MINUTES
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING

June 5, 2018
Sauk County West Square Building Room 326
505 Broadway St., Baraboo, WI

Item #1 Call to Order—pledge of allegiance, open meeting notice, approval of agenda, approval of April 3, 2018 LWCB meeting minutes.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Cupp at 9:00 a.m. Members Carl Chenoweth, Lynn Harrison, Pat Laughrin, Eric Birschbach, Dave Solin, Keith Foye, Andrew Potts, and Mary Anne Lowndes were in attendance. A quorum was present. Advisors Matt Krueger (WI Land + Water), and Eric Allness (NRCS) also were present. Others present included Richard Castelnuovo, Lisa Trumble, and Chris Clayton, DATCP.

Clayton confirmed that the meeting was publicly noticed.

Harrison moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Laughrin, and the motion carried.

Chenoweth moved to approve the April 3rd meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Harrison, and the motion carried.

Item #2 Public Appearances

No public appearance cards were submitted.

Item #3 2018 Supplemental Allocation Plan for the Soil and Water Resource Management Program

Castelnuovo requested approval of the 2018 final supplemental allocation of cost-share funds, which was made possible as a result of underspending in the Producer Led Watershed Protection Grant (PLWP) Program. The additional funding will be allocated to counties based on the funding formula originally used to award the landowner cost-sharing for nutrient management plans. Castelnuovo stated that DATCP distributed the preliminary supplemental allocation plan for a 30-day comment period and received no comments.

Chenoweth moved to approve the 2018 Supplemental Allocation Plan as presented, seconded by Birschbach, and the motion carried.

Item #4 Gathering input from stakeholders and public on nonpoint funding

Cupp handed out to the LWCB a draft letter addressed to DATCP Secretary Harsdorf and DNR Secretary Meyer which communicates the importance of land and water program funding to both agencies. The Board discussed the following: meeting with the Secretaries to discuss this issue; the staffing grant formula; beginning a larger discussion about funding county staff in full; the process of getting initiatives into the budget through the governor’s office and the legislature; support that such a letter might provide to WLWCA efforts to request additional funding from the legislature.

Chenoweth moved to approve the letter, directing Chairman Cupp to send it to Secretaries Harsdorf and Meyer, copying the Governor’s Office; seconded by Birschbach; and the motion carried with abstentions from Lowndes, Foye, and Potter.
Item #5  LWCB statement on resource protection goals

Cupp tasked Krueger with drafting a statement of resource protection goals for board approval with input from four LWCB members assigned to a workgroup at the last LWCB meeting. Krueger presented the draft statement based on the surface water and ground water goals in the Food, Land and Water Project report.

The board discussed the following: the workgroup’s process of reviewing the draft statement; using data to include a brief description in the statement of contributing sources of phosphorus to surface waters; inserting timelines regarding implementation; doing outreach to describe all phosphorus sources to surface waters; DNR’s schedule for TMDL modeling and implementation throughout the state; the need for better awareness of phosphorus sources and transport; creating value to WLWCA’s effort to push for more conservation funding through the board’s endorsement of the draft statement; whether or not to include a dollar figure quantifying successful implementation.

There was consensus among the board to: 1) include language in the draft statement expressing support for exploring implementation of the stated resource protection goals and for continued research of phosphorus sources to surface waters, and 2) take up the revised draft statement during the August LWCB meeting.

Item #6  Agency Reports

DNR – The latest revisions to NR 151 will become effective July 1. The DNR held a meeting with 15 county conservation offices to discuss implementation of NR 151 and to answer questions regarding cost-sharing. There is an upcoming meeting with agronomists on the same topic. DNR received grant applications for TRM projects, and there are more proposals for large scale projects than small scale projects. DNR is evaluating challenges to implementing the agricultural performance standards, including the use of grants.

DATCP – The 2017 Land and Water Conservation Annual Reports were shared. The report focuses on success stories from the counties of implementing the nonpoint programs. The report will be sent to legislators including those who represent areas with projects described in the report. The preliminary 2019 joint allocation plan will be brought to the LWCB in August. The Producer Led Watershed Protection Grant Program was appropriated additional funds for FY18 and FY19. Request for proposals will be out in early July for funds available in 2019. The Livestock Facility Siting Review Board will hear an appeal regarding an expanding poultry operation in Jefferson County.

NRCS – The Farm Bill will expire at the end of September, and a new Farm Bill is being discussed in Congress. If no new bill is enacted by then, the current bill would be extended.

WI Land + Water – The WLWCA is conducting meetings with new LCC members in part to provide education concerning their roles. The County Conservationist meeting is coming up in July. The new Standards Oversight Council Program Manager is Kate Brunner.

LWCB Chair – Cupp is discussing with Genskow and Arriaga about continuing their roles as LWCB advisors.

Item #7  Planning for August 2018 LWCB Meeting

- Richland County revisit
- Grant County and St. Croix County plan revisions
- 2019 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan
- TRM and UNPS and Stormwater Management Projects scores and rankings for CY 2019
• 2017 Land and Water Conservation Annual Report
• Presentation on a guide for riparian landowners
• Board endorsement of Food, Land and Water goals

Item #8 Adjourn
Chenoweth moved to adjourn, seconded by Harrison, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35am.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Birschbach, Secretary Date

Recorder: CC, DATCP