

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

**MEETING MINUTES – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2021**

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

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Glory Adams

STAFF PRESENT: Greg Leonard, Chad Berge, and Amanda Peters – Land Conservation Division;  
Rod Eslinger – Planning and Development

OTHERS PRESENT: Tammy Lindsay-USDA-NRCS, Mark Hagedorn, Ryan Peaslee-WI-DNR

---

**1) Call to order by Chair**

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

**2) Roll call**

Roll call was taken; Gibson, Leary, DeLuka, Christopherson, Solie, Strauch and Schraufnagel were present. Adams 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 January 25, 2021 meeting minutes – Discussion/Action**

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

**6) Review Vouchers and Ledger Update**

The January expenditures and revenues were reviewed. The majority of the expenses are 2020 activity.

**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 application was presented for approval:

Allyn Gunderson – Nutrient Management - \$236.00 (DATCP-NMFE funds)

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

**8) Land Stewardship Fund Policy & Procedures revision – Discussion/Action**

The request of the LCC was to have the proposed revisions reviewed by Corporation Counsel and the Committee on Finance & Budget. Leonard reported that Corporation Counsel would accept the revision as proposed by the Finance Department. The Committee on Finance & Budget accepted the revision. Specific revision recommendations from Finance are as follows: Section 3.0 “The Fund will be established as a non-lapsing ~~segregated special revenue~~ fund with dedicated revenue and expenditure accounts, funded through a variety of sources including public grants, private contributions, service or development fees, and other sources of revenue deemed appropriate by the County.” The Land Stewardship Subcommittee has made a recommendation to the LCC to amend the document as presented.

**ACTION:** Motion by DeLuka to revise the Land Stewardship Fund Policy & Procedures as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote, 7-0-0.

**9) Request USDA-NRCS to appoint and locate a District Conservationist (DC) in the Eau Claire County Field Office-Discussion/Action**

Leonard reviewed that Eau Claire County NRCS office has had conservation staff rotating in and out of the Altoona Field Office for nearly 3 years, and one of the drawbacks is that studies have shown the farmers need to build trust with conservationist for them to accept them. Tammy Lindsay, District Conservationist for Chippewa and Eau Claire Counties, added that there have been staffing issues within NRCS, but there may be an effort to alleviate the shortages. Solie added that consistency within the Farm Service Agency is also desirable. DeLuka questioned if having the District Conservationist in Eau Claire at the same pay grade as adjoining counties could help keep the position filled, otherwise the staff transfer away from Eau Claire for greater compensation.

**No formal action taken.**

**10) No-Till Drill Update – Discussion**

Peters provided an update on the first year of the No-Till Drill program. This planter was purchased without local tax levy funding, and the planter's first year's use exceeded initial estimates

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

Brief reviews and updates were provided.

- a) **Farm Technology Days:** Mark Hagedorn, former UW-Extension Ag Agent, provided an update for Farm Technology Days, which are scheduled for July 20-22, 2021. Planning is continuing for the event to occur.
- b) **Eau Claire River Watershed Coalition:** One of the EPA mini-grant workshops will be occurring next month.
- c) **Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) program:** No report.
- d) **Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) program:** An extension has been requested.
- e) **Water Quality Trading with the City of Augusta:** Planning on 2021 construction. Hi-Crush has indicated willingness to include their land in the project.
- f) **Land Stewardship Subcommittee:** The subcommittee is assisting Landmark Conservancy to develop brochure materials for the Eau Claire River.
- g) **USDA-NRCS / FSA:** Tammy Lindsay, NRCS, reported on the EQIP program. Solie reported on FSA staff changes.
- h) **DNR-Forestry:** Ryan Peaslee reported on private landowner forestry and timber sales activities.
- i) **UW-Extension:** No report.

**12) Future Agenda Items**

No specific items.

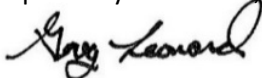
**13) Set Date for next meeting**

The next meeting was set for Monday, March 15, 2021 at 1:00 pm as a remote meeting.

**14) Adjourn**

Gibson adjourned the meeting at 2:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Greg Leonard, LCC Clerk