



PORTAGE COUNTY

MEETING MINUTES

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

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

Tuesday, July 5, 2022

7:00 PM

REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone : dial 1-608-338-1399 after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 505 393 256, then press #

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

Due to COVID-19 and the potential risk to members of the public who attend meetings in-person, any person who plans to attend the meeting remotely, but wishes to comment on an agenda item can send their comments via email to benedicp@co.portage.wi.us. The deadline for sending comments by email is 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Emailed comments will be delivered to committee members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Remote comment by the public during the meeting will be at the discretion of the Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

The Land and Water Conservation Committee meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair David Peterson.

Members Present: Barry Jacowski, Catherine Guth, Mike A. Olson, Lionel Weaver, David Peterson, Mike Splinter
Attending In-Person: Barry Jacowski, Catherine Guth, Mike A. Olson, Lionel Weaver, David Peterson, Mike Splinter
Attending Online: None
Members Excused: None
Members Absent: None

Staff Attending: Tim Reed, Planning & Zoning Department Director, Steve Bradley, Dan O'Connell, Patty Benedict
Others Attending: In-person - County Executive John Pavelski, Robin Falk, Pete Arntsen, Gerry Zastrow, Robert Conachen, Ray Reser, Tor and Lisa Anderson, Mildred Neville, Taron O'Carroll, Mark Brueggeman, Chris Mechenich, Josh Stolzenburg, Dave Mangin, Amberle Schwartz, Sally Prideaux, Scott Soik, Matt Jacowski, Bob Gifford, Vinnie Miresse
Attending Remotely - Bobby Bailey, Jenny Larsen, CM, Jennifer Jossie, Chris Doubek, Jeanne Dodge

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.

Pete Arntsen, Gerry Zastrow, Ray Reser, Tor Anderson, Lisa Anderson, Mildred Neville, Taron O'Carroll, Mark Brueggeman, Josh Stolzenburg, Dave Mangin, Amberle Schwartz registered to speak.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Mike Splinter, to move agenda item #6 to the first item. Motion to move agenda item #6 to the first item carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

A motion was made by Mike A. Olson, seconded by Lionel Weaver, to allow everyone registered to speak on each agenda item before acting on any motion. The motion to allow everyone registered to speak on each agenda item before acting on any motion originally failed. However, after Mike Splinter and Barry Jacowski changed their vote, the motion Passed by the following vote: 4 Yes: Barry Jacowski, Mike A. Olson, Lionel Weaver, Mike Splinter; 1 No: Catherine Guth; 0 Abstain: None

6. Discussion/Possible Action - Derogatory Correspondence Directed at LWCC Members

A motion was made by Lionel Weaver, seconded by Mike A. Olson, to put before the full county board for additional discussion to provide more context into how supervisors are utilizing open request laws to access other supervisors' emails.

The motion to put before the full county board for additional discussion to provide more context into how supervisors are utilizing open request laws to access other supervisors' emails Failed by the following vote:

2 Yes: Mike A. Olson, Lionel Weaver
4 No: Barry Jacowski, Catherine Guth, David Peterson, Mike Splinter
0 Abstain: None

1. Weed Commissioner Report

A presentation was given by John Eron explaining his authority as Weed Commissioner and identification and control/eradication methods for wild parsnip and giant hogweed, designated as noxious weeds in Portage County.

2. Discussion/Possible Action - Designate Noxious Weeds/Plants

A motion was made by Mike Splinter, seconded by Barry Jacowski, to have Steve Bradley work with the Weed Commissioner to draft a resolution declaring wild cucumber a noxious weed in windbreak situations. Motion to have Steve Bradley work with the Weed Commissioner to draft a resolution declaring wild cucumber a noxious weed in windbreak situations carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

3. Discussion/Possible Action - Reconsideration of Postponement of REI Engineering Work Plan

A motion was made by Mike A. Olson, seconded by None, to reopen Discussion/Possible Action - Reconsideration of Postponement of REI Engineering Work Plan. The motion to reopen Discussion/Possible Action - Reconsideration of Postponement of REI Engineering Work Plan Failed as the motion to reopen must be made by a member who voted on the prevailing side of the original motion.

4. Discussion/Possible Action - REI Engineering Work Plan

Attachments included REI Workplan, Nelsonville Resolution #2022-01, and Portage County for Clean Water: Two Efforts for Groundwater Monitoring Around Nelsonville - They're Different.

5. Groundwater Citizens Advisory Committee (GCAC) Letter to County Board Supervisors

Tarion O'Carroll, a GCAC member, provided an explanation of the letter and list of potential actions generated by the GCAC. A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Mike Splinter, to ask Corporation Counsel to go through the list and see what can be done statutorily. Motion to ask Corporation Counsel to go through the list and see what can be done statutorily carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

A motion was made by Lionel Weaver, seconded by Barry Jacowski, to direct staff to look at GCAC recommendations and come back to LWCC for further discussion. Motion to direct staff to look at GCAC recommendations and come back to LWCC for further discussion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

7. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Regarding 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 - Several members requested to attend a seminar regarding Kewaunee County's groundwater experience on July 18.

Approval of attendance of special meetings - Motion by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Mike Splinter to approve special meeting attendance for Mike Olson touring the UWSP Water and Environmental Analysis Laboratory on June 23; and Lionel Weaver remotely attending the Central Sands Groundwater County Coalition meeting on June 27.

Special meeting attendance reports - To be given under Committee Representative Reports.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES**8. June 7, 2022 Minutes**

It was pointed out that County Executive John Pavelski was in attendance at the June 7 meeting. Clarification was made on agenda item #6 that discussion regarding American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds was not part of the motion. A motion was made by Mike Splinter, seconded by Barry Jacowski, to approve as corrected. Motion to approve as corrected carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

REPORTS**9. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

- a. Lakes Management District - Peterson
- b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) - Olson
- 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 - Weaver
- a. Lakes Management District Peterson - No report.
 - b. Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) - Bradley - No report.
 - c. North Central Land & Water Conservation Association (NCLWCA) - B. Jacowski - No report.
 - d. Central Wisconsin Watershed Partnership (CWWP) - B. Jacowski - No report.
 - e. Portage County Drainage District - Splinter/Guth-Alternate - No report.
 - f. Mill Creek Watershed - Splinter - No report.
 - g. Farmer Led Councils - Guth - A packet of information on farmer-led water quality initiatives was distributed.
 - h. Central Sands Groundwater County Coalition - Weaver attended the June 27 meeting remotely. He reported a presentation was given by a hydrogeologist for the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey (GNHS) regarding gathering well testing data and doing statistical analysis across the Central Sands region.

CORRESPONDENCE

A copy of Inside Agroforestry Product Buffers was offered.

10. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Compliance-Laura Zubella

Bradley explained the situation with Zubella's CREP contract.

VOUCHERS

11. Review Vouchers, Purchases, and Procurement Card Charges

Vouchers, purchases, and procurement card charges were reviewed.

12. 2nd Quarter Budget Review

The 2nd quarter budget reports were reviewed.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 2 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mike Splinter, seconded by Catherine Guth, to adjourn. Motion to adjourn carried by voice vote, with no negative votes. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Notice: Any person who has special needs and plans on attending this meeting in-person or remotely should contact the Facilities Office at 715-346-1598 as soon as possible to ensure that reasonable accommodations can be made.

Notice: A quorum of the Portage County Board of Supervisors, or any committee thereof, may be present at this meeting.