Advisory Committee on Research

Agenda

January 3, 2023

The Advisory Committee on Research (Committee) to the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) will meet on January 3, 2023 at 9:00 am via Microsoft Teams. To attend the meeting, join by telephone at 608-571-2209 with Conference ID 679 983 370# or click the following Teams hyperlink. The agenda for the meeting is shown below.

AGENDA ITEMS AND TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

1 Meeting Called to Order – Ron Grasshoff, Committee Chair
   a. Roll Call
   b. Open meeting notice
   c. Approval of meeting agenda
   d. Approval of November 1, 2022 meeting minutes

2 Election of Committee Officers
   Ron Grasshoff, Committee Chair

3 Update from Survey Working Group
   Bobbie Webster, Brian Weigel and John Exo, LWCB

4 Discussion and Vote on Stakeholder Outreach Letter & Electronic Survey
   Ron Grasshoff, Committee Chair

5 Discussion and Potential Vote on Actions Necessary to Implement Stakeholder Outreach
   Ron Grasshoff, Committee Chair

6 Member Updates with Possible Discussion

7 Planning for the Next Advisory Committee Meeting
   Ron Grasshoff, Committee Chair

8 Adjourn

Ron Grasshoff, Committee Chair;
Bobbie Webster, Vice Chair;
Monte Osterman; Brian Weigel, John Exo, Dr. Francisco Arriaga
Call to Order
The Advisory Committee on Research (Committee) to the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB or Board) met via videoconference on November 1, 2022. The meeting was preceded by public notice as required by Wis. Stat. § 19.84. The meeting was called to order by Ron Grasshoff at 3:11 pm.

Members Present
Members: Ron Grasshoff, Bobbie Webster, and Brian Weigel. A quorum was present.

Advisors Present
Advisors: John Exo and Dr. Francisco Arriaga.

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On November 9, 2022, Department legal counsel advised that advisors to the Committee should not make motions or vote on matters of the Committee, based on the governance of the LWCB pursuant to ch. 15 and 92, Wis. Stats. Henceforth, actions of advisors will comply with ch. 15 and 92, Wis. Stats.

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Approval of Agenda
Motion
Exo motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Arriaga, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes
Motion
Arriaga motioned to approve the draft minutes of the September 6, 2022 meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Exo, and the motion carried unanimously. The approved minutes shall be posted as the official meeting record for publication on the LWCB website.
Item #2 Discussion and Possible Election of Advisory Committee Officers

Ron Grasshoff, LWCB, opened a discussion on whether the Committee should elect members at the first meeting of each year to serve as committee officers. Department staff advised that the Committee is not required under s. 15.07(2), stat., to elect officers, but has the discretion to do so. Should the Committee elect officers, they also have discretion to accept or omit each type of officer (i.e. chair, vice chair, and secretary). Department staff also advised the Committee that the task of minute recording may be delegated to Department staff. After additional discussion, the following motions were made:

Motion
Exo motioned to create the positions of chair and vice chair for the Advisory Committee on Research, seconded by Arriaga, and the motion carried unanimously.

After the Committee adopted a structure of officers, Grasshoff opened the floor for nominations to fill the position of Committee Chair.

Nomination for Chair

Exo nominated Grasshoff as Chair, seconded by Arriaga. Exo motioned to close nominations and nominate Grasshoff for Chair, seconded by Arriaga.

Grasshoff closed nominations. Grasshoff was elected to serve as 2022 Committee Chair by an unanimous voice vote.

Nomination for Vice Chair

Arriaga nominated Webster as Vice Chair, seconded by Exo. Exo motioned to close nominations and nominate Webster for Vice Chair, seconded by Grasshoff.

Grasshoff closed nominations. Webster was elected to serve as 2022 Committee Vice Chair by an unanimous voice vote.

Item #3 Update on Open Meeting and Public Record Requirements

Zach Zopp, DATCP, gave a brief update regarding activities the Department is taking for the Committee to adhere to public meeting notice in accordance with s. 19.84, stat., and meeting records in accordance with s. 19.88(3), stat. Department staff advised that the committee hold officer elections at the first meeting of each year. The Committee also discussed the roles of advisors to the Committee. After a brief discussion, the Committee requested that department staff clarify the roles of advisors and present the findings at the next committee meeting.

Item #4 Discussion and Vote on Stakeholder Outreach Letter & Electronic Survey

John Exo, UW-Extension Advisor to the LWCB, presented a draft copy of a letter and electronic survey the Committee intends to send, on behalf of the Board, to stakeholders and partners. Together the letter and survey will inform stakeholders of the LWCB’s intention to advise the UW-System on soil and water conservation needs and offer stakeholders a platform to submit feedback. The committee discussed the scope of the survey questions and the balance of data analysis verses constraining participant responses. A working group consisting of Webster, Weigel and Exo will meet to refine the survey and report to the Committee in January 2023. After additional discussion, the following motion was made:
Motion
Arriaga motioned to table the vote on the survey letter and electronic survey for further development, seconded by Grasshoff, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #5  Member Updates with Possible Discussion

No updates were provided.

Item #6  Discuss Actions Necessary to Implement Stakeholder Outreach

Chair Grasshoff, opened the floor for a general discussion regarding the Committees next steps to gather stakeholder feedback regarding research and outreach needs related to agricultural soil & water resources. The committee discussed the survey data analysis procedure, responsibilities, and the final work product of the Committee. The Committee also discussed the need to prepare a brief report on the survey results for internal use and public distribution.

Item #7  Planning for the next Advisory Committee meeting

Chair Grasshoff, opened the floor for a general discussion regarding agenda items for the January 3, 2023 Committee meeting. Department staff advised that the Committee should hold an election for 2023 Committee Officers at the January 3 meeting. This would align the Committee’s election cycle with the current procedure detailed within the LWCB Bylaws. Chair Grasshoff called for a special committee meeting in December 2022 to approve the survey and questionnaire.

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On November 11, 2022, Chair Grasshoff canceled the special committee meeting in December due to scheduling conflicts that could potentially prevent a quorum.

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Item #8  Adjourn

Motion
Exo motioned to adjourn, seconded by Arriaga. Chair Grasshoff adjourned the meeting at 4:14pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Zach Zopp, Bureau of Land and Water Resources
Division of Agricultural Resource Management
WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
RE: Research and outreach needs associated with agricultural soil & water resources

Dear __________,

**Wisconsin’s Land & Water Conservation Board** seeks your specific expertise and input regarding research and outreach needs related to agricultural soil & water resources. The Board has a duty to gather this information from its partners and stakeholders to further soil & water conservation in Wisconsin. To facilitate this duty, the Board created and charged the **Advisory Committee on Research** to conduct the necessary outreach. Ultimately, stakeholder feedback will be delivered to the University of Wisconsin as recommendations to achieve soil & water conservation research needs.

The purposes of this effort are to:

- Identify important research needs related to soil & water resource issues in Wisconsin
- Convey those identified needs to UW researchers seeking project funding
- Assist in identifying research gaps

To facilitate your input, we have created an electronic survey to collect feedback. Please access the survey [here] and add your thoughts by [insert date].

You can also access the survey using this QR code:  [PLACE HOLDER FOR QR CODE]

**Due date for responses:**

On behalf of the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Board, we sincerely appreciate your contribution to this effort and look forward to sharing a summary of our findings.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mark E. Cupp, Chair
Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Board
Wisconsin’s Land & Water Conservation Board seeks your specific expertise and input regarding research and educational needs related to agricultural soil & water conservation in Wisconsin. The Board will deliver your feedback to the University of Wisconsin as recommendations to achieve soil & water conservation research needs.

(The survey is expected to take less than 5 minutes)

* 1. What is your name?

* 2. What is your work email address?

* 3. What is your profession?
   - Federal or State Government Agency
   - County or local Government
   - County Conservationist
   - Non-profit
   - Private Sector (e.g. Producer, Crop Consultant, Env. Engineering etc.)
   - University of Wisconsin
   - Academic

   Other (please specify)

* 4. Are you submitting a response on behalf of an affiliate organization?
   - Yes
   - No

5. If you are submitting on behalf of an affiliate, name the affiliate organization?

* 6. What is the highest priority for research or outreach/education?
   (Select one to be redirected to specific additional questions)
LWCB Annual Survey
Soil & Water Conservation Research and Educational Needs

7. What is the highest priority for soil related research?
(Select one answer from the dropdown menu)

What aspect of the priority requires attention?

8. What is the next priority for soil related research?
(Select one answer from the dropdown menu)

What aspect of the priority requires attention?

9. Would you like to suggest water research or outreach/educational priorities?
   - Yes, Water Research
   - Yes, Outreach/Education
   - No (Complete Survey)

10. What is the highest priority for water related research?
    (Select one answer from the dropdown menu)

    What aspect of the priority requires attention?
11. What is the next priority for water related research?  
(Select one answer from the dropdown menu)  

What aspect of the priority requires attention?  

12. Would you like to suggest soil research or outreach/educational priorities?  
   ○ Yes, Soil Research  
   ○ Yes, Outreach/Education  
   ○ No (Complete Survey)  

13. What is the highest priority for outreach and educational needs related soil and water?  
(Select one answer from the dropdown menu)  

What aspect of the priority requires attention?  

14. What is the next priority for outreach and educational needs related soil and water?  
(Select one answer from the dropdown menu)  

What aspect of the priority requires attention?  

15. Would you like to suggest soil or water research priorities?  
   ○ Yes, Soil Research  
   ○ Yes, Water Research  
   ○ No (Complete Survey)