

Eau Claire County
LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, April 23, 2018 • 5:15 p.m.
Agriculture & Resource • 227 1st Street West • Room AG203
Altoona, Wisconsin

Members Present: Robin Leary, Gary Gibson, Ray Henning, Tami Schraufnagel, Heather Deluka, Glory Adams, Dean Solie, Ricky Strauch

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Greg Leonard, Amanda Schultz

Others Present: Tammy Lindsay – USDA-NRCS District Conservationist Chippewa Falls/Altoona

1. Call to Order

Chair pro-tem Leary called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

2. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meetings Law

Leary confirmed compliance with the open meetings law.

3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair – Discussion/Action

Leary called for nominations for Chair of the Land Conservation Commission. Gibson nominated Robin Leary. Leary called 3 times for other nominations. None were received.

ACTION: Motion by Adams/Henning to close nominations and a unanimous vote be cast to elect Robin Leary as Chair of the Land Conservation Commission. Motion carried, 8-0-0. Leary thanked everyone and accepted the position.

Leary called for nominations for Vice Chair of the Land Conservation Commission. Henning nominated Gary Gibson. Leary called 3 times for other nominations. None were received.

ACTION: Motion by Gibson/Adams to close nominations and a unanimous vote be cast to elect Gary Gibson as Vice Chair of the Land Conservation Commission. Motion carried, 8-0-0. Gibson thanked everyone and accepted the position.

4. Appointment of Commission Clerk – Discussion/Action

ACTION: Motion by Schraufnagel to appoint Greg Leonard as Commission Clerk. Motion carried, 8-0-0.

5. Appointments to Land Stewardship Sub-Committee – Discussion/Action

The appointments of Glory Adams-LCC Member, Doug Burrows-Citizen Member, and Monica Lewis-Citizen Member to the Land Stewardship Sub-Committee have expired. The Land Stewardship Sub-Committee recommends re-appoint of Adams and Burrows. Monica Lewis informed the Land Stewardship Sub-Committee that she will no longer be able to serve as she is moving from the area. The Land Stewardship Sub-Committee is searching for recommendations for that seat.

ACTION: Motion by Schraufnagel/Gibson to re-appoint Glory Adams as an LCC Member and Doug Burrows as a Citizen Member to the Land Stewardship Sub-Committee. Motion carried, 8-0-0.

6. Public Input Session (15 minute maximum) – Discussion
(none)

7. Approve Minutes from March 26, 2018 meeting – Discussion/Action

ACTION: Motion by Adams to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried, 8-0-0.

8. Land Conservation Program Overview – Discussion

(This item was moved until after Item 10 on the agenda. See below.)

9. Review Vouchers and Ledger Update – Discussion

March expenditures were reviewed. There was a math error in the Wisconsin Land+Water 2018 Dues. This will be discussed in the May LCC meeting. There were no revenues.

10. Cost-Share Applications – Discussion/Action

The following Cost-Share application was presented for approval:

Josh Olson – Nutrient Management Plan– \$8,400.00 (DATCP-SEG grant funds)

Gary Olson – Nutrient Management Plan– \$13,040.00 (DATCP-SEG grant funds)

Jonathan Nicolet – Nutrient Management Plan– \$6,912.00 (DATCP-SEG grant funds)

Schultz explained that the Gary Olson request includes land both in Eau Claire and Trempealeau Counties.

DATCP program cost-share agreements allow Eau Claire County to develop the agreement including all of the land under one operator's control. She has coordinated with Trempealeau County to assure this farmland is not being covered by an agreement within Trempealeau County.

ACTION: Motion by Gibson/Solie to approve the Cost-Share Applications. Motion carried, 8-0-0.

(6:05 p.m. – Adams excused herself from the remainder of the meeting.)

8. Land Conservation Program Overview – Discussion

Leonard provided an overview of the Land Conservation Division programs.

11. Bidding Procedures – Discussion

Leonard explained that the Land Conservation Bidding Procedures was recently reviewed with Purchasing and Corporation Counsel. Based on the review, the requirement for bidding will need to be set at \$25,000, which will require formal bidding through Purchasing. Cost containment for projects estimated at less than \$25,000 can be done through "quotes" to differentiate from formal bidding. The procedures were re-drafted and submitted back to Purchasing for final review.

12. Recent TRM and EPA-EE Grant applications– Discussion

Leonard provided an overview of the recent grant submittals for the EPA Environmental Education grant and the DNR large and small scale Targeted Runoff Management grants.

13. Tree Sale Distribution Update – Discussion

The program's tree distribution originally scheduled for April 20th was first moved to May 4th, but is now scheduled for May 18th due to the late spring and nurseries inability to supply our orders.

14. Land Conservation Commission Tours – Discussion/Action

Each year the LCC has an annual tour. The schedule though sometimes does not allow the LCC to see the outcomes of projects based on the tours. As a solution, our office could provide for more than one tour through the year, such as spring and fall, with the additional tour being smaller in scale than the annual tour. The consensus was to try to schedule a tour in June of this year to re-visit recently completed conservation projects and to invite all County Board members to attend. Another tour later in the year will be contemplated.

15. Staff and Agency Updates

Tammy Lindsay – USDA-NRCS District Conservationist Chippewa Falls/Altoona, introduced herself. She will be serving as the District Conservationist in both Chippewa and Eau Claire Counties, with 2 days/week scheduled in the Altoona office. Lindsay provided updates on the EQIP and CSP programs. The Local Workgroup includes Chippewa, Clark, Eau Claire, Taylor and Price Counties and the meeting is scheduled for August 1, 2018 in Thorp to set local priorities. The LCC welcomed her to the County.

16. Set date for next meeting

The date for the next LCC meeting was set for Monday, May 21, 2018 at 5:00 pm.

17. Adjourn

Leary adjourned the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Leonard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Greg Leonard
Clerk, Land Conservation Commission