

Eau Claire County  
**LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**

Monday, June 18, 2018 • 5:00 p.m.  
Agriculture & Resource • 227 - 1<sup>st</sup> Street West • Room AG120  
Altoona, Wisconsin

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

**Members Absent:** Tami Schraufnagel

**Staff Present:** Greg Leonard, Liz Fagen

**Others Present:** Marlo Orth (Lake Eau Claire Protection and Rehabilitation District), Tammy Lindsay (USDA-NRCS)

1. Call to Order

Chair Leary called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

2. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meetings Law

Leary confirmed compliance with the open meetings law.

3. Public Input Session (15 minutes maximum) – Discussion

Marlo Orth wished to thank the Land Conservation Commission and the Land Conservation Division staff for their support, and recognize the partnerships that have been expanding.

4. Approve Minutes from May 21, 2018 meeting – Discussion/Action

Within the draft minutes prepared in Item 5, Leary asked if there was a word missing. The second sentence should read “Payment to Lake Eau Claire Association is for their lake rehabilitation project.”

**ACTION:** Motion by Adams to approve the minutes as revised. Motion carried, 7-0-0.

5. Review Vouchers and Ledger Update – Discussion

May expenditures and revenues were reviewed. Payment to Sustain Hudson is a Rain to Rivers project utilizing Rain to River funds. The Erosion Control permit revenue for Hi Crush is for 3 separate mine phases.

6. Cost-Share Applications – Discussion/Action

The following Nutrient Management Cost-Share application was presented for approval:

Duane Klindworth – Nutrient Management Plan– \$2,132.00 (DATCP-SEG grant funds)

Leonard explained that different cost-share rates Eau Claire County utilizes to maximize the available funding.

**ACTION:** Motion by Gibson to approve the Nutrient Management Cost-Share Application. Motion carried, 7-0-0

The following Best Management Practice Cost-Share application was presented for approval:

Gary Wehling – Grassed Waterway– \$11,551.75.00 (DATCP-Bond grant funds), \$825.13 (County Cost-Share funds)

Fagen explained this waterway project is across the road from Wehling’s grade stabilization project the LCC visited last year, but is contributing sediment to the same stream which drains to Lake Altoona.

**ACTION:** Motion by Henning to approve the grassed waterway cost-share application. Motion carried, 7-0-0.

7. Land Stewardship appointment update – Discussion/Action

The Land Stewardship sub-committee is still searching for a recommendation to replace Monica Lewis, as she has recently moved from the area.

8. Land Stewardship matching contribution for the Eau Claire Kiwanis Club property – Discussion/Action

The Land Stewardship subcommittee has been approached by West Wisconsin Land Trust (WWLT) seeking a donation to assist in the purchase of the Eau Claire Kiwanis Club property in the Town of Union. The Town of

Union has budgeted funds for the purchase, and WWLT will be receiving DNR Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant funds. WWLT has also received private donations for the purchase, but was \$7,500 short of the purchase price. The Land Stewardship subcommittee offered a dollar per dollar match, up to \$3,750, to assist WWLT to raise the remaining funds. WWLT has received the matching donation of \$3,750. This is the first transaction where the Land Stewardship subcommittee has been requested to donate to a project in this fashion. Leary questioned if this type of transaction would need to be approved by County Board. Leary instructed staff to have Corporation Counsel review prior to the LCC acting.

9. Lake Rehabilitation Project application – Lake Eau Claire – Discussion/Action

Lake Eau Claire Protection and Rehabilitation District has submitted an application for a 2019 Lake Rehabilitation project. The project includes sediment removal and construction of a new sand trap at Hay Creek, phosphorous control aeration expenses, fish crib and tree fall habitat structures, and engineering. Total cost estimate is \$270,500. The District is requesting \$116,500, which includes a request of \$100,000 new funds, and to carry over approximately \$16,500 of unspent funding from their 2018 project. Leary asked if the District has received all necessary permits. Marlo Orth explained the District has existing permits, and is working with the DNR to obtain the permit for the new sight. This may become an amendment to their existing permit. Solie asked if the District will be maintaining the existing sand traps. Orth stated this is part of the District's project plans. Gibson commented that the Lake Eau Claire District and Association's projects have caught attention outside of the local area as good examples lake rehabilitation projects. Orth again explained this would not be possible without the great working relationships with the District's partners.

**ACTION:** Motion by Gibson to approve Lake Eau Claire Protection and Rehabilitation District's 2019 Lake Rehabilitation Project application. Motion carried, 7-0-0.

10. LCC Conservation Tour – June 28, 2018 at 3:30 pm – Discussion/Action

Staff reviewed the proposed itinerary of the LCC Conservation Tour. No formal LCC business meeting will occur during the tour. Recommendation from the LCC was to keep all of the planned stops, but to remove one of the drive-by visits from the tour for time sake.

11. Staff and Agency Updates

Tammy Lindsay updated the LCC on the upcoming Local Workgroup meeting on August 1, 2018, to be held at the Thorp Fire Hall. The Local Workgroup sets priorities for USDA-NRCS funding on local conservation practices. The NRCS Area Office now has a Soil Health Trailer available for conservation events. The trailer includes a rainfall simulator.

Leonard updated the LCC on the 2018 Soil and Water Resource Management (SWRM) grant from DATCP. Eau Claire County will be receiving \$7,153 more than anticipated for staff support, and an additional \$5,000 for SEG-Nutrient Management cost-share funding. DNR staff have been asking questions on the proposed budget submitted with the Large Scale Targeted Resource Management (TRM) grant application, which can be considered a good indicator. The West Central Area WI Land&Water Tour is June 21; travel arrangements were made. The tentative agenda for the County Conservationist meeting on July 19 was distributed and discussed. Leary commented that for LCC members, attending conferences and training can be challenging as the LCC members may not have the same funding availability as staff. Leonard will share this concern with staff of the WI Land&Water Association.

12. Set date for next meeting

The date for the next LCC meeting was set for Monday, July 16, 2018 at 5:00 pm.  
The August LCC meeting was set for Thursday, August 16, 2018 at 5:00 pm.

13. Adjourn

Leary adjourned the meeting at 5:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Leonard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "G".

Greg Leonard  
Clerk, Land Conservation Commission