

**MINUTES**  
**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING**

**December 1, 2015**  
**DATCP Board Room**  
**Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection**  
**2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison, Wisconsin**

**Item #1      Call to Order—pledge of allegiance, open meeting notice, approval of agenda, approval of October 6, 2015 LWCB meeting minutes.**

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The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Cupp at 9:00 a.m. Cupp, George Mika, Dave Solin, Eric Birschbach, Dale Hood, Lynn Harrison, Keith Foye, Caitlin Frederick, and Mary Anne Lowndes were in attendance. A quorum was present. Advisors Kurt Calkins and Jim VandenBrook (WI Land + Water) were present. Others present included Jerry Halverson and Tony Smith, Manitowoc County SWCD; Ken Dolata, Oconto County LCD; Jim McCaulley, Iowa County LCD; John Krell, Rusk County LWCD; Wally Sedlar, Adams County LCD; Fred Heider, North Central WI Regional Planning Commission; Richard Castelnuovo, Lisa Trumble, and Chris Clayton, DATCP.

Clayton confirmed that the meeting was publicly noticed.

Hood moved to approve the agenda as presented, Solin seconded, and the motion carried.

Cupp provided an update on board member status. The board has one vacant position representing a charitable association and one term-expired position representing a city with a population of 50,000 or more. Both positions need to be filled. Cupp asked that anyone interested should contact him.

**Item #2      Public Appearances**

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No public appearance cards were submitted.

**Item #3      Recommendation for approval of Land and Water Resource Management Plan revision for Manitowoc County**

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Halverson made a presentation in support of Manitowoc County's LWRM plan revision. (The presentation can be accessed at:  
<http://datcp.wi.gov/uploads/Environment/pdf/ManitowocCountyPresentation.pdf>)

Halverson reported that the DATCP staff reviewed the plan using the LWRM Plan Review Checklist and found that the plan complies with all requirements of section 92.10, Wisconsin Statutes, and Chapter ATCP 50, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

Halverson highlighted the county's ability to meet goals and activities in its previous 10-year plan, and addressed key benchmarked activities pursued by the county over the past five years. The local and technical advisory committee will meet annually to review plan progress.

Halverson reported that the county's current farm priority strategy is effective, and he submitted an updated work plan that covers planned goals and activities.

The following issues were discussed: tillage methods promoting soil health and reducing runoff, water quality concerns related to non-metallic mining, water quality concerns in lakes where agriculture and heavy soils combine to produce significant surface runoff, issues with manure entering groundwater along the water supply pipeline running from Lake Michigan to suburban Green Bay, the use of settling ponds or wetlands at the end of waterways, and the county's winter manure spreading ordinance.

Mika moved to approve Manitowoc County's plan revision as presented, Birschbach seconded, and the motion carried.

**Item #4          Recommendation for approval of Land and Water Resource Management Plan revision for Oconto County**

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Dolata made a presentation in support of Oconto County's LWRM plan revision. (The presentation can be accessed at: <http://datcp.wi.gov/uploads/Environment/pdf/OcontoCountyPresentation.pdf>)

Dolata reported that the DATCP staff reviewed the plan using the LWRM Plan Review Checklist and found that the plan complies with all requirements of section 92.10, Wisconsin Statutes, and Chapter ATCP 50, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

Dolata highlighted the county's ability to meet goals and activities in its previous 10-year plan, and addressed key benchmarked activities pursued by the county over the past five years. Dolata reported that the county's current farm priority strategy is effective, and he submitted an updated work plan that covers planned goals and activities.

The following issues were discussed: the possibility of phosphorus trading as a means to help fund the county, beginning conversations with the Little Saumico Sanitary District and a local paper company, discussions with the Land Conservation Committee about adding staff.

Solin moved to approve Oconto County's plan revision as presented, Harrison seconded, and the motion carried.

**Item #5          Recommendation for approval of 5-year extension request for Columbia County Land and Water Resource Management Plan**

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Calkins made a presentation in support of Columbia County's 5-year extension of its LWRM plan. (The presentation can be accessed at: <http://datcp.wi.gov/uploads/Environment/pdf/ColumbiaCountyPresentation.pdf>)

Calkins highlighted the county's progress in meeting planned goals and activities, and addressed key benchmarked activities pursued by the county over the past five years.

Calkins reported that the county's current farm priority strategy is effective, and the county submitted an updated work plan that covers planned goals and activities during the five year extension period.

The following issues were discussed: the LWCD's commitment to large scale TRM projects; the use of a G-Flow Groundwater Model and LRS based tracking; the status of the City of Lodi Adaptive Management project; nutrient management planning; the benefits of working with the Lake Wisconsin Alliance to communicate issues relating to poor water quality, nonpoint source pollution, and managing expectations.

Mika moved to approve Columbia County's 5-year extension request as presented, Solin seconded, and the motion carried.

**Item #6            Recommendation for approval of Land and Water Resource Management Plan Revision for Iowa County**

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McCaulley made a presentation in support of Iowa County's LWRM plan revision. (The presentation can be accessed at: <http://datcp.wi.gov/uploads/Environment/pdf/IowaCountyPresentation.pdf>)

McCaulley reported that the DATCP staff reviewed the plan using the LWRM Plan Review Checklist and found that the plan complies with all requirements of section 92.10, Wisconsin Statutes, and Chapter ATCP 50, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

McCaulley highlighted the county's ability to meet goals and activities in its previous 10-year plan, and addressed key benchmarked activities pursued by the county over the past five years. McCaulley reported that the county's current farm priority strategy is effective, and he submitted an updated work plan that covers planned goals and activities.

