



PORTAGE COUNTY

MEETING MINUTES

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

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

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

5:00 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: 227 544 129 055, 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 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Barry Jacowski, Catherine Guth, David Peterson, Mike Splinter, Mark Hemmrich, Steve Fritz
Attending In-Person: Barry Jacowski, Catherine Guth, David Peterson, Mike Splinter, Mark Hemmrich, Steve Fritz
Attending Online: None
Members Excused: None
Members Absent: None

Staff Attending: Tim Reed, Steve Bradley, Patty Benedict

Others Attending: In-person: John Bertelson, Mildred Neville, Tarion O'Carroll, John Pavelski, County Executive; McNelly family
Attending remotely: Tim Baumgartner

CONSERVATION SPEAKING AND POSTER CONTESTS

1. Announce Poster Contest Results

Benedict announced the first, second, and third place winners in the Conservation and Environmental Awareness Poster Contest. First place posters advance to the North Central Area contest to be held on February 6 in Oneida County.

2. Speaking Contest

Katelyn McNelly performed her speech, "Powerful Pollinators are Conservation Champions" in the Junior Division, taking first place and advancing to the North Central Area contest to be held on February 6 in Oneida County.

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.

Bertelson requested to speak on agenda item #1 and 2.

CORRESPONDENCE

3. WI Land+Water Conservation Association Annual Conference Information - Submitted by Patty Benedict

Peterson and B. Jacowski plan to attend the conference.

4. December Regional Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Highlights - Submitted by Chris Hamerla, Golden Sands RC&D

Included in meeting packets.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5. Approval of December 5, 2023 Minutes

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

REPORTS**6. Vendor Invoice Lists**

Included in meeting packets.

7. Quarterly Budget Reports

Included in meeting packets.

8. 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)-Vacant

a. Lakes Management Districts-Peterson - Peterson and Fritz attended the McDill Inland Lake and Rehabilitation District meeting on December 7. They reported a section of rip rap and chain link fence needs to be replaced. Caution is recommended for ice conditions north of Heffron Street due to changes in the channel from dredging. Tree orders are due on February 1. Chemical treatment for Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) and pond duck weed is planned for approximately 15.4 acres. Muck biotics cost is \$270 per bag, coverage is 100' x 100' and it lasts for one season. A DNR permit is required. There was discussion on replacement of the weed harvesters.

b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D)-Bradley - No report.

c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA)-B. Jacowski - Benedict will provide information via email for the Area poster and speaking contest meeting hosted by Oneida County.

d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership (CWWP)-B. Jacowski - No report.

e. Portage County Drainage District-Splinter/Guth-Alternate - No report.

f. Mill Creek Watershed-Splinter - Guth attended a field day on December 13. She reported it was an excellent event and commended the Auburndale FFA for their activities. Biology students from Lincoln High School in Wisconsin Rapids and one other school attended. A slide presentation was shown by the Petenwell and Castle Rock Stewards (PACRS). There is good cooperation between agricultural producers and lake residents. Benedict added the Friends of Mill Creek Annual Meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 29.

g. Farmer Led Councils-Guth - No report.

h. Central Sands Groundwater County Coalition (CSGCC)-Vacant - No report.

9. Weed Commissioner Report

Weed Commissioner John Eron was unable to attend. He plans to report at the February meeting.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**10. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Special Meeting Attendance (Portage County Ordinance 3.1.47 & 3.1.48)**

- Request for special meeting attendance - WI Land & Water Annual Conference, March 6-8, 2024, KI Convention Center, Green Bay
- Approval of attendance of special meetings
- Special meeting attendance reports

Request for special meeting attendance - None

Approval of attendance of special meetings - David Peterson - McDill Inland Lake & Rehabilitation meeting on December 7 and Executive Operations meeting on December 12. A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Mark Hemmrich, to approve. Motion to approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

Special meeting attendance reports - Report given under COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for February 6 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Rooms 1 and 2.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Steve Fritz, to adjourn. Motion to adjourn carried by voice vote, with no negative votes. Meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.