



PORTAGE COUNTY

MEETING MINUTES

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

PORTAGE COUNTY ANNEX
CONFERENCE ROOMS 1 & 2
1462 STRONGS AVENUE
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

Tuesday, June 6, 2023

7:00 PM

REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone : dial 1-872-242-7813 after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 270 700 164 504, then press #

To attend this meeting by video: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

CALL TO ORDER

The Land and Water Conservation Committee meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Barry Jacowski, Catherine Guth, Mike A. Olson, David Peterson, Mike Splinter

Attending In-Person: Barry Jacowski, Catherine Guth, Mike A. Olson, David Peterson, Mike Splinter

Attending Online: None

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Attending: Tim Reed, Steve Bradley, Patty Benedict

Others Attending: In-person - John Bertelson Jr., DJ Firkus, Matt Hintz, Tarion O'Carroll, Tor Anderson, Mildred Neville, Pat Keller

Attending Online - Kim

PUBLIC NOTICE

Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

DJ Firkus spoke on Agenda Item #5.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of May 2, 2023 Minutes

Peterson asked to have the start time of the May 2 meeting included in the minutes. A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Catherine Guth, to approve as amended. Motion to approve as amended carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

2. Approval of May 9, 2023 Minutes

A motion was made by Mike Splinter, seconded by Barry Jacowski, to approve. Motion to approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

CORRESPONDENCE

Benedict distributed copies of the June DATCP report.

VOUCHERS

3. Review Vouchers, Purchases, and Procurement Card Charges

Vouchers, purchases, and procurement card charges were reviewed.

REPORTS

4. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

a. Lakes Management Districts-Peterson

b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D)-Bradley

c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA)-B. Jacowski

d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership (CWWP)-B. Jacowski

- e. Portage County Drainage District-Splinter/Guth-Alternate
- f. Mill Creek Watershed-Splinter
- g. Farmer Led Councils-Guth
- h. Central Sands Groundwater County Coalition (CSGCC)-B. Jacowski/Guth - Revisit Appointment of Representative

- a. Lakes Management Districts-Peterson - Peterson attended Lake Jacqueline's meeting on May 29. They have a new financial officer. Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) control was discussed. They are working with Golden Sands RC&D. LWCD Conservation Technician, Tracy Arnold, is assisting on projects under the Healthy Lakes and Rivers grant. Appreciation was expressed for Arnold's efforts. Peterson attended the Lake Helen meeting on June 3. They are also working with Golden Sands RC&D and Arnold is assisting with Healthy Lakes and Rivers grant projects. EWM and blue green algae updates were provided. Aerators are running. The DNR is assisting with determining the source of the blooms. A donation was received for fish stocking. Fish stick installations were done over the winter in six locations. They will eliminate their bylaws and follow Chapter 33.
- b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D)-Bradley - Bradley attended the May 25 meeting. New project approvals were given for point intercept surveys on a lake in Columbia County and one in Taylor County. A collaboration was approved with Central and Northeast Wisconsin counties on invasive species management.
- c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA)-B. Jacowski - Benedict will provide information on the summer tour at the next meeting.
- d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership (CWWP)-B. Jacowski - No report.
- e. Portage County Drainage District-Splinter/Guth-Alternate - A commissioner appointment is to be made by a Judge.
- f. Mill Creek Watershed-Splinter - No report.
- g. Farmer Led Councils-Guth - No report.
- h. Central Sands Groundwater County Coalition (CSGCC)-B. Jacowski/Guth-Revisit Appointment of Representative - Reed referred to the information in meeting packets. The representative must be a County Board Supervisor. Meetings are noticed via email and meetings may be conducted virtually. Olson volunteered for the appointment, which was agreed upon by the committee.

5. Nelsonville Monitoring Wells and Testing Update

Reed stated a report was included in packets. As data is available, it will be shared.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

6. Discussion/Possible Action - Continue Funding the Upper Fox-Wolf Demonstration Farm Network

Bradley gave background on the nine-county project. Matt Hintz is the farmer participating in Portage County. Hintz explained his efforts and recommended continuing with the project. In the past, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) contributed a \$2,000 stipend for participating farmers to offset some of their costs; however, the stipend is no longer offered and it is up to the counties to provide if they wish. A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Catherine Guth, to continue participation in the project and pay a \$2,000 stipend to Matt Hintz. Motion to continue participation in the project and pay a \$2,000 stipend to Matt Hintz carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

7. Discussion/Possible Action - Soil and Water Resource Management (SWRM) Cost-Share Agreement Approval

A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Mike Splinter, to approve Jason Disher's Cost-Share Agreement. Motion to approve Jason Disher's Cost-Share Agreement carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

8. Discussion/Possible Action - Blanket Approvals for Committee Representatives for Special Meeting Attendance

Benedict explained the blanket approval is for LWCC members' to attend meetings for their committee representative appointments. A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Catherine Guth, to approve. Motion to approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

9. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Special Meeting Attendance (Portage County Ordinance 3.1.47 & 3.1.48)

- Request for special meeting attendance
- Approval of attendance of special meetings
- Special meeting attendance reports

Request for special meeting attendance - None

Approval of attendance of special meetings - A motion was made by Mike Splinter, seconded by Barry Jacowski, to approve Peterson's attendance at the Lake Jacqueline and Lake Helen meetings. Motion to approve Peterson's attendance at the Lake Jacqueline and Lake Helen meetings carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

Special meeting attendance reports - Given under Committee Representative Reports.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 12 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Mike Splinter, to adjourn. Motion to adjourn carried by voice vote, with no negative votes. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.