

**EAU CLAIRE COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

MEETING MINUTES – MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020

REMOTE MEETING - EAU CLAIRE, WI 54703

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Gibson, Robin Leary, Heather DeLuka, Missy Christopherson, Glory Adams, Dean Solie, Tami Schraufnagel
MEMBERS ABSENT: Ricky Strauch
STAFF PRESENT: Greg Leonard, Amanda Peters, and Chad Berge – Land Conservation Division
OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Lea – Lake Eau Claire Protection and Rehabilitation District

1) Call to order by Chair

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

2) Roll call

A roll call was taken; Gibson, Leary, DeLuka, Christopherson, Adams, Solie 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 September 21, 2020 meeting minutes – Discussion/Action

ACTION: Motion by Adams to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote, 7-0-0.

6) Review Vouchers and Ledger Update

The September expenditures and revenues were reviewed. Vehicle maintenance, including oil changes, are part of the LCD /Planning & Development budgets.

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

No Cost-Share agreements were previously authorized. The following Best Management Practice (BMP) Cost-Share applications were presented for approval:

Dean Anderson – Nutrient Management - \$1,344.00 (DATCP – SEG funds)

Scott & Tami Geske – Nutrient Management - \$11,454.00 (DATCP – SEG funds)

James Schumacher – Nutrient Management - \$3,528.00 (DATCP – SEG funds)

Carl Knudtson – Cover Crop - \$1,625.00 (DNR – TRM funds)

Larry Wathke – Cover Crop - \$2,425.00 (DNR – TRM funds)

Andrea & Nick Paulseth – Well Abandonment - \$287.50 (County Cost-share), \$287.50 (Landowner funds)

Leonard explained the Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) funds are for the Fall Creek watershed.

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

8) DATCP Cost-Share Funds Transfer authorization – Discussion/Action

Leonard reviewed DATCP grants for constructed conservation BMPs (Bond funds). Unused funds result in penalization on future grant awards. To avoid penalization, unused funds can be transferred to another willing county. Eau Claire County has received funds in this way in the past. At this time, it appears there will be uncommitted funds which can be transferred to other counties. Transfers must be completed no later than December 1st of the grant year. Staff are finalizing the transfer fund amounts based on existing projects. Leary stated we should offer these funds first to counties who have transferred funds to Eau Claire County in the past,

then our neighboring counties.

ACTION: Motion by Schraufnagel to authorize the LCC Chair to sign the Cost-Share Funds Transfer Agreement upon staff finalizing the fund balance amounts. Motion carried on a roll call vote, 7-0-0.

9) Conservation Awards Considerations (Conservation Farmer, Water Quality Leadership, Special Recognition) – Discussion

Suggestions for award considerations were discussed. Members and staff will compile information on the suggestions.

10) Committee, Staff and Agency Updates

Brief reviews and updates were provided.

- a) **Eau Claire River Watershed Coalition:** The group continues to meet remotely. The new Eau Claire River Watershed website was viewed. <https://www.eauclaireriverwatershed.org/>
- b) **Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) program:** Large-Scale TRM project cost-share requests were part this meeting in Item 7.
- c) **Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) program:** Collaboration with Dunn County Land Conservation and Elk Creek Lake Rehabilitation and Protection District may result in a joint project.
- d) **Water Quality Trading with the City of Augusta:** Planning on 2021 construction.
- e) **Land Stewardship Subcommittee:** Subcommittee is searching for alternative access routes to the Browns property which would not require crossing the Eau Claire River.
- f) **USDA-NRCS / FSA:** Nicholas Besasie reported via email NRCS is working on end of program year payments. Solie reported the shared management with FSA is going well.
- g) **DNR-Forestry:** No report.
- h) **UW-Extension:** No report.

11) Future Agenda Items

Considerations for conservation awards will be included on the next agenda.

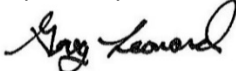
12) Set Date for next meeting

The next meeting was set for Monday, November 16, 2020 at 1:00 pm as a remote meeting.

13) Adjourn

Gibson adjourned the meeting at 1:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Greg Leonard, LCC Clerk