



# PORTAGE COUNTY

## MEETING MINUTES

### LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

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

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Tuesday, May 7, 2024

7:00 PM

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#### 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: 255 655 055 980, 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 by County Conservationist, Steve Bradley, at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Amberle Schwartz, Janell Wehr, Justin Isherwood, Steve Fritz, Nancy Eggleston

Attending In-Person: Amberle Schwartz, Janell Wehr, Justin Isherwood, Steve Fritz, Nancy Eggleston

Attending Online: None

Members Excused: James Yetter

Members Absent: None

Staff Attending: Steve Bradley, Dan O'Connell, Patty Benedict

Others Attending - In-person - County Executive John Pavelski, County Board Chair Ray Reser, Roy Diver, District Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service; Pete Arntsen, Mildred Neville, Scott Soik, D.J. Firkus, Tor and Lisa Anderson, James and Marianne Walker

Attending Remotely - Supervisor Mike Splinter, and a citizen

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

##### 1. Chairperson

Bradley called for nominations for Chairperson. Amberle Schwartz nominated Nancy Eggleston. Bradley called three times for other nominations. Hearing none, nominations were closed. A motion was made by Amberle Schwartz, seconded by Janell Wehr, to seat Nancy Eggleston as Chairperson. Motion to seat Nancy Eggleston as Chairperson carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

##### 2. Vice Chairperson

Nancy Eggleston called for nominations for Vice Chairperson. Nancy Eggleston nominated Janell Wehr. Nancy Eggleston called three times for other nominations. Hearing none, nominations were closed. A motion was made by Amberle Schwartz, seconded by Justin Isherwood, to seat Janell Wehr as Vice Chairperson. Motion to seat Janell Wehr as Vice Chairperson carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

#### ESTABLISH REGULAR MEETING DATE

##### 3. Tentative Committee Meeting Schedules

Meetings will be scheduled the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. unless they conflict with County Board meetings.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

##### 4. Welcome Memo

Included in meeting packets.

##### 5. Memo from Finance Department Director Jennifer A. Jossie

Included in meeting packets.

##### 6. Soil and Water Resource Management (SWRM) 2023 Cost Share Carryover

Bradley explained that the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) allows unspent SWRM cost share funds to be carried over to the following year provided projects are lined up with landowners. In 2023, \$16,266.79 was unspent and will be carried over to 2024, which requires a budget adjustment.

7. April Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Highlights - Submitted by Andrew Senderhauf, Golden Sands Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc. (RC&D) Regional Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator

Included in meeting packets.

8. Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Article - Nitrate has plagued Wisconsin's groundwater for decades. Why is the problem so hard to solve? - Submitted by Tim Reed, Planning and Zoning Director

Included in meeting packets.

## REPORTS

9. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) - Roy Diver, District Conservationist

Roy Diver introduced himself and explained the programs offered through NRCS.

10. Vendor Invoice Lists

Included in meeting packets.

## 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 public comment ordinance and the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.**

Mildred Neville requested an explanation on Agenda Item #13.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

11. Approval of April 2, 2024 Minutes

A motion was made by Steve Fritz, seconded by Janell Wehr, to approve. Motion to approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

## COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENTS/REPORTS

12. Committee Representative Recommendation - Forwarded to County Executive and approved by County Board
  - a. Lakes Management Districts - Lake Helen Protection and Rehabilitation District, Lake Jacqueline Protection and Rehabilitation District, McDill Inland Lake and Rehabilitation District

Committee Representative Appointments

- b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D)
- c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA)
- d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership (CWWP)
- e. Portage County Drainage District
- f. Farmer Led Councils
- g. Central Sands Groundwater County Coalition (CSGCC)

Recommendations for Lake District representatives were put on hold in order to contact Supervisors within the Lake District areas.

Committee Representative Appointments:

- b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) - Nancy Eggleston/Amberle Schwartz-Alternate
- c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA) - Janell Wehr/Amberle Schwartz-Alternate
- d. Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership - Justin Isherwood
- e. Portage County Drainage District - Justin Isherwood
- f. Farmer Led Councils - Amberle Schwartz
- g. Central Sands Groundwater County Coalition (CSGCC) - Amberle Schwartz/Janell Wehr-Alternate

James Yetter will be contacted and asked if he is interested in any appointments.

## DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

**13. Discussion/Possible Action - Blanket Approval for Committee Representatives for Special Meeting Attendance**

To avoid supervisors having to request approval, blanket approval is acceptable for committee representatives to attend meetings for their appointments. A motion was made by Justin Isherwood, seconded by Janell Wehr, to approve. Motion to approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

**14. 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 - None

Special meeting attendance reports - None

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Nancy Eggleston adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.