The following issues were discussed: the loss of CRP acres resulting in an increase in crop acres over the past several years; tillage and residue management as a means of not backsliding on erosion and nutrient losses; groundwater testing and planning; potential for enacting an ordinance to address manure spreading in winter, and acreage of farmland having nutrient management plans.

Hood moved to approve Iowa County's plan revision as presented, Harrison seconded, and the motion carried.

**Item #8            Recommendation for approval of Land and Water Resource Management Plan Revision for Rusk County**

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Krell made a presentation in support of Rusk County's LWRM plan revision. (The presentation can be accessed at: <http://datcp.wi.gov/uploads/Environment/pdf/RuskCountyPresentation.pdf>)

Krell reported that the DATCP staff reviewed the plan using the LWRM Plan Review Checklist and found that the plan complies with all requirements of section 92.10, Wisconsin Statutes, and Chapter ATCP 50, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

Krell highlighted the county's ability to meet goals and activities in its previous 10-year plan, and addressed key benchmarked activities pursued by the county over the past five years. Krell reported that the county's current farm priority strategy is effective, and he submitted an updated work plan that covers planned goals and activities.

The following issues were discussed: the department has combined with zoning and land information; farmland coming out of production because of parcels being turned into deer hunting grounds, population projections in the county, and the establishment of two new hog farms just under 1,000 animal units.

Mika moved to approve Rusk County's plan revision as presented, Birschbach seconded, and the motion carried.

**Item #9      Recommendation for approval of Land and Water Resource Management Plan Revision for Adams County**

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Sedlar and Heider made a presentation in support of Adams County's LWRM plan revision.

(The presentation can be accessed at:

<http://datcp.wi.gov/uploads/Environment/pdf/AdamsCountyPresentation.pdf>)

Sedlar reported that the DATCP staff reviewed the plan using the LWRM Plan Review Checklist and found that the plan complies with all requirements of section 92.10, Wisconsin Statutes, and Chapter ATCP 50, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

Sedlar highlighted the county's ability to meet goals and activities in its previous 10-year plan, and addressed key benchmarked activities pursued by the county over the past five years. Sedlar reported that the county's current farm priority strategy is effective, and he submitted an updated work plan that covers planned goals and activities.

The following issues were discussed: buy-in for planting cover crops; large conversions of forestland to agricultural land; Adams County would like to participate in CREP, and attempts to halt large-scale land conversions through zoning.

Mika moved to approve Adams County's plan revision as presented, Hood seconded, and the motion carried.

**Item #10      Procedures for 2016 Election of LWCB Officers**

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Cupp stated that changes to the bylaws dispense with a nominating committee. Instead, the board will take nominations from the floor at the next LWCB meeting for the positions of chair, vice-chair, and secretary.

**Item #11      Approval of proposed 2016 LWCB Annual Agenda**

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Clayton and Trumble presented the 2016 LWCB Annual Agenda, which proposes meeting dates on February 2, April 5, June 7, August 2, October 4, and December 6, 2016.

The board discussed having a standing 15 minute slot to devote to board member education, or presenting issues relevant to Land and Water Conservation matters. Examples include the state

budgeting process, nonpoint program funding, nine key elements planning, CAFO permitting, and Wisconsin Land & Water information regarding a potential Legislative Council study on future nonpoint program funding. The board agreed that an overview of the state budget process, together with information on the environmental fund, should be placed on the February meeting agenda.

**Item #12 Agency reports**

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**WLWCA** – VandenBrook reported that youth education is a priority for WLWCA. Recently, WLWCA contracted with Discover Media to develop a four-segment video on solutions to water pollution. One segment focuses on the successful nonpoint pollution reduction project in Pleasant Valley. Each of the four video segments will be used to develop curriculum that will be available to high school teachers throughout the state.

**DATCP** – Foye reported that the producer-led watershed grants will be made available in 2016. The total amount for the program is \$250,000, which was carved out of the SEG fund appropriated for cost-sharing nutrient management plans and soft practices supporting nutrient management. The department will utilize an emergency rule to implement the first round of the grant program beginning in January 2016, as well as the second round of grants later in 2016. DATCP will complete a permanent rule to apply to funding from the next biennial budget. DATCP and FSA are working on CREP enrollment guidance given the expiration of numerous 15-year CREP agreements on September 30, 2016. A CREP item may be placed on the February LWCB meeting agenda.

**DNR** – Lowndes reported that the department is working on grant applications and getting ready to post an announcement of the next granting cycle. Urban nonpoint source pollution grants will be made available every other year. In January 2016, DNR will post urban construction grants, and urban planning grants will be posted in 2017. DNR will continue to make TRM grants available every year.

**Item #13 Planning for February 2016 Meeting – Mark Cupp, LWCB**

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- Report and recommendations on the 2016 CREP spending authority.
- Overview of the state budget process, together with information on the environmental fund.

**Item #14 Adjourn**

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Mika moved to adjourn, Solin seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Eric Birschbach, Secretary

2/2/16  
Date

Recorder: CRC, DATCP