

MINUTES
CENTRAL WISCONSIN WINDSHED PARTNERSHIP GROUP
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
PORTAGE COUNTY ANNEX, 1462 STRONGS AVENUE, STEVENS POINT WI
AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS
OCTOBER 27, 2021

Members present: In-Person: Barry Jacowski, Steve Bradley, Shane Wucherpennig, Bill Clendenning. Online: Chuck Sibilsy, Megan Wallendal

Staff/Advisors/Others present: In-Person: Shannon Rohde, CWWP Project Coordinator; Patty Benedict, Portage County LWCD. Online: Tamas Houlihan, Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association (WPVGA); Roy Diver and Sarah Fleck, USDA-NRCS.

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Barry Jacowski.
2. **Introductions** – Introductions took place.
3. B. Jacowski read the **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. No one from the public registered to speak.
4. **Discussion/Possible Action – Minutes of April 6, 2021** – Motion by Clendenning, second by Wucherpennig to dispense reading of the minutes and approve. Benedict noted going forward, minutes will be brief, containing motions, votes, and brief summaries. Motion passed by voice vote.
5. **Correspondence** – None.
6. **Review Vouchers/Procurement Card Purchases** – Vouchers were reviewed.
7. **Staff Reports** – Rohde's written staff report was included in meeting packets. Diver noted the deadline to sign up for cost sharing windbreak and/or tree planting projects through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) is November 19.
8. **Update on Wild Cucumber Issue** – Rohde spoke with Peter Wisniewski, DOT representative, who indicated it depends on whether the wild cucumber roots are established on the landowners' property or in the right-of-way as to who is responsible for control. Wild cucumber is a native plant, not invasive so the DOT is not inclined to look for money to fund efforts to eradicate it unless it affects the effectiveness of living snow fences. Developing a treatment plan was suggested for landowners that want to treat wild cucumber. It was also suggested including a charge on the fee schedule for that service. If an infestation is on a landowner's property, Diver said Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) funds may be available for herbaceous weed control. Bradley suggested identifying areas where trees/shrubs have been compromised by wild cucumber and offer to assist in replacing plants to fill in gaps.
9. **Discussion/Possible Action – UW-Hancock Ag Research Station Facility Agreement** – Benedict explained annual renewal will be done by informing the UW. Motion by Jacowski, second by Clendenning to sign the Facilities Agreement with the University of Wisconsin for CWWP's share of the Ag Research Station in Hancock. Motion carried by voice vote.

- 10. Discussion/Possible Action – 2021 Plan of Work Accomplishments/2022 Plan of Work**
– Motion by Bradley, second by Sibilsky to approve the 2021 Plan of Work Accomplishments and 2022 Plan of Work. Motion carried by voice vote.
- 11. Discussion/Possible Action – 2021 Budget Projections/2022 Budget** – Bradley distributed the CWWP Financial Planning for Windbreaks – 2021/22. He reviewed the 2021 budget projections anticipating a deficit. Bradley will look into whether American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) or CARES Act funding may be available. Motion by Jacowski, second by Wucherpfennig to approve the budgets as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
- 12. Discussion/Possible Action – 2022 Fee Schedules – Windbreak and Living Snow Fence** – Rohde noted fabric, staples, and tree and shrub stock prices have increased. Because labor for living snow fences is more extensive than for windbreaks, he recommends a separate fee schedule. Motion by Wucherpfennig, second by Clendenning to have Rohde and Bradley investigate what they feel comfortable with for numbers and bring to the committee via email. Everyone can respond either approve or disapprove with discussion. Motion carried by voice vote.
- 13. Future Agenda Items** – Update on wild cucumber, wild parsnip, and phragmites. Cost/revenue projections for 2022 season using updated fee schedules.
- 14. Next Meeting Date** – To be determined within a couple of weeks should a meeting be needed for fee schedules, otherwise, Benedict will send a Doodle poll mid-March.
- 15. Adjournment** – Motion by Bradley, second by Wucherpfennig to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary