

Sitzberger called the regular meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee to order at 9:00 a.m., on November 2, 2012 in the Lower Level Conference Room #2, at the Vilas County Courthouse, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

Present: The following persons were present: County Board members; Ralph Sitzberger, Mary Kim Black, Kathleen Rushlow, Dennis Nielsen, & Lorin Johnson; and others, Michael Stinebrink, Rollie Alger, Ted Ritter, and Rosemary Leveille
The following County Board member(s) was excused:
The following County Board member(s) was absent:
Media present:

Approve Agenda: Motion made by Rushlow, second by Black, to approve the agenda in any order at the chairman's discretion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Approve Minutes: Motion by Rushlow, second by Johnson to approve the minutes from September 7, 2012 of this committee. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program –
Irish did not attend.

Lake Organizations, ER Unified Lakes Commission (ULERCLC) & Vilas County Lakes and Rivers Association (VCLRA) –

VCLRA – Alger stated VCLRA has noted that 5 new lakes in Vilas County have been identified with AIS from someone other than the residents. A letter was sent to the membership about the identification. A note from Scholl was read that the Big Sand Lake Association is currently completing their written boundary and will be submitting their petition most likely in mid-November.

Technical Services Policy and 2013 Fee Schedule –Resolution –

The “New Technical Service Fee Policy and Fee Schedule” resolution was presented to the committee for signature. **A motion was made by Nielsen to sign the resolution and present it to the County Board with the stipulation that the Land and Water Conservation Committee has the final and complete authority to accept or deny the “Economic Hardship” of the landowner, second by Rushlow. Motion carried, all voting aye.**

2012 Conservation Awareness Poster Contest Results –

The poster contest consisted of 4 grade divisions: primary, elementary, middle and junior. Three schools from the area participated: Northland Pines, Christ Lutheran, and Phelps presenting 67 posters with the theme of “Soil to Spoon”. The winners are: Brady Maines, Emily Reid, Lillian Bontrager, and Dawson Hogenmiller. Brady Maines took 1st place at regional and will be forwarded to state! Vilas County will have an awards ceremony on November 5th. Sitzberger said the contest for speech might be moved to the spring because the fall timing is just too busy with the start of school.

Agent reports: UWEX, FSA, LWCD, NRCS, NCLWCA, Lumberjack RC&D –

UWEX – Nielsen stated that the UW-Extension is having a “Holiday Open House” at their next meeting, November 8th. NRCS – Stinebrink handed out his written report (on file in the LWCD office) and discussed several programs. LWCD - Scholl, Sheehan and Ritter's written reports (on file in the LWCD office) were given to the committee. Ritter is possibly looking at 12 – 15 interns for the “Clean Boats Clean Waters” program for 2013. He also told the committee of the contact he made at the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference with the Department of Transportation (DOT). This could be very beneficial with the roadside survey especially when it comes to the state roads. NCLWCA – Sitzberger announced that because of the merger, resolutions will now be accepted at any time and the WLWCA board of directors will make the decision on which will be accepted and moved forward to state level entities as necessary.

Lumberjack RC&D – Nielsen stated the Lumberjack is now 50 years strong as of September, 2012. They are looking to set a policy of \$10,000 per county per year for projects. Sitzberger stated that he would like to see the travel be held to: Wisconsin Lakes Conference to everyone (committee and staff); WLWCA to Chair or Vice-Chair and Department head; Lumberjack RC&D to representative or alternate and for the staff to try to attend only important events and resist attending everything. Sitzberger will discuss the distribution of travel monies with Scholl and report back to the committee.

Out-of-county travel –

A motion by Rushlow, second by Nielsen to approve the following out of county travel: Sheehan on Dec. 17th to Portage County for a Lake Partners mtg. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Monthly Budget Review –

An update of the budget was presented to the committee along with the statement of the bills paid. **Motion by Rushlow, second by Nielsen to approve the budget update and pay the bills. Motion carried.**

Letters and Communications –

The following items are on file in the LWCD office: DATCP Report; Network News, October 2012; and Wisconsin Wetland Association booklet and flyers.

Future Meeting Dates/Items –

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday December 7, 2012 in the Vilas County Courthouse, 330 Court St., Eagle River, WI 54521.

Adjournment –

Meeting was adjourned by Sitzberger at 10:35 a.m.

Minutes reflect the recorder's notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.

Respectfully submitted by: *Rosemary Leveille*