

## **Monroe County Land Conservation, Forestry & Parks Committee Minutes**

### **Date and Place:**

Tuesday December 16, 2014 at the Monroe County Ag Services Center, Sparta, WI

### **Call to Order:**

Chairman Chapman called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. Present were: J Rasmussen; N Van Wychen (8:05); D Olson; D Wegner; B. Micheel, LCD; B. Richardson, LCD; J Wilk, LCD; C Ziegler, Monroe Co. Forestry; G Wheeler, NRCS; C. Walroth, DNR; J Noble, Ft McCoy.

### **Minutes Approval 10/18 meeting:**

***Motion by Olson second by Rasmussen to approve the October 21st minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0-1.***

### **Public Comment Period:**

None

### **Review Land Conservation Bills:**

Micheel reviewed monthly Land Conservation bills and discussed new spreadsheet format. Van Wychen arrived at 8:05.

### **Wildlife Damage: Set 90% Harvest Date:**

Committee set 90% harvest date as 12/16/2014.

***Motion by Wegner, second by Rasmussen to approve December 16, 2014 as the date of 90% harvest. Motion carried 5-0***

### **Tri-Creek cropland rental bid deadline:**

Micheel discussed soil samples, field layout and advertising schedule for Tri-Creek cropland rental. Advertising and bid deadline of January 8<sup>th</sup> will coincide with the county farm rental. The bid opening will be during the LCC meeting held on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Discussion of Mark Roberts Property Sale Adjoining Tri-Creek

Micheel discussed negotiating procedures and financing options after meeting with Corporation Council – A.Kaftan. The LCC committee appointed Micheel and Ziegler to negotiate with the landowner.

**Motion by Van Wychen, second by Rasmussen to appoint Micheel and Ziegler as negotiators for property adjoining Tri-Creek. Motion carried 5-0.**

County Conservationist Report:

Micheel reported on:

Jack and Patricia Herricks winning the Leopold Award.

Farmland Preservation Program flyer enclosed in the property tax bills of the recently designated Ag Enterprise Area (AEA); which include the townships of Wilton, Clifton, Wellington, & Glendale.

Farmers from 3-4 townships will be attending a meeting on 12/30 at 1 p.m. at the Monroe County Ag Service Center to discuss items related to applying for an AEA.

Trout Unlimited is working with landowners in the townships of Adrian and Tomah regarding flood shadowing.

Micheel, Richardson and Wilk attended the UWEX Soil and Water Annual meeting in Sparta.

Monroe County Deer Committee met last week. Goals were set to maintain population in the Central Farmland Zone and increase the deer population in the Central Forested Zone.

Soil and Water Conservationist Report:

Wilk and Richardson discussed current projects, projects completed, and future surveys.

Cost Share Approvals:

Steve Vlasak    Grade Stabilization Structure and Grassed Waterway \$15,000

Tim Sullivan    Grassed Waterway \$7,000.

**Motion by Rasmussen, second by Wegner to approve the cost share amount for projects presented. Motion carried 5-0.**

Fort McCoy Presentation:

John Noble from Fort McCoy discussed various aspects of resource management at Ft. McCoy. John discussed the programs as well as how they co-exist with an active military training. John addressed committee questions.

NRCS Report:

Wheeler presented a summary of jobs completed in 2014

DNR Private Lands Report:

Walroth mentioned the tree farm field day will be held on Saturday August 15, 2015 at the Gerald Kahn Tree Farm. Gerald is the 2014 Wisconsin Tree Farmer of the Year. Staff continues to conduct property walkovers with landowners and provide assistance to Jackson County.

Forestry & Parks Update:

Ziegler reported that the facilities at McMullen Park are winterized and community service is splitting/stacking firewood for next year. Park revenue is currently at \$133,000.00, expenses at approximately \$85,000.00.

There are currently two active timber sales on the county forest. Current timber sale revenue is \$89,000.000 (223% of budget). Ziegler is also working on field work for the 2015 timber sales. Rasmussen left at 10:20am.

Review Forestry & Park Bills:

Ziegler reviewed the December bills.

Set next Meeting Date:

The next meeting will be on January 20, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. in the Monroe County Ag Services Center.

Adjourn:

**Motion by Wagner, second by Van Wychen to adjourn at 10:34 a.m. Motion carried 4-0-1.**