



PORTAGE COUNTY

MEETING MINUTES

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

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

Tuesday, September 6, 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: 293 138 962 437, 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

Staff Attending: Tim Reed, Planning & Zoning Department Director, Steve Bradley, Jen McNelly, Patty Benedict

Others Attending: In-person - County Executive John Pavelski and Executive Assistant Robin Falk; John Bertelson, Ray Reser, Lisa & Tor Anderson, Gerry Zastrow, Mildred Neville, Vinnie Miresse, Joan Honl, Mark & Lois Brueggeman, Tarion O'Carroll, Kyle Gordon, Kim Krupka, Kim Bremmer

Attending Remotely - Tyler Dix, Jeanne Dodge, Suzanne Oehlke, Nathan Sandwick, Jennifer Jossie, Katy Bailey, George Kraft, Pete Arntsen, Denise Rocha

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.

Ray Reser indicated he may wish to speak on agenda items.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of August 2, 2022 Minutes

A motion was made by Mike Splinter, seconded by Barry Jacowski, to approve. Lionel Weaver suggested adding that County Board Chair Al Haga assisted in facilitating the meeting. Motion to approve as amended carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

REPORTS

2. Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Program - Tyler Dix, DNR Wastewater Specialist

Tyler Dix, DNR CAFO Program Coordinator, gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled, "CAFO Program Overview".

3. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report

Roy Diver, USDA NRCS District Conservationist, reviewed his written report included in the meeting packets. He encouraged referrals for potential applicants to his office for USDA programs.

4. Update - Potential Funding Sources for Monitoring Wells

McNelly reported the Finance Committee is tentatively planning to begin reviewing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) applications in October. An application for monitoring wells within the Village of Nelsonville will be submitted. She noted Gordon's do not plan to pursue ARPA funds for monitoring wells on their property at this time.

5. COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- a. Lakes Management District - 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) - Weaver

a. Lakes Management Districts - Peterson - Peterson reported Lake Helen is updating their lake management plan and monitoring blue/green algae blooms. Lake Jacqueline voted to remain electric motor only and are updating their lake management plan. Lake Helen and Lake Jacqueline are continuing with citizen-based water quality monitoring and data has been entered into the DNR database. The weed harvester capsized on McDill Pond. No injuries occurred. Dredging will be completed this week. Sunset Lake has formed a lake association. Water chemistry and water quality data collection continues. Lake management plans are being updated on four additional lakes.

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 Windshed Partnership (CWWP) - B. Jacowski - A meeting will be scheduled in October/November.

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

f. Mill Creek Watershed - Splinter - No report.

g. Farmer Led Councils - Guth - Guth reported her farm hosted the Farmers for Tomorrow, highlighting no till and cover crops.

h. Central Sands Groundwater County Coalition (CSGCC) - Weaver - Weaver attended the August 22 meeting. Representative Katrina Shankland did a presentation on the \$10 million state grant to assist in providing reverse osmosis systems and/or repairing/replacing private wells. State applications to apply for funds begin October 3. McNelly suggested visiting the DNR Well Compensation Grant Program webpage and sign up for notifications to get updates. Weaver also reported the target for a final report on CSGCC's nitrate study is February 2023.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

6. Discussion/Possible Action - Resolution - Appointment of Authorized Representative for Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Healthy Lakes and Rivers Grant

A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Mike A. Olson, to approve. Motion to approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes. Bradley explained the DNR requires the resolution when applying for grant funding.

7. Discussion/Possible Action - Budget Amendment/Cost-Share Transfer Agreement with Adams County

A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Lionel Weaver, to approve. Motion to approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes. Bradley explained Soil and Water Resource Management (SWRM) cost-share project expenses exceed the 2022 DATCP allocation. DATCP allows counties that will not use their allocation to transfer to other counties. Adams County has offered to transfer \$7,000 to Portage County.

8. Discussion/Possible Action - Groundwater Citizens Advisory Committee (GCAC) List of Action Items/Recommendations

A motion was made by Mike A. Olson, seconded by Mike Splinter, to bring to the floor. Motion to bring to the floor carried by voice vote, with no negative votes. Bradley referred to the memo in the meeting packets. Items in red are in progress. Blue print indicates the item is contained within the workplan in the Groundwater Management and/or Land and Water Resource Management plan(s). Prioritization of the items by the GCAC and how to incorporate them into the workplans, as well as staff recommendations, will be shared at the October LWCC meeting. McNelly noted the Groundwater Management Plan update will begin late 2022. A suggestion was made to have a GCAC representative attend and participate in a LWCC meeting. The information presented was reviewed. No formal action taken.

9. Discussion/Possible Action - 2022 Budget Projections/2023 Proposed Budget

A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Mike Splinter, to bring to the floor. Motion to bring to the floor carried by voice vote, with no negative votes. Reed explained the overall department budget is under the target set by the Finance Department. Bradley noted the DATCP SWRM staff and support grant allocation increased by nearly \$12,000 and the cost-share allocation increased by \$2,000. The CWWP budget is self-sustaining and does not affect county levy. The budgets were reviewed. No formal action taken.

10. 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 - Contact Chair Peterson with requests.
- Approval of attendance of special meetings - Weaver attended the Central Sands Groundwater County Coalition (CSGCC) meeting on August 22. A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Mike Splinter, to approve special meeting requests. Motion to approve special meeting requests carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.
- Special meeting attendance reports - Weaver's report was given under Committee Representative Reports. Peterson reported on the seminar "Addressing Groundwater Quality in Kewaunee County" on July 12 at the Holiday Inn. He also reported on meetings he attended for the Farmers of Mill Creek, Farmers for Tomorrow, and the Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin.

CORRESPONDENCE

11. Conservation Camp Letter

Benedict explained the letter was submitted by one of the conservation camp scholarship recipients that attended the middle school camp at Upham Woods, Sauk County. She noted one student received a scholarship and two other Portage County students attended the high school camp at North Lakeland Discovery Center, Manitowish Waters.

VOUCHERS

12. Review Vouchers, Purchases, and Procurement Card Charges

Vouchers, purchases, and procurement card charges were reviewed.

NEXT MEETING DATE

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Catherine Guth, to adjourn. Motion to adjourn carried by voice vote, with no negative votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 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.