

**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH
MEETING MINUTES**

**July 2, 2024
Microsoft Teams Meeting**

Item #1 Call to Order – Roll call, open meeting notice, approval of agenda, approval of March 5, 2024 Committee meeting minutes.

Call to Order

The Advisory Committee on Research (“Committee”) to the Land and Water Conservation Board (“LWCB” or “Board”) met via videoconference on July 2, 2024. The meeting was preceded by public notice as required by Wis. Stat. § 19.84. The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Ron Grasshoff at **9:00 am**.

Committee Members Present

Members: Ron Grasshoff, Brian McGraw, Monte Osterman, and Katy Smith (Delegated by Tim Anderson). A quorum was present.

Committee Advisors Present

Advisors: Dr. Francisco Arriaga.

Approval of Agenda

Motion

Osterman motioned to approve the agenda with an edit to correct an error regarding Brian McGraw’s name, seconded by McGraw, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion

Osterman motioned to approve the draft minutes of the March 5, 2024 meeting minutes with an edit to item 3, in which the 2024 work plan was approved with the stipulation that it is able to be revised, seconded by Grasshoff, and the motion carried unanimously. The approved minutes shall be posted as the official meeting record for publication on the LWCB website.

Item #2 Discuss Committee’s Suggestion for Bylaw Changes

Kirsten Biefeld, DATCP, discussed the findings from DATCP legal in reviewing the proposed bylaw changes. It was found that these proposed changes do not align with the statute in that non-LWCB members cannot be appointed to the advisory committee and have voting rights, they can only serve in an advisory capacity. DATCP legal team also found that the proposed name change for the UW-system and UW-Extension are not the legal name of the institutions, and the statute does not refer to them as such, so the UW-system and UW-Extension should continue be referred to as such.

The Advisory Committee on Research discussed for-going the current proposed edits to draft new language, allowing the committee to solicit additional advisors for committee meetings. The new proposed change would be for Section VIII., A to be amended at the end to read: “and such other persons that the Advisory Committee on Research Chair deems appropriate.”

Motion

Grasshoff motioned to postpone amendment to the bylaw changes and continue further discussion by the end of this year, seconded by McGraw, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #3 Review the 2024 Work Plan for the Advisory Committee on Research

Kirsten Biefeld, DATCP and Ron Grasshoff, Committee Chair, discussed proposed changes to the 2024 Work Plan, including format changes such as changing topic names, clarifying topic goals and actions. Osterman suggested a new goal underneath the educational opportunities to invite or engage partners outside of the UW-System or partners the LWCB Board currently interacts with, which the committee added to the work plan.

Motion

Osterman motioned to approve of amended work plan and its future revision in Advisory Committee on Research meetings, seconded by McGraw, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #4 Discuss the LWCB Survey Report and Potential Board Presentations

Kirsten Biefeld, DATCP, shared the results of the distribution survey outreach that it had garnered unique responses of UW researchers and outreach specialist with potential interest to present to the board on matters relevant to the findings of the 2023 LWCB Soil & Water Conservation Research and Educational Needs Survey Report. Kirsten Biefeld and Katy Smith recommend Chelsea Zegler and Matt Ruark as potential first presenters to the LWCB board meeting.

Dr. Francisco Arriaga recommended Daniel Smith as another presenter to bring before the board. Daniel Smith has filled out the questionnaire and will be added to the list of potential speakers.

Motion

Grasshoff motioned to accept the presenter suggestions and have them reached out to, to see who could make the October meeting. This was seconded by Osterman, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #5 Member Updates with Possible Discussion

This item was not discussed.

Item #6 Planning for the next Advisory Committee meeting

Ron Grasshoff stated that starting with the September Advisory Committee meeting, meetings would be extended an additional half an hour, to be 9am to 10:30am ending time.

The Committee should expect the following at the next meeting on September 3, 2024:

- Further discussion on new proposed changes to the LWCB bylaws regarding additional advisors for the Advisory Committee on Research
- An update on potential presenters for the October LWCB board meeting

Item #7 Adjourn

Motion

Grasshoff motioned to adjourn, seconded by Osterman, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:11.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kirsten Biefeld, Bureau of Land and Water Resources
Division of Agricultural Resource Management
WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection