

DOUGLAS COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

1316 N. 14th Street, Government Center Conference Room 270, Superior, WI 54880

Meeting called to order by Chair Sue Hendrickson.

1. ROLL CALL

Present – Sue Hendrickson, Kathryn McKenzie (arrived at 10:01 a.m.), Wendy Bong, Terry White, Mary Lou Bergman. Absent – Jim Soyering. Others present – Ashley Strabel, Shelley Nelson, Pete Hopke, Eric Fromm, John Carey, Deborah Feiden, Zach Stewart (remote), Mary Olson (remote), Emily Kidd, Committee Clerk.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Bong, second Bergman, to approve minutes from the August 29, 2023, meeting. Motion carried.

3. ACTION ITEMS

a. Wildlife Damage and Abatement Program

1. **2023 Deer Donation Program Agreement Approval:** Agreement included in agenda.

ACTION: Motion by Bergman, second Bong, to approve 2023 Deer Donation Program Agreement. Motion carried.

2. **2024 Deer Donation Program Agreement Approval:** Agreement included in agenda.

ACTION: Motion by Bong, second Bergman, to approve 2024 Deer Donation Program Agreement. Motion carried.

3. **2024-2028 Cooperative Service Agreement between Douglas County and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service – Wildlife Services:** Agreement included in agenda.

ACTION: Motion by McKenzie, second Bergman, to approve 2024-2028 Cooperative Service Agreement. Motion carried.

4. **2024 Wildlife Damage Budget:** Budget included in agenda.

ACTION: Motion by Bergman, second McKenzie, to approve 2024 Wildlife Damage Budget. Motion carried.

5. **Wildlife Damage Abatement Claim:** Reports distributed; bear damage to field corn.

ACTION: Motion by Bergman, second Bong, to approve 2023 Douglas County WDACP Commodity Crop Price for corn at \$5.69 b.u. Motion carried.

ACTION: Motion by Bong, second White, to approve damage claim in the amount of \$416.32, after a \$500.00 deductible. Motion carried.

b. Cost-share Applications

1. 2023-2024

- a. #1 Critical Area Stabilization- Town of Superior:** 50% of project (\$5,150) in cost-share funds requested; lawn to be enhanced with native species near St. Louis River.
- b. #2 Critical Area Stabilization- Town of Gordon:** 50% of project (\$6,100) in cost-share funds requested; rainwater infiltration desired and native species enhancement by shoreline of Lower Eau Claire Lake.
- c. #3 Critical Area Stabilization- Town of Oakland:** 50% of project (\$11,050) in cost-share funds requested; rainwater infiltration desired and stabilizing shoreland with native vegetation on Dowling Lake.
- d. #4 Critical Area Stabilization- Town of Solon Springs:** 50% of project (\$4,800) in cost-share funds requested; lack of abundant vegetation is causing shoreland slope erosion on Island Lake.
- e. #5 Lined Waterway, Underground Outlet- Town of Solon Springs:** 50% of project (\$60,000) in cost-share funds requested; erosion from runoff at trailhead.

2. 2024-2025

- a. #6 Critical Area Stabilization- Town of Gordon:** 50% of project (\$10,600) in cost-share funds requested; rainwater infiltration desired and stabilization of shoreland slope.
- b. #7 Shoreline Protection- Town of Bennett:** 50% of project (\$35,000) in cost-share funds requested; shoreland eroding on Minnesuing Island; project was approved for 2023-2024 installation, but design plan is not complete.

3. 2025-2026

- a. #8 Streambank Protection- Town of Lakeside:** 50% of project (estimated over \$50,000) in cost-share funds requested; Amnicon River bank eroding near a road; design work has not

been started and will be time-consuming; should be installed at same time as project #9; landowner agreed to 2025 project completion.

b. #9 Streambank Protection- Town of Lakeside: 50% of project (estimated over \$25,000) in cost-share funds requested; Amnicon River bank eroding near a road; design work has not been started and will be time-consuming; should be installed at same time as project #8; landowner agreed to 2025 project completion.

c. #10 Shoreline Protection- Town of Solon Springs: 50% of project (estimated over \$25,000) in cost-share funds requested; Shoreline eroding on Upper St. Croix Island; design work has not been started and will be time-consuming.

ACTION: Motion by Bergman, second McKenzie, to approve projects described for 2023 and reimburse at the maximum cost-share rate for the estimated cost. Motion carried.

ACTION: Motion by White, second Bong, to approve extension of cost-share agreements for all 2023 projects described into 2024. Motion carried.

ACTION: Motion by McKenzie, second Bergman, to approve projects described for 2024-2025 and reimburse at the maximum cost-share rate for the estimated cost dependent upon 2025 funding award. Motion carried.

ACTION: Motion by Bergman, second White, to hold decision on projects recommended for 2025-2026 funding until November 2024. Motion carried.

c. Resolution: Wisconsin DNR Surface Water Grants (Authorization of Agent): Resolution to support obtaining cost-share grants from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of surface water education and planning, lake monitoring and protection, aquatic invasive species prevention and management and the Clean Boat Clean Waters program.

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

4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. Wildlife Damage Report: Eric Fromm provided updates; report included in agenda.

b. Agricultural Technician Report: Ashley Strabel provided updates on behalf of Matt Bolen.

- c. **Surface Waters Program:** Zach Stewart provided updates on Surface Waters Program; report included in agenda.
- d. **Land and Water Resources Management Plan Five-Year Review:** State strongly advised waiting to revise plan until ten-year review; state to review 2023 work plan and tentative 2024 work plan; Strabel will be meeting with the state on February 6, 2024 with at least one committee member.
- e. **Environmental Reserve Fund Balance:** Included in agenda.
- f. **Groundwater Testing Program:** Funding for 67 samples available this year (fewer than last year); samples were collected and brought to test; data to be collected in the next few weeks.
- g. **Land+Water Youth Poster and Speaking Contest:** Included in agenda; enrollment of local students into contest is encouraged; public voted on poster contest last year, committee would like to vote for 2024 contest.
- h. **Staff Report:** Ashley Strabel reported on staff updates.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. PFAS updates; January 16, 2024, meeting to vote on Land+Water Youth Posters.

6. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Motion by McKenzie, second Bong, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Submitted by,

Emily Kidd
Committee Clerk