote

**County Conservationist Report** – Haase stated that he inspected the Dan Hallman Farm on Hwy X north of Weyauwega with DNR staff, in regards to manure stacked on the road ditch bank on August 18<sup>th</sup>. DNR staff gave Hallman 60 days to clean up the manure and will be back for a re-inspection at that time. Haase said that there has been continued interest in the Harvestable Buffer project from many farmers. Waupaca County will get another \$25,000 from DATCP in 2022 for the continued pilot project.

**Upcoming Meetings-** LWCC October 11th at 8:00 AM.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Jaeger, seconded by Ellis to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 AM.

Submitted by,

Brian Haase  
Recording Secretary

These minutes will be posted to the website prior to approval from the Committee and are considered to be in draft form until approved at the next scheduled meeting.

DRAFT