



PORTAGE COUNTY

MEETING MINUTES

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

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

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

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: 501 799 686, then press #

To attend this meeting by video: [Join the meeting now](#)

CALL TO ORDER

The Land and Water Conservation Committee meeting was called to order at 7:10pm.

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

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

Staff Attending: Tim Reed, Camryn Brewbaker, Tyler Kunze, Tracy Arnold

Others Attending: David Peterson, Tor Anderson, Tarion O'Carroll, Tyler Bulgrin

Others Attending Online: George, Citizen

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Future Solar Farms - Submitted by Don Jochman

Reviewed Future Solar Farms Correspondants.

PRESENTATIONS

REPORTS

2. Planning and Zoning Director - Update on applications and interviews to fill vacant positions in department.

Tim Reed updated on the vacant positions in the Planning and Zoning Department. Tracy Arnold as the new County Conservationist and Camryn Brewbaker as the new Administrative Associate II.

3. Tracy Arnold, Conservation Technician

Tomorrow River Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program (NOPP) Grant

Reviewed Tomorrow River Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program (NOPP) Grant.

Certificate of Achievement for the Farmers of Mill Creek Watershed Council

The Farmers of Mill Creek were honored with the 10-year Watershed Protection Certificate of Achievement. The Central Wisconsin Farmers Collaborative is in its 5th year of funding.

4. Tyler Kunze, Water Resource Specialist - Village of Nelsonville Well Water Quality Report

Reviewed the Village of Nelsonville Well Water Quality Report.

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS FROM ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE APPOINTED MEETINGS

5. Supervisor Ray Reser for the Lake Helen Protection and Rehabilitation District Meeting

Supervisor Ray Reser for the Lake Helen Protection and Rehabilitation District Meeting - Grant was not approved and will bring more information at the next committee meeting.

Tracy Arnold added that they installed 6 fish sticks practices in January and there are up to 13 structures. They are approved for 5 more healthy lakes and rivers practices for the 2025 grant.

6. Supervisor Jeanne Dodge for the Lake Jacqueline Protection and Rehabilitation District Meeting

Supervisor Jeanne Dodge for the Lake Jacqueline Protection and Rehabilitation District Meeting - No Report.

Tracy Arnold added that Lake Jacqueline met on January 16th. The weed-cutting cost has been a struggle, and they have been approved for 1 healthy lakes and rivers project for 2025.

7. Supervisor Suzanne Oehlke for the McDill Inland Lake and Rehabilitation District Meeting

Supervisor Suzanne Oehlke for the McDill Inland Lake and Rehabilitation District Meeting - No Report.

Tracy Arnold added that their last meeting was February 20th and discussed aquatic plant treatments. They are also working with the city to do minor dam repairs and have been approved for 3 healthy lakes and rivers practices for 2025.

8. Supervisor Nancy Eggleston and/or Supervisor Amberle Schwartz for the Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. Meeting

Supervisor Nancy Eggleston and Amberle Schwartz for the Golden Sands and Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. Meeting - No Report.

9. Supervisor Janell Wehr and/or Supervisor Amberle Schwartz for the North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA) Meeting

Supervisor Janell Wehr and Amberle Schwartz for the North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWA) Meeting - No Report.

10. Citizen Member Justin Isherwood for the Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership (CWWP) Meeting

Citizen Member Justin Isherwood for the Central Wisconsin Windshed Partnership (CWWP) Meeting - No Report.

11. Citizen Member Justin Isherwood for the Portage County Drainage District Meeting

Citizen Member Justin Isherwood for the Portage County Drainage District Meeting - No Report.

12. Supervisor Amberle Schwartz for the Farmer Led Councils Meetings

Supervisor Amberle Schwartz for the Farmer-Led Councils Meetings - Reviewed meetings with Farmers for Tomorrow, the Friends of Mill Creek Watershed, and the DATCP Farmer-Led Coalition.

13. Supervisor Amberle Schwartz and/or Supervisor Janell Wehr for the Central Sands Groundwater County Coalition (CSGCC) Meeting

Supervisor Amberle Schwartz and Janell Wehr for the Central Sands Groundwater County Coalition (CSGCC) Meeting - No Report.

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.

Members of the public:

David Peterson - expressed his concerns about the effects of the operational ordinance on local farmers.

Tor Anderson - expressed his support of the ordinance.

Tyler Bulgrin - expressed his opinion on the ordinance through the lens of the Dairy Industry.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

14. Approval of February 4, 2025 Minutes

A motion was made by Janell Wehr, seconded by Justin Isherwood, to Approval of February Meeting Minutes. Motion to Approval of February Meeting Minutes carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

DISCUSSION ONLY

15. Tim Reed, Planning and Zoning Director - Information on the County's No-Till Drill Rental Program

Tracy Arnold reviewed information on the County's No-Till Drill Rental Program. Tracy will discuss with our producers and collect information on developing a county rental program.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

16. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Direct Planning and Zoning Department Staff to assist in the Development of an Operation Ordinance

A motion was made by Janell Wehr, seconded by Amberle Schwartz, to Approve. Motion to Approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

Nancy Eggelston reviewed what the Operation Ordinance protects and offers.

Amberle Schwartz requested this discussion continue as a standing agenda item.

17. 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 - No Report.

NEXT MEETING DATE

18. Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 7:00 p.m., Conference Rooms 1 and 2, County Annex

RESCHEDULED to Thursday, April 3rd at 6pm in the Dining Hall of the ARDC building. 1519 Water St., Stevens Point, WI.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Nancy Eggelston adjourned the meeting at 7:58pm.