

**EAU CLAIRE COUNTY**  
**LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**MEETING MINUTES – MONDAY, JULY 20, 2020**

**REMOTE MEETING - EAU CLAIRE, WI 54703**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Gibson, Robin Leary, Heather DeLuka, Missy Christopherson, Dean Solie, Glory Adams, Tami Schraufnagel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ricky Strauch

STAFF PRESENT: Greg Leonard, Amanda Peters, Liz Fagen and Chad Berge – Land Conservation Division;  
Jared Grande – Planning & Development Department

OTHERS PRESENT: A.J. Leiden – Beaver Creek Reserve

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**1) Call to order by Chair**

Chair Gibson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**2) Roll call**

A roll call was taken; Gibson, Leary, DeLuka, Christopherson, Solie, Adams and Schraufnagel were present. Strauch was absent. A quorum was present.

**3) Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meetings Law**

Gibson confirmed compliance with the open meetings law.

**4) Public Comment Period**

None.

**5) Review/Approval of June 15, 2020 meeting minutes – Discussion/Action**

It was noted on page 2 that the word “extent” is a typo and should be “extend”, and the word “Facility” was also misspelled. The corrections were made.

**ACTION:** Motion by DeLuka to approve minutes as corrected. Motion carried on a roll call vote, 7-0-0.

**6) Review Vouchers and Ledger Update**

The June expenditures and revenues were reviewed. Leonard noted the deposit from West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC) is a result of our partnership with members of the Eau Claire River Watershed Coalition and the grant WCWRPC has with EPA, with Land Conservation as an additional grant recipient.

**7) Approval of new and previously authorized Cost-Share agreements – Discussion/Action**

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

James & Kamber Southworth – Streambank Stabilization - \$20,000.00 (DATCP-Bond funds), \$2,000.00 (County funds) and \$18,000.00 (landowner funds)

Berge reported this practice will help protect residential structures, is not on agricultural land and is limited to 50% cost-share rate by DATCP. Adams asked if there is a way to prevent construction along streams which would lessen the need for this type of practice. Gibson reviewed current shoreland zoning setback requirements which help but may not have been in place when some of these subdivisions were established.

**ACTION:** Motion by Leary to approve the Best Management Practice cost-share application. Motion carried on a roll call vote, 7-0-0.

**8) Water Quality Task Force Resolution: File No. 20-21/038 – Discussion/Action**

Leonard reported on the actions of the Assembly Speakers Water Quality Task Force in 2019 which resulted in the passage of 13 water protection bills within the Assembly. The Senate recessed without acting on these 13 bills due to COVID-19. This resolution has been supported already by the Groundwater Advisory Committee and the Planning & Development Committee.

**ACTION:** Motion by DeLuka to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote, 7-0-0.

**9) Beaver Creek Reserve proposal – Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program– Discussion/Action**

A.J. Leiden, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Coordinator with Beaver Creek Reserve (BCR), presented information on the 2-year pilot for providing AIS services with a 5-county model with the DNR. Moving into 2021 the DNR rule changes that are formalizing the program that BCR has been piloting into a new statewide network will be complete and implemented. With the implementation of this network, each county is being offered a funding allocation to provide the core services. Counties also have the option to work with a Designated Agent to provide these services. Beaver Creek Reserve is seeking to be the designated agent for six counties in West Central Wisconsin. BCR has preliminary support to coordinate this network in Buffalo, Chippewa, Dunn, Pepin, and Rusk counties. BCR would like to include Eau Claire county in this regional network, which can provide a more consistent set of services across the coverage region. Current DNR estimates of the funding allocation available for Eau Claire County is \$12,361.

Leary asked if Corporation Counsel has been consulted on this proposal. Leonard stated not yet as the LCC is the first committee to formally hear this proposal. Corporation Counsel, Planning and Development Committee, Budget and Finance, and then ultimately County Board could be involved in this proposal. Schraufnagel asked if UW-Extension could provide these services. Christopherson stated UW-Extension provides primarily terrestrial invasives education. DeLuka commented that streambank restoration BMPs would benefit with invasives species presentation.

**ACTION:** Motion by Schraufnagel to recommend to the Planning and Development Committee to pursue developing an agreement with Beaver Creek Reserve to provide Aquatic Invasive Species services as a Designated Agent. Motion carried on a roll call vote, 7-0-0.

**10) Hi Crush erosion control/stormwater/reclamation plan update– Discussion**

Grande provided the LCC with an overview of Hi Crush’s reclamation plan and required financial assurance. Staff have recently contacted Hi Crush and had an on-site review of existing permit areas and un-reclaimed sites. Hi Crush is requesting partial release of financial assurance of reclaimed sites. Staff are evaluating this request, and updating existing Erosion Control and Stormwater permits requirements, which are in addition to reclamation. Considering Hi Crush’s recent filing for reorganization under Chapter 11 bankruptcy, staff continue to work closely with Corporation Counsel and the Treasurers office. All communications with Hi Crush indicate that they will continue to honor and follow all existing permits.

**11) Committee, Staff and Agency Updates**

Brief reviews and updates were provided.

- a) **Eau Claire River Watershed Coalition:** The group continues to meet remotely.
- b) **Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) program:** Large-Scale TRM-working with DNR and Clark County to plan an extension.
- c) **Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) program:** No report.
- d) **Water Quality Trading with the City of Augusta:** Planning on 2021 construction.
- e) **Land Stewardship Subcommittee:** Land Stewardship is working with Landmark Conservancy to host an event within the Eau Claire River watershed.
- f) **USDA-NRCS / FSA:** No report.
- g) **DNR-Forestry:** No report.
- h) **UW-Extension:** No report.

**12) Future Agenda Items**

Follow up of the hog operations with manure pits and sand mining will be topics of discussion.

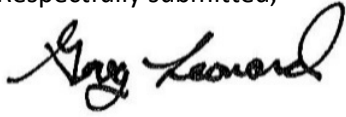
**13) Set Date for next meeting**

The next meeting was set for Monday, August 10, 2020 at 1:00 pm as a remote meeting.

**14) Adjourn**

Gibson adjourned the meeting at 2:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Greg Leonard, LCC Clerk