

MONROE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION, FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE & PLACE:

Monday August 19, 2013 at the Monroe County Ag Services Center, Sparta, WI

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Gail Chapman called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. Present were N. Van Wychen; D. Wegner; J. Rasmussen; A. Hoff, LCD; B. Richardson, LCD; B. Micheel, LCD; C. Ziegler, F&P; G. Wheeler, NRCS, C. Walroth, DNR; J. Kuhn was absent.

MINUTES APPROVAL – 7/16/13:

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Wegner to approve the minutes of the 7/16/13 meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

No members of the public were present.

PAYMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION BILLS:

Hoff reviewed the August bills.

Motion by Wegner, second by Van Wychen to approve the July bills in the amount of \$11,820.99. Motion carried 4-0.

LAND CONSERVATION STAFF REPORTS:

Micheel discussed jobs he is working on for John Schmitz, Ray Nauman, Neil Green, and Tyler Mlsna. He discussed the Discovery Farms field day on August 28.

Richardson told the committee that the September meeting will include a public hearing for the Copper Road Minerals reclamation plan, as well as consideration of the reclamation plan for the Gerke Excavating Mike Donskey Quarry. The committee discussed the financial assurance for the Smart Sands quarry. Smart Sands is in the process of changing financial assurance types, and have a deadline of Sept. 1 to submit new financial assurance. Richardson discussed the Keith Olson quarry, part of which is being reclaimed.

REVIEW 2013 CROPLAND TRANSECT SURVEY:

Richardson passed out a historical summary of the cropland transect survey. The survey shows the cropland acres planted to hay, soybeans, and corn. Cropland soil loss rates are also computed as part of the survey. For 2013 the survey shows a decrease in corn acreage, an increase in soybean acreage, and a slight increase in soil loss.

2013 COST-SHARE APPROVALS:

Richardson reviewed a request from Fred Pasch for cost-sharing on a waterway.

Motion by Wegner, second by Rasmussen to approve a Land and Water cost-share agreement for Fred Pasch. Motion carried 4-0.

REVIEW/APPROVE REVISED OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN MONROE COUNTY AND USDA-NRCS:

Wheeler discussed the history and purpose of the operational agreement between Monroe County and NRCS. The agreement spells out working relationships between the 2 partners. It addresses equipment sharing, work planning, records keeping, civil rights policies, and ethics issues.

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Wegner to have the LCC chair and the County Conservationist sign the Operational Agreement on behalf of the Land Conservation Committee and Department. Motion carried 4-0.

NRCS REPORT:

Wheeler discussed the CRP and EQIP workload in Monroe County. He told the committee that NRCS had a display at the Monroe County fair. He discussed the Local Work Group meeting to be held after the LCC meeting.

DNR REPORT:

Walroth discussed the CRP meeting recently held for landowners.

2014 BUDGET REVIEW:

1. Land Conservation: Hoff reviewed the proposed 2014 Land Conservation budget. Because of increased staffing funds from the State, and additional land rent at Tri-Creek, the county levy for Land Conservation is reduced by \$18,900 for 2014. The committee did not recommend any changes to the proposed budget.
2. Forestry & Parks: Ziegler reviewed the proposed 2014 budget for Forestry and Parks. The committee discussed several items and did not recommend any changes.

FORESTRY & PARKS UPDATES:

One of the county forest roads that is normally open during the deer hunting seasons will be closed this year to allow the new seeding to grow. An alternate route will most likely be open.

The park revenue is slightly higher than this time last year; however the camping nights are down significantly. The higher revenue is most likely due to the rate increase and the seasonal campers that prepaid in April

REVIEW AND APPROVE FORESTRY & PARKS VEHICLE BIDS AND FINANCING:

Vehicle bid results for a new full-size pick-up truck were discussed. The results were as follows:

Bidder	Year	Make	Model	Bid Price
Badger Truck Center	2013	Ford	F 150 XL	\$ 28,400.00
Badger Truck Center	2013	Ford	F 150 XL	\$ 22,983.00
Brenengen Ford	2013	Ford	F 150	\$ 23,265.50
Dahl Automotive	2013	Ford	F 150	\$ 23,130.00
Dahl Automotive	2013	Ford	F 150	\$ 25,008.00
Gross Chevy-Buick-GMC	2013	Chevrolet	Silverado	\$ 28,673.50

A motion was made by James Rasmussen, seconded by Nodji Van Wychen to purchase a truck from Brenengen Ford in Sparta for \$23,265.50. Motion carried 4-0.

DISCUSS/APPROVE PURCHASE OF GPS UNIT:

Chad and Al have been meeting with product representatives and met with Jackson County Forestry for a field demo. The GPS unit that appears to meet all of the counties needs is about \$15,720.00 with software and accessories. The Admin/Executive Committee is going to review the approval of spending the additional \$5,720.00 from the Land Records Modernization Fund.

A motion was made by James Rasmussen, seconded by Dean Wegner to purchase the Leica GPS unit pending approval of the additional money from the Land Records Modernization Fund. Motion carried 4-0.

STEWARDSHIP FUNDING: RIDGEVILLE PROPERTY AND TRI-CREEK:

Monroe County applied for stewardship funding to pay for half of the acquisition costs of the Ridgeville land acquisition that was enrolled into the county forest. The project was ranked twice during the review process; both times it ranked in at 4.5. Projects being approved for funding have been ranking about 8.

If the county wishes to pursue stewardship funding; the project will have to be modified to increase the ranking. The following process could be completed to increase the ranking of the project.

1. Establish a county forest blocking boundary around the Tri-Creek property.
2. Enroll 40 or 80 acres of county owned land into the CFL.
3. Apply for funding for up to 50% of the value of the enrolled lands.

The committee decided to discuss this further at the next meeting.

COUNTY FOREST BLOCKING BOUNDARIES:

There was no discussion on this agenda item.

PAYMENT OF FORESTRY & PARKS BILLS:

The committee reviewed the August bills.

A motion was made by James Rasmussen, seconded by Dean Wegner to approve the bills for August. Motion carried 4-0.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next LCC meeting was scheduled for Tuesday September 17, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Wegner to adjourn at 10:35 a.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Al Hoff & Chad Ziegler, recorders

MONROE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION, FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE & PLACE:

Tuesday July 16, 2013 at the Monroe County Ag Services Center, Sparta, WI

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Gail Chapman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Present were N. Van Wychen; J. Kuhn; D. Wegner; A. Hoff, LCD; B. Richardson, LCD; C. Ziegler, F&P; G. Wheeler, NRCS, C. Walroth, DNR; L. Revels; reps from the Kraemer Company. J. Rasmussen was absent.

MINUTES APPROVAL – 5/23/13 AND 6/18/13:

Motion by Kuhn, second by Van Wychen to approve the minutes of the 5/23/13 and 6/18/13 meetings. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

No members of the public were present.

PAYMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION BILLS:

Hoff reviewed the June and July bills.

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Wegner to approve the June bills in the amount of \$3,138.84 and the July bills in the amount of \$8,635.35. Motion carried 4-0.

STAFF REPORTS:

Richardson discussed 2013 conservation practices. He told the committee that he did the cropland transect survey and will have results at the August meeting. He told the committee that there are 2 new nonmetallic mining reclamation permits that will probably be presented at the August meeting.

Hoff said that Micheel has been working on 2 manure storage permits as well as streambank improvement projects and a grade structure.

APPROVE PUBLIC FISHING EASEMENT (ROBERT SCHENDEL)

Hoff discussed a public fishing easement for Robert Schendel on the Kickapoo River.

Motion by Kuhn, second by Wegner to approve a public fishing easement on the Robert Schendel property. Motion carried 4-0.

ACT ON NONMETALLIC MINING RECLAMATION PERMIT FOR A & W SCHMITZ QUARRY, THE KRAEMER CO., OPERATOR:

Richardson reviewed the proposed reclamation plan for the A & W Schmitz Quarry, a proposed limestone quarry to be operated by the Kraemer Company in Section 13 of Jefferson Township. The post-mining land use for this quarry will be wildlife habitat. Financial assurance in the amount of \$17,020 has been received for 6 active acres. No zoning permit is required as Jefferson is an unzoned township.

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Kuhn to approve the nonmetallic mining reclamation plan for the A&W Schmitz Quarry. Motion carried.

2013 COST-SHARE APPROVALS:

Richardson discussed a cost-share request from Wayne Evans for a grassed waterway.

*Motion by Kuhn, second by Wegner to approve a Land & Water contract for Wayne Evans.
Motion carried 4-0.*

NRCS REPORT:

Wheeler discussed the Wetlands Reserve Program with the committee. He had a display on this subject at the Dairy Breakfast and it will also be at the Monroe County Fair. He reminded the Committee of the upcoming meeting for Conservation Reserve Program participants.

DNR REPORT:

Walroth reported that forester Kevin Schilling has transferred out of Monroe County. There were no requests from other DNR foresters to lateral to Monroe County, so the position will go through the hiring process. It may be a year before a new forester is hired.

FORESTRY & PARKS UPDATES:

The park revenue is higher than this time last year; approximately 14% higher. Discussion occurred regarding the higher than normal insect populations at the park this year.

There is one active timber sale on the county forest in the Town of New Lyme.

FORESTRY & PARKS VEHICLE PURCHASE:

Discussion occurred regarding the automobile accident that occurred on June 19, 2013. The damage was significant to the Forestry & Parks truck; the insurance company totaled the vehicle and will be issuing a check to Monroe County for \$20,125.00.

Chad Ziegler distributed vehicle specifications that were developed for a new full-size pick-up truck. Discussion occurred regarding the specifications and how the vehicle will be paid for if the bid amount is greater than the insurance amount. A line item adjustment may be possible or a budget adjustment using excess forestry revenue. Most likely bids will be received for the next meeting.

PAYMENT OF FORESTRY & PARKS BILLS:

The committee reviewed the June and July bills.

A motion was made by James Kuhn, seconded by Nodji Van Wychen to approve the bills for June and July. Motion carried 4-0.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next LCC meeting was scheduled for Monday August 19, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Kuhn, second by Wegner to adjourn at 9:30 a.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Al Hoff & Chad Ziegler, recorders

MONROE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION, FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE & PLACE:

Tuesday June 18, 2013 at the Monroe County Ag Services Center, Sparta, WI

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chair Jim Kuhn called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. Present were N. Van Wychen; J. Kuhn; A. Hoff, LCD; B. Richardson, LCD; C. Ziegler, F&P; G. Wheeler, NRCS, Stan Brownell; G. Chapman, D. Wegner, and J. Rasmussen were absent. A quorum was not present.

MINUTES APPROVAL – 5/23/13:

No discussion or action.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

No members of the public were present.

PAYMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION BILLS:

No discussion or action

STAFF REPORTS:

Richardson discussed 2013 conservation practices. He discussed upcoming applications for nonmetallic mining reclamation permits.

APPROVE PUBLIC FISHING EASEMENT (ROBERT SCENDEL)

No discussion or action

REPORT ON ANNUAL MEETING OF WISCONSIN CONSERVATION CONGRESS:

Stan Brownell, a Conservation Congress member from Monroe County was present to report on the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress which was recently held in Eau Claire. Brownell noted that he was elected for a 4th term on the Executive Council. Other Monroe County members are serving on other statewide committees. A lot of discussion at the meeting concerned the drop in attendance at the spring hearings and how to turn that around. The Congress is also concerned about the lack of opportunity for citizen involvement in policy items included in the State budget. Brownell noted that the Congress is undertaking a review of its' strategic planning process.

2013 COST-SHARE APPROVALS:

No discussion or action

NRCS REPORT:

Wheeler reported on training sessions being taken by NRCS staff. He said that he had a display at the Monroe County dairy breakfast.

DNR REPORT:

No DNR staff were present.

FORESTRY & PARKS UPDATES:

Ziegler reported that he is working on completing timber sales on the County Forest. He said everything is going good at the park except for the large number of insects present.

PAYMENT OF FORESTRY & PARKS BILLS:

No discussion or action

SET NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next LCC meeting was scheduled for July 16, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURN:

Chairman Kuhn adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Al Hoff & Chad Ziegler, recorders

MONROE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION, FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE & PLACE:

Thursday May 23, 2013 at the Monroe County Ag Services Center, Sparta, WI

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Chapman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Present were D. Wegner; J. Rasmussen; N. Van Wychen; A. Hoff, LCD; B. Richardson, LCD; B. Micheel, LCD; C. Walroth, DNR; C. Ziegler, F&P; T. Tomashek, Milestone Materials; L. Revels. J. Kuhn was absent.

MINUTES APPROVAL – 4/16/13:

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Wegner to approve the April 16, 2013 minutes as printed. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Chair Chapman asked if any members of the public had comments. There were none.

PAYMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION BILLS:

Hoff reviewed the monthly Land Conservation bills.

Motion by Wegner, second by Rasmussen to approve the monthly bills in the amount of \$4,658.17. Motion carried 4-0.

ACT ON NONMETALLIC RECLAMATION PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE CATARACT GREEN MINE (MILESTONE MATERIALS, OPERATOR):

Richardson reviewed the submitted reclamation plan for the Cataract Green site in Little Falls Township. The mine is owned and operated by Milestone Materials. It is a new mine on the site of an abandoned nursery. Industrial sand will be mined at the site by dredging. The post-mining land use will be a lake and park land. The initial financial assurance requirement is \$94,518.32 for 20 active acres.

A joint public hearing was held with the zoning committee on 5/20/13. There were no comments on the reclamation plan at the hearing.

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Van Wychen to approve the reclamation permit for Milestone Materials for the Cataract Green site. Motion carried 4-0.

STAFF REPORTS:

Richardson is working on designs and nutrient management plans. He reported that he has received an application for a reclamation permit in Jefferson Township, which will come before the committee in July.

Micheel reported that construction has started for a couple projects. He said he is working with Sparta and Brookwood students on LUNKER construction for the 2013 season. Micheel is assisting with a Learn to Fish program in Sparta. He reported on 2 requests for potential manure storage permits.

Hoff reported that the Joint Finance Committee voted this week to restore funding for Land Conservation staff that was cut in the Governors' budget.

2013 COST-SHARE APPROVALS:

Richardson and Micheel reviewed cost-share requests from Rolland Kelley, John Kelley, and Lester Kempf.

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Rasmussen to approve Land and Water cost-share agreements for John Kelly, Rolland Kelley, and Lester Kempf. Motion carried 4-0.

NRCS REPORT:

Wheeler reported that a CRP signup is open from May 20-June 14. Monroe County has 191 contracts set to expire on Sept. 30. Wheeler reviewed the new CRP rental rates. He announced that a meeting for CRP participants will be held on July 26.

DNR REPORT:

Walroth said trees from the DNR nursery were delivered to Monroe County on April 24. Forestry staff have been doing CRP planting checks and have been receiving training for the next CRP signup.

FORESTRY & PARKS UPDATES:

There are two active timber sales on the county forest; one in the Town of New Lyme and one in the Town of Grant.

All of the park employees have started and most of the training is complete

WCFA SUMMER TOUR ATTENDANCE:

The 2013 summer tour is in Oconto County; Forestry Committee members are invited to attend.

A motion was made by Nodji Van Wychen, seconded by Dean Wegner to approve the attendance of committee members that wish to attend the summer tour. Motioned Carried 4-0.

PAYMENT OF FORESTRY & PARKS BILLS:

The committee reviewed the monthly bills.

A motion was made by James Rasmussen, seconded by Dean Wegner to approve the bills in the amount of \$1,405.65. Motion carried 5-0.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next LCC meeting was scheduled for June 18, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Rasmussen to adjourn at 9:45 a.m. Motion carried.

