

DOUGLAS COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Tuesday, September 18, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
Courthouse, Room 207C
1313 Belknap Street, Superior, Wisconsin

Meeting called to order by Chair Sue Hendrickson.

ROLL CALL: Present – Sue Hendrickson, Mary Lou Bergman, Jim Soyring, Larry Luostari, Kathryn McKenzie. Absent – Terry White. Others present – Christine Ostern, Mike Gardner, Mark Liebaert, Sue O’Halloran, Alan Horvath, Dave Schulz, Shelley Nelson, Kaci Lundgren, Committee Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Bergman, second Luostari, to approve minutes from the May 15, 2018, meeting. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

Wildlife Damage and Abatement Program - Report: Distributed.

Budget: Included with agenda. Budget \$342.00 less than last year due to bear relocation fees.

ACTION: Motion by Bergman, second Luostari, to approve budget as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Contracts: Deer donation program contract distributed; Hursh Meat Processing will handle meat donations.

ACTION: Motion by McKenzie, second Luostari, to approve contract as presented. Motion carried.

Groundwater Program: In the process of recruiting property owners to participate in study; September 26th is final date to enroll. 58 owners are currently signed up.

Well Delegation Options: Recommendation not to pursue options at this time due to staffing shortage and other department goals; may be revisited when the opportunity arises.

2019 Land Conservation Budget: Over 7 million dollars in grants have been administered for projects or consulting since 2004. Operating budget is very minimal with majority of personnel costs being covered by state funding. Land and Water Plan will need to be amended in 2019 and funding will have to be acquired to finance potential consultants; not included in budget proposal.

ACTION (REFERRAL): Motion by Bergman, second Soyring, to approve 2019 proposed Land Conservation budget as presented and refer to Administration Committee. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Northwest Area Tour at Mont du Lac Resort: A free tour of the slope stabilization project completed with support of the Land Conservation Department will occur Friday, September 28th.

Mitigation Reserve Program (In-Lieu of Fee Wetland Mitigation) Progress: Have not received feedback from Army Corps St. Paul District Office since public notice period ended. This program is new, with nothing like it existing in the area. It may be highly scrutinized prior to approval.

Balsam Creek Fish Passage Projects: Culvert replacements were originally scheduled for 2019, but due to June 2018 flood, many needed to be done sooner. A trout exemption will be required for installation due to time of year.

Land Conservation Committee Member Training Opportunity: A webinar will be available from the state for members to view.

Bayfield County Deer Farm Moratorium: Handout provided. Several game farms have potential to locate in Douglas County; moratorium would hold any application (up to one year, with a 12 month potential extension) until further information is acquired to regulate appropriately.

ACTION (RESOLUTION): Motion by Bergman, second McKenzie, to sponsor game farm moratorium resolution and refer to County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: 2019 Land and Water Conference resolutions; Oak Wilt.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by McKenzie, second Bergman, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Submitted by,

Kaci Lundgren, Committee Clerk