

**MINUTES
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING**

**April 3, 2018
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 December 5, 2017 LWCB meeting minutes.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Cupp at 9:07 a.m. Members Carl Chenoweth, Pat Laughrin, Eric Birschbach, John Petty, Caitlin Frederick, and Mary Anne Lowndes were in attendance. A quorum was present. Advisors Jim VandenBrook and Matt Krueger (WI Land + Water), and Angela Biggs and Eric Allness (NRCS) also were present. Others present included Richard Castelnuovo and Chris Clayton, DATCP.

Clayton confirmed that the meeting was publicly noticed.

Chenoweth moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Petty, and the motion carried.

Petty moved to approve the December 5th meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Chenoweth, and the motion carried.

Cupp formally introduced the new Executive Director of the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association, Matt Krueger.

Item #2 Public Appearances

No public appearance cards were submitted.

Item #3 Election of Officers

The Board conducted an election of officers, and officiated by Petty, in the following order:

Cupp nominated Birschbach as Secretary, second by Chenoweth. The LWCB closed nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Birschbach. Motion carried.

Cupp nominated Harrison as Vice Chair, second by Chenoweth. The LWCB closed nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Harrison. Motion carried.

Birschbach nominated Cupp as Chair, second by Laughrin. The LWCB closed nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Cupp. Motion carried.

Item #4 Five Year Review of Vilas County Land and Water Resource Management Plan

Carolyn Scholl, Vilas County Land and Water Conservation Department, and Marv Anderson, Vilas County Land Conservation Committee, made a formal presentation in support of the 5-year review of the county's LWRM plan.

Vilas County Land and Water Conservation Department provided written answers to the Board's standardized questions, recent work plans and accomplishments, and other materials (available on LWCB's website: https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/About_Us/LandWaterConservationBoard.aspx).

Board members and county representatives discussed the following: water quality problems in lakes due to erosion and other inputs from various land uses; county assistance to DNR by sampling lakes for phosphorus and calcium content; increased phosphorus content in lakes; lake classification system for lakes in Vilas County to assess the risk to development; changes to shoreland zoning; wetland losses due to development; ongoing impacts of acid rain; working with lakes associations; monitoring of woody habitat, aquatic vegetation, shoreline development, invertebrates, and water chemistry; working relationship with UW-Oshkosh to implement Clean Boats, Clean Waters, and Healthy Lakes Program; workshops and presentations done by the county.

Birschbach moved to recommend approval of Vilas County's 5-year review request as presented, seconded by Chenoweth, and the motion carried.

Item #5 Schedule for 2018 LWRM Plan Revisions and 5 Year Reviews

Clayton reported the Board will review nine LWRM plans in 2018, and Richland and Forest Counties will attend Board meetings later this year to report back to the Board on progress made in implementing their LWRM Plans.

Castelnuovo asked the Board to identify any issues the two counties should address. The Board asked that Richland County report on the LCC's support of land and water conservation work in the county, and that a LCC member accompany County Conservationist, Cathy Cooper.

Item #6 Update on Revisions to NR 151, Targeted Performance Standards

Lowndes made a presentation to the Board on the targeted performance standards meant to reduce pathogens in the eastern area of the state with Silurian and carbonate bedrock geology.

Board members discussed the following: the timing of implementation relating to permitted CAFOs and smaller farms; communication with the counties and landowners; enforcement responsibilities; confidence in mapping of soil depths; presence of livestock siting ordinances within 15 county area; application to other karst areas in the state; adoption rates of NMPs within 15 county area; compliance with NR 151 performance standards within 15 county area; history of shallow well contamination in the 15 county area.

Item #7 Extension of DATCP Projects from 2017 Into 2018

Castelnuovo presented on the project funding extended from 2017 into 2018. He reviewed the purpose of extending projects, adding that extensions maximize the county's ability to spend funds in cases where some projects have cost overruns and other projects are not completed.

Chenoweth moved to recommend approval of project extensions from 2017 to 2018, Laughrin seconded, and the motion carried.

Item #8 Gathering Input from Stakeholders and Public on Nonpoint Funding

Cupp reported on input the LWCB has provided in the past to agencies relating to budgetary appropriations for nonpoint pollution control. Cupp asked Board members if they have a position to offer on agency budget requests for 2019-2020. The Board discussed the value of communicating the importance of land and water programming through a letter to agencies. LWCB members agreed to talk with their constituents and return in June with input.

Item #9 Consideration of Resource Protection Goals – Food, Land and Water Project

VandenBrook reported on the goals of the Food, Land and Water final report. He asked the Board to consider adopting some goals and objectives in the report.

The Board discussed the following: funding needed to implement the recommendations of the report; in the existing, cost-share model perhaps around \$2 billion; a funding method has not been identified; WLWCA has made some estimates of the dollars needed to pay for implementation; the need and will to move forward with goals that are deemed important and worthwhile; the LWCB's endorsement of goals by statute is limited to agricultural nonpoint source pollution; the important of prefacing any LWCB endorsement with an acknowledgement of all pollution sources.

Cupp, Krueger, Lowndes, Castelnovo, and Birschbach agreed to draft a statement from the Board endorsing the goals of the Food, Land and Water Project report.

Item #10 Agency Reports

DNR – Proposals for TRM and UNPS Construction grants are due April 16.

DATCP – The legislature added an additional \$500K for the Producer Led Watershed Protection Grants program, for a total of \$750K. Dollars are available for 2018 and 2019. Method for distribution this year to be determined. FPP survey went out to landowners to get a sense of the pros and cons of the programs.

NRCS – An omnibus bill passed Congress and was signed into law, providing funding to NRCS. Bill Northey was confirmed as Under Secretary covering the mission area that includes NRCS and FSA. The bill increased funding for EQIP. NRCS remains under a hiring freeze. NRCS dollars were made available through the National Association of Conservation Districts to various counties for technical assistance.

WI Land + Water – VandenBrook announced the transition to Matt Krueger as the new Executive Director of the WLWCA. Board Chair Cupp recognized VandenBrook's service as an advisor to the LWCB.

Item #11 Planning for June 2018 LWCB Meeting

- A tour of land and water conservation projects in Sauk County.

Item #12 Adjourn

Chenoweth moved to adjourn, seconded by Birschbach, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,



6/5/18

Eric Birschbach, Secretary

Date

Recorder: CC, DATCP