

MINUTES
CENTRAL WISCONSIN WINDSHED PARTNERSHIP GROUP
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HANCOCK AG RESEARCH STATION (HARS), N3909 CO RD V, HANCOCK WI 54949
APRIL 4, 2022

Members present: Barry Jacowski, Ed Hernandez, Chuck Sibilsky, Bill Clendenning, Steve Bradley

Staff/Advisors/Others present: Tim Reed, Shannon Rohde, Hannah Butkiewicz, Paul Sytsma, Roy Diver, Patty Benedict

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair B. 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.
4. **Discussion/Possible Action – Minutes of October 27, 2021** – Motion by Clendenning, second by Sibilsky to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed by voice vote.
5. **Correspondence** – None
6. **Review Vouchers/Procurement Card Purchases** – Vouchers and procurement card purchases were reviewed.
7. **Staff Reports** – A written report was included in meeting packets. Rohde noted approximately 12.5 miles of windbreaks/living snow fences are planned. Projects include DOT sites near Appleton and West Salem, county highway and landowner sites in Adams and Portage Counties. There are about 2,200 replants to be done. Rohde is serving on the committee to revise the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Standard 380 (Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment). A tour for the committee to see the various windbreaks at HARS may be planned for the summer. Diver noted potential revisions to Standard 380 are allowing multiple species in a row and combining with Standard 650 (Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation). UWSP interns have been hired. There are possible solar projects in Portage and Wood Counties that may require screening. Rohde was asked to follow up.
8. **Wild Cucumber, Wild Parsnip, Phragmites Update** – Rohde reported that he spoke with Peter Wisniewski, DOT representative, who said wild cucumber is not considered detrimental. If the region determines it is a problem, they report to the State. Another consideration is whether the plant is growing in the right-of-way or, if on privately owned land, it is the landowner's responsibility. Regarding wild parsnip, extra mowing prior to going

to seed depends on whether highway departments have time. John Eron, Weed Commissioner for Portage and Wood Counties, was mentioned as a resource for controlling wild parsnip. Rohde noted he has not seen much phragmites, but Sibilsky said it is present in Adams County. Bradley suggested doing an inventory of problem areas. Diver stated Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) cost share funds may be available for herbaceous weed control on private lands. He mentioned a part time staff person in the Wisconsin Rapids office may be able to help with an inventory. Butkiewicz offered RC&D's assistance for maintenance beyond the three years provided by CWWP and possibly herbaceous weed control.

- 9. Discussion/Possible Action – 2022 Fee Schedules** – Rohde reviewed the revised fee schedules noting the average cost per foot for tree and shrub plantings. Tillage and travel vary per project. Motion by Hernandez, second by Sibilsky to approve the fee schedules as presented. Motion passed by voice vote.
- 10. 2021 Final Budget** – Bradley reviewed expenses, revenues and the reserve account balance.
- 11. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Update** – Bradley reported his request for ARPA funds for the CWWP was not included in the County Executive's final list.
- 12. Discussion/Possible Action – CWWP/RC&D LTE Agreement Renewal** – Bradley reviewed the revisions. Butkiewicz explained the reasons for increasing the administrative overhead charge from 22% to 24.3%. She offered to investigate additional grant funding sources that RC&D could potentially apply for to support the CWWP. Motion by Hernandez, second by Clendenning to approve the agreement. Motion passed by voice vote.
- 13. Future Agenda Items** – Next year's fee schedule, budget, and Plan of Work
- 14. Next Meeting Date** – Benedict will send a Doodle poll for a meeting in late October.
- 15. Adjournment** – Motion by Clendenning, second by Bradley to adjourn. Motion passed by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary