

AGENDA

Eau Claire County

- Land Conservation Commission •

Date: Monday February 13, 2023 **Time:** 1:00 pm

Location: Ag Resource Center, Room-103 & 104

227 1st Street West, Altoona, WI 54720

Join WebEx Meeting:

<https://eauclairecounty.webex.com/eauclairecounty/j.php?MTID=mb5a9555f96db5a1aa87731c108e0d8b0>

Meeting number: 25940983416, Password: HWkVMKk2J65

**Meeting audio can be listened to using this Audio conference dial in information.*

Audio conference: 1-415-655-0001, Access Code: 25940983416##

For those wishing to make public comment, you must e-mail Chad Berge at chad.berge@eauclairecounty.gov at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call.
3. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meeting Law.
4. Public Comment Period.
5. Welcome Farm Service Agency Representative.
6. Review/Approval of January 9, 2023, meeting minutes. (Discussion/Action) **Pages 2-3**
7. Review Vouchers and Ledger Update. (Discussion) **Page 4**
8. Approval of new and/or previously authorized Cost-Share agreements. (Discussion/Action) **Pages 5-8**
9. Review 2023-25 Wisconsin biennial budget and WI Land & Water Priorities. (Discussion) **Pages 9-17**
10. Review of the letter submitted to LCC from Attorney Thorson. (Discussion) **Pages 18-20**
11. 2023 WI Land & Water Conference Overview. (Discussion) **Page 21**
[Wisconsin Land and Water | Annual Conference \(wisconsinlandwater.org\)](https://www.wisconsinlandwater.org)
12. Committee, Staff and Agency Updates **Pages 22-26**
 - a. Eau Claire River Watershed Coalition
 - b. Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) program
 - c. Land Stewardship Subcommittee
 - d. USDA-NRCS / FSA
 - e. DNR-Forestry
 - f. UW-Extension
 - g. Beaver Creek Reserve
 - h. Land and Water Resource Management Plan Approved February 8, 2023.
13. Future Agenda items.
14. Set date for next meeting.
15. Adjourn.

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES – MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023

AG RESOURCE CENTER, RM. 103 & 104

227 – 1ST STREET WEST, ALTOONA, WI 54720

Members Present: Robin Leary, Tami Schraufnagel, Jodi Lepsch, Heather DeLuka, Missy Christopherson, Glory Adams, Ricky Strauch

Members Absent: Dean Solie

Staff Present: Chad Berge, Christina Rauh, Tim Wucherer, Zach Mohr – Land Conservation Division

Others Present: Lyssa Seefeldt (UW Extension), Jamie Kraklow, Kolby Grint (NRCS), Lia Landowski (Beaver Creek)

1) Call to order by Chair

Chair Leary called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.

2) Roll call

Roll call was taken. A quorum was present with 7 members in attendance.

3) Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meetings Law

Leary confirmed compliance with the open meetings law.

4) Public Comment Period

No comments.

5) Review/Approval of December 12, 2022, meeting minutes

DISCUSSION: None

ACTION: Motion by Christopherson to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote with none in opposition, 7-0-0.

6) Review Vouchers and Ledger Update

DISCUSSION: The December 2022 expenditures and revenues were reviewed.

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

DISCUSSION: No cost-share applications were previously authorized or presented for approval.

8) Review of the 2022 and 2023 SWRM Grant balance.

DISCUSSION: Berge led the discussion, reviewing the grant balance that includes both 2022 carried forward funds and unspent 2023 funds.

9) Consideration of the 2023 WI Land & Water Annual Dues.

DISCUSSION: Leary provided a historical perspective as to how the WI Land & Water Dues have been considered in the past. Berge provided an overview of the four programs offered by WI Land & Water and how they are relevant to Eau Claire County.

ACTION: Motion by Christopherson to support all four programs at a cost of \$2,290.00, after consultation with Eslinger, if the budget supports the funding. If there isn't funding for all programs, then only funding for the 2023 dues and SOC will be provided. Motion carried on a voice vote with none in opposition, 7-0-0.

10) 2023 WI Land & Water Conference Overview.

DISCUSSION: Leary led the discussion and encouraged members to attend the conference.

11) Committee, Staff and Agency Updates

Brief reviews and updates were provided.

a. Eau Claire River Watershed Coalition:

Berge shared that the next meeting is Thursday January 12, 2023.

b. Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) program:

2023 Funds were applied for. Berge working with the DNR to get a better understanding of the program and utilization of 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 funds.

c. Land Stewardship Subcommittee:

The Land Donation Special Committee meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2023, at 2:00 pm. The agenda has been posted.

d. USDA-NRCS / FSA:

Kraklow provided a program update. The NRCS is currently fully staffed in Eau Claire and Chippewa Counties. EQIP offering two new programs, Climate Smart and Urban Agriculture Practices. 2023 funding will be at an all-time low.

e. DNR-Forestry:

No forestry report.

f. UW-Extension:

Seefeldt provided a program update.

g. Beaver Creek Reserve

Landowski reviewed the 4th quarter report and the recently released, A Year in Review document.

12) Future Agenda Items.

2023 LCC Summer/Fall Tour

13) Set date for next meeting

The next LCC meeting was set for February 13, 2023, at 1:00 pm.

14) Adjourn

Leary adjourned the meeting at 2:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chad Berge, LCC Clerk

**Land Conservation Division
2023 Bills**

The following bills were sent to the Finance Department for payment.

January

Vendor	Amount	Description	Account
State of Wisconsin WDATCP	\$ 100.00	2023 Nursery Dealer License	100-15-56922-829-701
Wisconsin Land+Water	\$ 2,290.00	2023 Dues	100-15-56922-324-000
St Croix County	\$ 60.00	Registration Fee	100-15-56920-340-000
Carquest Pcard	\$ 68.96	Wiper Blades	100-15-56920-241-000
Chula Vista Resort Pcard	\$ 270.00	Hotel for Conference	100-15-56920-340-000
Chief River Nursery Pcard	\$ 698.63	Tree Sale	100-15-56922-829-701
Wisconsin Land+Water Pcard	\$ 590.00	Conference	100-15-56920-340-000
Total:	\$4,077.59		

2022 Bills:

Vendor	Amount	Description	Account
Voyager	\$ 171.48	December Fuel	100-15-56920-330-000
Lake Eau Claire Protection & Rehab	\$ 6,008.91	Aeration Costs	405-15-57730-829-000
Joseph Munger	\$ 20.00	Tree Sale Refund	100-15-46810-000-701
Zachary Mohr	\$ 30.00	Notary Bond Refund	100-15-56920-324-000
Chad Berge	\$ 26.93	Meal Reimbursement	100-15-56920-340-000
NASECA - WI	\$ 25.00	Exam - Soil Erosion Inspector (2022)	22-100-15-56920-340-000
Lake Eau Claire Protection & Rehab	\$ 23,155.20	Sediment Removal & Aeration Costs (2022)	22-405-15-57730-829-000
Multiple	\$ 3,000.00	No Till Drill Grant Reimbursement	207-15-56924-200-707
WDFI	\$ 20.00	Notary	100-15-56920-324-000
ECC Highway	\$ 60.51	December Fuel	100-15-56920-330-000
Total Bills Paid in January:	\$32,518.03		

Total \$36,595.62

Deposits

The following deposits were taken to the Treasury Department to be processed.

Vendor	Amount	Description	Account	Date
Everyday Surveying	\$ 313.25	EC-2023-0001 Menard	100-15-46820-000-000	1/9/2023
Everyday Surveying	\$ 802.41	SW-06-20	100-15-46820-000-000	1/11/2023
Bertrang Roofing	\$ 1,879.00	SW-22-09 Financial Assurance	100-00-23172-000-000	1/17/2023
Bertrang Roofing	\$ 469.75	SW-22-09 Financial Assurance	100-00-23172-000-000	1/18/2023
Everyday Surveying	\$ 290.00	EC-2023-0003 Walbeck	100-15-46820-000-000	1/19/2023
Everyday Surveying	\$ 1,155.38	SW-23-01 Permit Fee	100-15-46820-000-000	1/19/2023
John Menard	\$ 12,238.00	SW-22-05 Financial Assurance	100-00-23172-000-000	1/23/2023
Everyday Surveying	\$ 4,810.20	SW-23-03 Permit Fee	100-15-46820-000-000	1/23/2023
Five Star Sands Inc	\$ 387.44	SW-04-13 Extension Fee	100-15-46820-000-000	1/24/2023
Advanced Engineering	\$ 490.00	SW-23-02 Permit Fee	100-15-46820-000-000	1/31/2023
Multiple	\$ 10,905.00	Tree Sales	100-15-46810-000-701	January

2022 Deposits

Stahlbusch Farms	\$ 282.00	NTD-22-26	207-15-46820-000-720	1/4/2023
State of Wisconsin	\$ 34.95	CREP Supplies Reimbursement	100-15-56920-390-000	1/6/2023
Rick Strauch	\$ 322.00	NTD-22-22	207-15-46820-000-720	1/11/2023
Lake Altoona	\$ 1,711.70	HydroVu/River Gauge	207-15-43586-000-716	1/26/2023
Richard Koziel	\$ 500.00	LSSC Donation	100-15-48500-000-790	1/27/2023
Total:	\$ 36,591.08			



Eau Claire
C O U N T Y
LAND CONSERVATION

**NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT
COST SHARE AGREEMENT**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

NAME: Ronald Anderson TELEPHONE: 715-878-4332
 ADDRESS: 510400 Lower CRK Rd. Elora 54738
 FARM LOCATION: Pleasant Valley 2E 4-5-32 Pleasant Valley
TOWN RANGE SECTION TOWNSHIP

AGREEMENT PROVISIONS

1. COST SHARE DETAILS

PRACTICE: Nutrient Management ACRES: 244 COST SHARE RATE: \$ 4 / ACRE
 COST SHARE SOURCE: 2023 NMFE TOTAL COST SHARE AMOUNT: \$ 976.00

2. AS A COST SHARE RECIPIENT, I AGREE TO:

- A. Submit a copy of the certified Nutrient Management Plan and all materials, including current soil samples, by the end of the calendar year.
 - a. Soil samples can be no older than 4 years.
 - b. Soil samples must be taken at a minimum rate of 1 sample per 5 acres.
 - c. Implement and annually update the nutrient management plan once it has been approved by a Certified Nutrient Management Planner.
- B. Develop and implement a Conservation Plan that meets tolerable soil loss "T".
- C. Notify Eau Claire County Land Conservation Division staff immediately if I decide to withdraw from this agreement.

3. THE LAND CONSERVATION DIVISION AGREES TO:

- A. Reimburse the Applicant at the cost share rate (above) when:
 - a. The Land Conservation Commission has approved this Agreement;
 - b. A Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Program Cost Share Contract has been signed by the Applicant and all Landowners (if applicable)
 - c. A Nutrient Management Plan has been submitted that meets NRCS Practice Standard 590 & Technical Note WI-1.

**EAU CLAIRE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DIVISION
COST SHARE AGREEMENT**

I request cost sharing for the practice (s) listed on Page 1 of this agreement and agree to install and maintain the practice(s) in accordance with the "Agreement Provisions" listed:

Ronald Anders
APPLICANT SIGNATURE

12-14-2022
DATE

LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVE	<input type="checkbox"/> DENY
LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEMBER		DATE

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

I certify that the Nutrient Management Plan submitted meets NRCS Practice Standard 590 and Technical Note WI-1:

LAND CONSERVATION DIVISION TECHNICIAN

DATE

TOTAL ACRES		ACRES
COST SHARE RATE	\$	PER ACRE
TOTAL COST SHARE AMOUNT	\$	
COST SHARE SOURCE		

THE APPLICANT HAS MET ALL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE COST SHARE PAYMENT FROM EAU CLAIRE COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT SHOWN ABOVE:

LAND CONSERVATION DIVISION MANAGER

DATE



Eau Claire
C O U N T Y
LAND CONSERVATION

**NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT
COST SHARE AGREEMENT**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

NAME: David w. Schmidt TELEPHONE: 715-597-2258

ADDRESS: E12635 Lark Rd. Osseo WI. 54758

FARM LOCATION: _____
TOWN RANGE SECTION TOWNSHIP
otter creek

AGREEMENT PROVISIONS

1. COST SHARE DETAILS

PRACTICE: 2023 NMFE ACRES: 146 COST SHARE RATE: \$ 4 / ACRE
COST SHARE SOURCE: 2023 NMFE TOTAL COST SHARE AMOUNT: \$ 584.00

2. AS A COST SHARE RECIPIENT, I AGREE TO:

- A. Submit a copy of the certified Nutrient Management Plan and all materials, including current soil samples, by the end of the calendar year.
 - a. Soil samples can be no older than 4 years.
 - b. Soil samples must be taken at a minimum rate of 1 sample per 5 acres.
 - c. Implement and annually update the nutrient management plan once it has been approved by a Certified Nutrient Management Planner.
- B. Develop and implement a Conservation Plan that meets tolerable soil loss "T".
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 - b. A Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Program Cost Share Contract has been signed by the Applicant and all Landowners (if applicable)
 - c. A Nutrient Management Plan has been submitted that meets NRCS Practice Standard 590 & Technical Note WI-1.

**EAU CLAIRE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DIVISION
COST SHARE AGREEMENT**

I request cost sharing for the practice (s) listed on Page 1 of this agreement and agree to install and maintain the practice(s) in accordance with the "Agreement Provisions" listed:

David W. Schmidt
APPLICANT SIGNATURE

1-19-23
DATE

LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVE	<input type="checkbox"/> DENY
_____ LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEMBER	_____ DATE	

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

I certify that the Nutrient Management Plan submitted meets NRCS Practice Standard 590 and Technical Note WI-1:

LAND CONSERVATION DIVISION TECHNICIAN

DATE

TOTAL ACRES		ACRES
COST SHARE RATE	\$	PER ACRE
TOTAL COST SHARE AMOUNT	\$	
COST SHARE SOURCE		

THE APPLICANT HAS MET ALL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE COST SHARE PAYMENT FROM EAU CLAIRE COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT SHOWN ABOVE:

LAND CONSERVATION DIVISION MANAGER

DATE

Chad Berge

From: WI Land+Water <matt@wisconsinlandwater.org>
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 10:05 AM
To: Chad Berge
Subject: CAPITOL UPDATE: Our 2023-2025 State Budget Priorities

WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.



Capitol Update

Announcing our 2023-2025 State Budget Priorities

Greetings Conservationists,

As most know, 2023 is a state budget year and development of the 2023-25 Wisconsin biennial budget has already begun. The process will continue through the spring of 2023 with the Legislature, and ultimately Governor Evers, shaping this important document.

As usual, WI Land+Water's Legislative-Administrative Committee has identified budget priorities that we would like to see addressed in the upcoming budget, related to county conservation department staffing, and the Farmland Preservation Program of the Dept. of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP).

County Land and Water Conservation Department (LWCD) Staffing

Our priority budget request is \$18.7 million investment in stable, core funding for county LWCD staffing, via DATCP's Soil and Water Resource Management Program. \$18.7 million is the

amount that counties have requested of DATCP to provide to meet their staffing needs (based on the formula provided in [Chapter 92.15.\(6\)\(b\)](#)). We consider this amount to be the "core" funding support that LWCDs have demonstrated they require from the state. "Stable" funding means continued, base funding, as opposed to the one-time funding increases that have been provided the past couple biennial budgets.

We have worked to engage an important constituency, farmers, to demonstrate their support for vital county LWCD staffing funding, via handouts and an interactive webpage that highlights in greater detail the specifics of how counties and farmers have partnered together to make their operations more profitable. Those supporting documents and more information can be viewed here: wisconsinlandwater.org/conservationworks.

Farmland Preservation Program

Our second budget priority is an investment to "improve and modernize the DATCP Farmland Preservation Program by increasing participant tax credits and expanding grant implementation reimbursements to local units of government, as proposed in 2021-22 Senate Bill 68." This priority continues from the last couple of sessions of the Legislature and is an extension of an issue first raised via a WI Land+Water business meeting resolution. Specifically, we would like to see increases to the tax credits received by program participants (a known obstacle to program participation on the part of landowners), and revisions to the program that allow FPP planning grants to be utilized for program implementation--which is a heavy workload, in some counties.

Supporting our Budget Priorities

WI Land+Water is actively advocating for these priorities with the Governor's office, legislators, agency, and organizational partners. You can expect more information in the near future on how counties can support these priorities and the budget development process in general. In the meantime, phone calls and contacts to decision-makers can be effective, and the handouts below provide more details about around our priorities.

Thank you for your support, and please [contact me directly](#) with any questions or comments.



Matt Krueger
Executive Director



Budget Priorities Handout

County conservation staff provide boots-on-the-ground leadership to carry out programs that conserve



Conservation Staffing Handout

Whether supporting producer-led groups, assisting waterfront property owners, helping farmers



Farmland Preservation Handout

The Farmland Preservation Program is the only state conservation compliance program that rewards

Wisconsin's land and water resources. We're advocating for locally-led conservation in Wisconsin.

improve soil health, or responding to natural disasters, county staff are relied upon by communities.

landowners for their stewardship of the land and their commitment to future generations of farmers.

[Budget Priorities](#)

[Staffing Handout](#)

[FPP Handout](#)

WI Land+Water | 121 S. Pinckney St., Suite 420, Madison, WI 53703

[Unsubscribe chad.berge@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:chad.berge@eauclairecounty.gov)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by matt@wisconsinlandwater.org in collaboration with



Advocates for locally led
conservation



wisconsinlandwater.org

BUDGET PRIORITIES

Budget Priority 1:

Provide \$18.7 million in stable, core funding support for county conservation department staffing from the DATCP Soil and Water Resources Management Program budget.



THIS INVESTMENT IN CONSERVATION

- Provides increased educational, technical, and conservation planning assistance to help communities control rural and urban soil erosion; protect lakes, streams, and groundwater; and manage woodlots and forests.
- Ensures professional county staff can provide more technical support to farmers and producer-led watershed groups, helping build farm profitability through nutrient management planning and soil health improvement.
- Enhances Wisconsin's capacity to address resource concerns, like flooding and invasive species, at the local level.

Budget Priority 2:

Improve and modernize the DATCP Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) by increasing participant tax credits and expanding grant implementation reimbursements to local units of government, as proposed in 2021-22 Senate Bill 68.

THIS INVESTMENT IN CONSERVATION

- Protects agricultural land by making the program more lucrative and attractive for landowners.
- Creates a "win-win" for farmland owners and conservation, providing much-needed program updates for the first time since 2009.
- Ensures farmers are getting a fair incentive by increasing the FPP tax credit.
- Improves program efficiency by providing funds to support implementation.



LEARN MORE:

wisconsinlandwater.org/conservationworks

Matt Krueger, Executive Director • matt@wisconsinlandwater.org • 608-441-2677 x401

“Conservation staff have the knowledge and skills to help implement the practices to help the farmers move forward. We have to have them for our farmer-led groups.

Tony Peirick
Dodge Co.



FARMERS KNOW CONSERVATION WORKS FOR WISCONSIN

No one understands the Wisconsin landscape better than farmers. They also understand the value of their county conservation staff. By working together, farmers and county conservation staff are moving Wisconsin forward. Learn more about their experiences at wisconsinlandwater.org/conservationworks.



ROGER BINDL | SAUK CO.

“In my experience, it’s been a pleasure to work with the county conservation staff. They will answer your questions and they will help you any way that they can.”



ADAM HAHN | COLUMBIA CO.

“They have been great for our farm. It’s been huge for us with some of cost-sharing techniques and programs available that they had to help us transition into where we need to be going.”



ROMAN MILLER | SAUK CO.

“I would like to leave a place for the next generation that will be profitable and excitable to farm, because those two things keep you on the farm. Conservation staff do a fantastic job on trying to make people profitable.”



WI Land+Water is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, membership organization that supports the efforts of 450 county land conservation committee (LCC) supervisors and 370 professional staff in 72 county land and water conservation department (LWCD) offices. We provide training and education, develop conservation standards, promote youth education, build partnerships, and advocate for our members.

Advocates for locally led conservation



wisconsinlandwater.org

CONSERVATION WORKS

Budget Priority 1:

Provide \$18.7 million in stable, core funding support for county conservation department staffing from the DATCP Soil and Water Resources Management Program budget.



LEARN MORE:

wisconsinlandwater.org/conservationworks

CONNECT:

Matt Krueger,
Executive Director

matt
[@wisconsinlandwater.org](https://www.instagram.com/wisconsinlandwater.org)

608-441-2677 x401

THIS INVESTMENT IN CONSERVATION

A state investment in county conservation staff is critical to maintaining and expanding Wisconsin's capacity to implement critical state conservation and agricultural programs.

- **Enhances Wisconsin's capacity to meet conservation standards and improve water quality, while supporting private landowner management goals at the same time.** \$18.7 million in stable, core funding support for conservation staff meets counties' needs and the state's statutory obligation as defined in Wis. Stats. 92.14(6)(b).
- **Delivers on a bipartisan priority** that has received support from agriculture, local government, and conservation groups alike.
- **Provides professional, proven technical support to our state's agricultural industry,** whether through supporting producer-led watershed groups, helping farmers develop and implement nutrient management plans, or assisting landowners with accessing funding support for conservation projects.
- **Makes good financial sense for Wisconsin.** Not only do county conservation departments provide valuable, cost-effective services for their local communities, but their return on investment is high. They multiply the impact of state funding by leveraging federal and private grant dollars, putting more conservation on the land, and bringing dollars into local communities at the same time.

“In my experience, it’s been a pleasure to work with county conservation staff. They will answer your questions and they will help you any way they can.”

Roger Bindl
Sauk Co.



CONSERVATION WORKS FOR WISCONSIN

County conservation staff provide boots-on-the-ground leadership to carry out programs that conserve Wisconsin’s land and water resources. Whether supporting producer-led groups, assisting waterfront property owners, helping farmers improve soil health, or responding to natural disasters, county conservation staff are relied upon by their communities.



Protecting Local Resources

County staff report spending a majority of their time assisting farmers in planning and designing conservation practices, administering the Farmland Preservation Program, and implementing invasive species control.



Returning on Investment

County staff leverage the state staffing investment through federal grant and private foundation programs. In 2021, county staff helped secure over \$51 million in federal NRCS incentives for landowners.



Showing Proven Results

Conservationists and landowners work together to keep soil and nutrients on the landscape and out of streams, lakes, and drinking water. In 2021, over one million pounds of nutrients and soil were retained on farm fields and kept out of waterways.



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Advocates for locally led conservation



wisconsinlandwater.org

FARMLAND PRESERVATION

Budget Priority 2:

Improve and modernize the DATCP Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) by increasing participant tax credits and expanding grant implementation reimbursements to local units of government, as proposed in 2021-22 Senate Bill 68.



LEARN MORE:

wisconsinlandwater.org/conservationworks

CONNECT:

Matt Krueger,
Executive Director

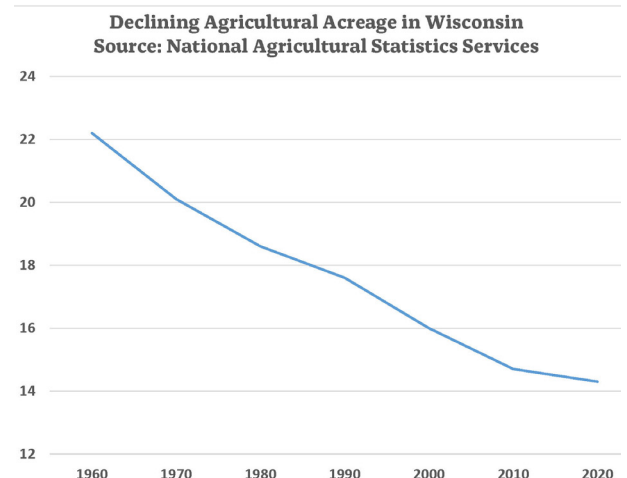
matt
@wisconsinlandwater.org

608-441-2677 x401

THIS INVESTMENT IN CONSERVATION

Agriculture is vital to Wisconsin's economy and cultural identity. In 1978, the Farmland Preservation Program was established to ensure Wisconsin maintains this vibrant farming community for future generations. Improving and modernizing the program will build on our state's rich conservation legacy.

- **Makes a successful conservation program even better**, providing farmers an incentive to maintain their land, while meeting standards that protect soil and water resources.
- **Increases and simplifies FPP program tax credits, leading to greater landowner participation.** FPP tax credits have not been adjusted for a decade. Consolidating and increasing the three incentive tiers of \$5, \$7.50, and \$10 per acre to two tiers of \$10 and \$12.50 per acre will modernize the program.
- **Expands eligibility of FPP planning grant funds to support program implementation.** Counties, local municipalities, planning commissions, and tribal governments should be supported for their role in implementing FPP.
- **Demonstrates responsiveness to Wisconsin taxpayer concerns.** These proposed changes remove barriers to FPP participation previously indicated in landowner surveys.
- **Protects more Wisconsin farmland, which is rapidly declining.** From 1950-2000, farmland acreage declined by nearly one-third.



“ I would like to leave a place for the next generation that will be profitable and excitable to farm, because those two things keep you on the farm.

Roman Miller
Sauk Co.



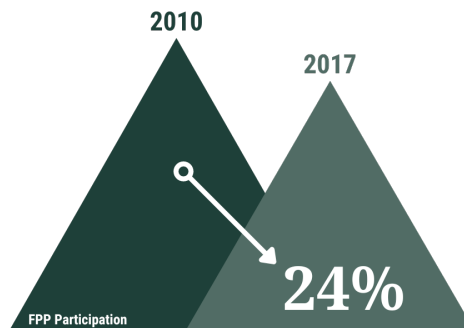
CONSERVATION WORKS FOR FARMERS

The Farmland Preservation Program is the only state conservation compliance program that rewards landowners for their stewardship of the land and their commitment to future generations of farmers. With the rising costs associated with farming and growing pressure from urban development, the current tax credits are too modest to entice farmers to enroll.



Protecting Local Resources

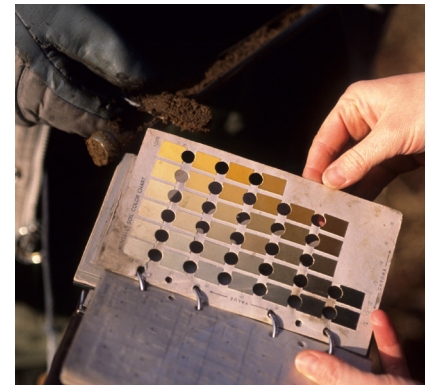
FPP farmers are not only protecting farmland from development, **they are also dedicated to improving the land they intend to pass along to the next generation.** Certification through the county ensures they are meeting the state’s soil and water conservation standards.



Increasing Participation

FPP Participation has declined, **down 24% from 2010 to 2017.**

A 2018 DATCP FPP survey showed modest tax credits and FPP agreement length may be two obstacles to program participation.



Providing Technical Support

County conservation staff support landowners enrolling in the program, offer guidance for improving farmland, and conduct compliance checks needed to qualify for the tax credit.



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**DELTON J. THORSON
ATTORNEY AT LAW
P.O. Box 31
Augusta, WI 54722
deltonjthorson@gmail.com
(715) 286-2425**

December 19, 2022

Eau Claire County Land Conservation Commission
227 1st Street West
Altoona, WI 54720

Enclosed is a copy of the application to abandon portions of three platted but unimproved streets in a developed plat in the Township of Bridge Creek, Eau Claire County.


A hearing on the matter was scheduled for December 15. At the hearing it was noticed that the Eau Claire County Land Conservation Commission had not been notified of the application.

The hearing has been continued to the Town Board's next meet which will be at 7:30 PM, on January 19, 2023.

Any questions regarding the matter can be address to my office.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Delton J. Thorson
Attorney at Law
DJT/lm

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF WISCONSIN }
TREMPEALEAU COUNTY } SS.

MICHAEL STUMPF of said county being duly sworn upon oath deposes and says: That he is an authorized agent of the TRI-COUNTY AREA TIMES, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in the English language, in the City of Osseo, in said Trempealeau County, and that the printed notice, a copy of which was taken from the said newspaper, and is hereunto annexed, was published therein once in every week for 3 week(s) successively, and that the first publication thereon, was on the 03 day of November, A.D., 2022 and the last publication thereof, was on the 24 day of November, A.D., 2022

NOTICE
TOWN OF BRIDGE CREEK

Please take notice that the Town of Bridge Creek, Eau Claire County, will consider an application to abandon the following highways located on part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 8, Township 26 North, Range 6 West, described as follows and shown in detail on the map attached:

All of Gael Street, located in the Gael's Greenery Subdivision, and the southerly 1225 feet of Gael Road and the south 400 feet of Gael's Drive.

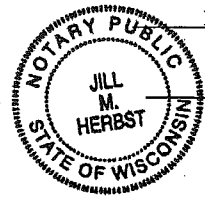
The petition will be heard at the regular board meeting of the Town of Bridge Creek, at 89515 State Road 27, Augusta, WI, on December 13, 2022, at 7:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

GAEI'S GREENERY SUBDIVISION

THE N.W. 1/4 OF THE S.W. 1/4 AND PART OF THE N.W. 1/4 OF THE S.W. 1/4 AND PART OF THE S.W. 1/4 OF THE S.W. 1/4 OF SECTION 8, T. 26 N., R. 6 W., TOWN OF BRIDGE CREEK, COUNTY OF EAU CLAIRE, STATE OF WISCONSIN.

Michael Stumpf

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28 day of November, A.D., 2022.

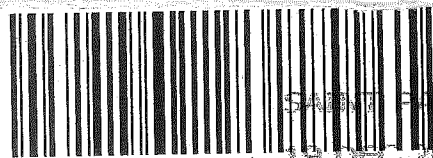


Jill M. Herbst

Notary Public, Pepin County

My commission expires June 11, 2023

Delton J. Thorson
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 31
Augusta, WI 54722



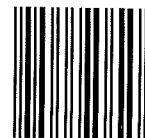
SAINT PAUL, WI 54722

19 DEC 2022

7019 2280 0001 7206 1026



RDC 24



54720

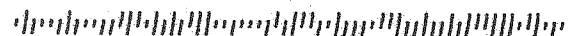
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FCM LETTER
AUGUSTA, WI
54722
DEC 19, 22
AMOUNT

\$4.60

R2305P149618-99

Eau Claire County Land Conservation Commission
227 1st Street West
Altoona, WI 54720

54720-160127





2023 Conference At-A-Glance

Wednesday, March 1

Thursday, March 2

Friday, March 3

Pre-Conference Activities (before 11am)					
9:00-11:00	Youth Speaking Contest				
8:30am-11:00am	WI Land+Water Board Meeting	6:30am-8:30am	Breakfast Buffet (time tentative)	6:30am-8:30am	Breakfast Buffet (time tentative)
9:30am-Noon	Silent Auction Item Drop-off	7:00am-6:00pm	Conference Registration	7:00am-10:30am	Conference Reg.
9:00am-4:30pm	Conference Registration		Silent Auction/ Exhibits/ Poster Judging Open		Pick Up Auction Items
11:00-Noon	Lunch Buffet	8:00am-9:15am	Breakout Sessions	8:00am-9:00am	Breakout Sessions
11:30-1:30pm	Welcome/Winning Youth Speeches/Keynote	9:15am-9:45am	Refreshment Break	9:15am-10:15am	Breakout Sessions
1:30pm-7:00pm	Silent Auction/Exhibits/ Poster Judging Open	9:45am-11:00am	Breakout Sessions	10:15am-10:45am	Refreshment Break
1:45pm-2:45pm	Breakout Sessions	11am-12:45pm	Luncheon with Alonzo Kelly		Business Meeting Registration
2:45pm-3:15pm	Refreshment Break	1:15pm-2:30pm	Breakout Sessions	10:45am-11:45am	Business Meeting Raffle Drawing
3:15pm-4:15pm	Breakout Sessions	2:30pm-3:00pm	Refreshment Break		
4:15pm-5:00pm	Area Assoc. Meetings	3:00pm-4:15pm	Breakout Sessions		ADJOURN. LUNCH ON YOUR OWN.
5:00pm-7:00pm	Social	4:15pm-6:00pm	Social/Exhibits, 50/50 Raffle, End of Silent Auction and Poster Judging		
DINNER ON YOUR OWN - Bus to downtown		6:00pm-8:15pm	Dinner Banquet & Awards		



State of Wisconsin
Governor Tony Evers

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

TO: Chad Berge, County Conservationist Eau Claire County LCD

FROM: Lisa Trumble, LWRM plan coordinator *Lisa K. Trumble*

DATE: February 8, 2023

RE: Approval of the Eau Claire County land and water resource management (LWRM) plan through December 31, 2032.

I am pleased to provide you with an order of approval for the Eau Claire County land and water resource management (LWRM) plan through December 31, 2032, contingent on a LWCB review in 2027.

This approval maintains your county's eligibility for funding from the department to continue to implement your LWRM plan. You will need to update your county work plan each year and file an annual report to remain eligible for department funds.

Please share this notice and a copy of the signed order approving your plan with Robin Leary, chair of your Land Conservation Committee. Our agency looks forward to assisting your county with the plan's implementation.

Thank you.

Wisconsin - America's Dairyland

2811 Agriculture Drive • PO Box 8911 • Madison, WI 53708-8911 • Wisconsin.gov

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STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
2811 Agriculture Drive, P.O. Box 8911
Madison, WI 53708-8911

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY
LAND AND WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR EAU
CLAIRE COUNTY

DOCKET NO. 035-00000-L-22-A-1222
ORDER APPROVING THE REVISED
PLAN THROUGH DECEMBER 31,
2032, CONTINGENT ON LWCB REVIEW
IN 2027

INTRODUCTION

The State of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection ("department"), having consulted the State of Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Board ("LWCB"), makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law and enters the following order under s. 92.10(4), Wis. Stats.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- (1) Paragraphs (1) through (7) from the "Findings of Fact" in the December 17, 2012 Order approving the revised plan through December 31, 2022, *In the Matter of the County Land and Water Resource Management Plan for Eau Claire County*, Docket No. 12-103-18-000-L-1, are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein. A copy of the Order is on file at the Land and Water Resource Bureau of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection at 2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI 53708-8911.
- (2) On December 17, 2012, the department approved the Eau Claire County land and water resource management ("LWRM") plan until December 31, 2022, as more fully described in Docket No. 12-103-18-000-L-1.
- (3) On December 5, 2017, Eau Claire County presented a 5-year review of its Land and Water Resource Management Plan to the Land and Water Conservation Board. The Board formally recommended approval of the county's 5-year review.

- (4) On August 15, 2022, Eau Claire County submitted its revised LWRM plan for LWCB and department review and requested department approval of its revised plan through December 31, 2032.
- (5) The revised LWRM plan referenced in Finding of Fact (4) (“revised LWRM plan”) meets the requirements in s. 92.10(6), Wis. Stats., and ss. ATCP 50.12 and ATCP 50.30(3), Wis. Admin. Code, as documented in the plan approval checklist prepared by the department.
- (6) The LWCB adopted additional criteria for recommending the approval of a LWRM plan for a ten year period and for the LWCB’s five-year review of a LWRM plan approved for 10 years. The applicable criteria are set forth in a guidance available on the DATCP LWRM plan webpage.
- (7) On December 6, 2022, upon finding that Eau Claire County met all criteria for a ten year plan approval, the LWCB recommended the approval of the revised LWRM plan through December 31, 2032, contingent on Eau Claire County submitting to a five-year review by the LWCB in 2027.
- (8) On December 20, 2022, the Eau Claire County Board approved the revised Eau Claire County LWRM plan.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- (1) The department, working in consultation with the LWCB, may approve a LWRM plan for a period not to exceed ten years, in accordance with s. ATCP 50.12(5), Wis. Admin. Code.
- (2) In order to be approved by the department, a county land and water resource management plan must comply with the standards specified under s. 92.10, Wis. Stats.
- (3) The revised Eau Claire County LWRM plan complies with s. 92.10(6), Wis. Stats., and ss. ATCP 50.12 and ATCP 50.30(3), Wis. Admin. Code, and may be approved by the department.
- (4) The LWCB recommended approval of the revised LWRM plan for a ten year period after finding that the revised LWRM plan meets applicable criteria.

- (5) Based on Findings of Fact (1) through (8) above, the department should issue an order approving the revised LWRM plan for a term ending December 31, 2032, subject to the LWCB review specified in Finding of Fact (7).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1) Pursuant to s. 92.10, Wis. Stats., the revised Eau Claire County LWRM plan is approved through December 31, 2032.
- 2) This order is contingent on a LWCB review in 2027, in which the county must meet the requirements in the LWCB guidance, referenced in Finding of Fact (6), relating to the five-year review of a LWRM plan approved for ten years.
- 3) If the department receives a finding from the LWCB that Eau Claire County has failed to meet the LWCB guidance, this order is automatically modified to approve the plan only through December 31, 2027. The county will be notified of this modification and is responsible for submitting a revised land and water resource management plan for department approval to continue its eligibility for department grant funding.
- 4) As a condition of this plan approval, Eau Claire County must file with the department an annual work plan that describes planned activities and includes annual benchmarks for priority activities. Eau Claire County may remain in compliance with this requirement by updating its work plan by no later than April 15th of each year during the period of the plan approval specified in this Order.

Dated this 8th day of February, 2023

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

By  _____
Brian Weigel, DARM Division Administrator