Al Hoff & Chad Ziegler, recorders

MONROE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION, FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE & PLACE:

Tuesday April 16, 2013 at the Monroe County Ag Services Center, Sparta, WI

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Chapman called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Present were D. Wegner; J. Rasmussen; J. Kuhn; N. Van Wychen; A. Hoff, LCD; B. Richardson, LCD; B. Micheel, LCD; K. Schilling, DNR; C. Walroth, DNR; C. Ziegler, F&P; L. Revels.

MINUTES APPROVAL – 3/19/13:

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Wegner to approve the March 19, 2013 minutes as printed. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Chair Chapman asked if any members of the public had comments. There were none.

PAYMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION BILLS:

Hoff reviewed the monthly Land Conservation bills.

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Kuhn to approve the monthly bills in the amount of \$5,160.63. Motion carried 5-0.

STAFF REPORTS:

Richardson is working on nutrient management plans for a few landowners as well as finishing some practice designs. He reported on the recent workshop held for conservation contractors. Richardson has been working with the U.S. Silica and the Bear Creek mine operators on updating their financial assurance. Richardson told the committee that a reclamation plan for a sand mine in Little Falls will be considered at the May LCC meeting.

Micheel is working on designs for the 2013 construction projects. He also presented for a career day at Sparta Schools. He reported on his meeting with Triple F Farms in Lincoln Township and discussed spreading complaints concerning Valley Pride Pack.

APPROVE PUBLIC FISHING EASEMENTS:

Micheel reviewed the purpose of public fishing easements. Landowners grant public fishing easements in exchange for cost-sharing on habitat improvement projects on their streams.

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Kuhn to approve public fishing easements for Leroy Baldwin, N J Green Trust, and G & M Farms. Motion carried 5-0.

2013 COST-SHARE APPROVALS:

Richardson reviewed cost-share requests from Cory Revels and Kathy La Valley.

Motion by Kuhn, second by Van Wychen to approve Land and Water cost-share agreements for Cory Revels and Kathy La Valley. Motion carried 5-0.

NRCS REPORT:

No NRCS staff were present at the meeting.

DNR REPORT:

Walroth reported that trees from the DNR nursery will be delivered to Monroe County on April 24. She handed out a spreadsheet showing forestry statistics for Monroe County. About 47% of

Monroe County is wooded with 18% of that being enrolled in one of the tax law programs.

FORESTRY & PARKS UPDATES:

There is one active timber sale on the county forest in the town of New Lyme.

The park had its first campers last week; the campers are restricted to sites 1-14 until more snow melts. The annual spring cleanup weekend is April 27th and 28th.

RESOLUTION: ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE PARK DEPT:

Discussion was held between the Finance Director and the county auditors and the Forest & Parks Administrator, Finance Director and the County Administrator regarding the options for moving excess revenue into the following year's budget. The county auditors recommended using a special revenue account for this purpose.

The park department has been off of the county levy since 2008. The purpose for creating the special revenue account is to have funds available to keep the park department off of the county levy during lower revenue years, cover unexpected expenses (emergencies) and potential future development of the park. The maximum balance would be \$100,000.00. Discussion occurred within the committee.

A motion was made by James Rasmussen, seconded by Nodji Van Wychen to approve the resolution. Motioned Carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION: ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE FORESTRY DEPT:

The forestry department has been off of the levy 7 out of the last 10 years. The purpose for creating the special revenue account is to have funds available to keep the forestry department off of the county levy during lower revenue years, fund large project expenses (such as regeneration and cultural treatments) and future equipment purchases. Due to the normal contract length (2 years) and the county's desire to encourage more timber sale bids with this 2 year contract period; the revenue stream could have peaks and valleys which would cause the year's where the department is on the tax payer's levy. The maximum balance would be \$100,000.00. Discussion occurred within the committee.

A motion was made by James Kuhn, seconded by Nodji Van Wychen to amend the resolution to change the maximum fund balance to \$50,000.00. Motioned Carried 3-2 (Rasmussen, Wegner).

A motion was made by James Kuhn, seconded by Nodji Van Wychen to approve the resolution as amended. Motioned Carried 3-2 (Rasmussen, Wegner).

PAYMENT OF FORESTRY & PARKS BILLS:

The committee reviewed the monthly bills.

A motion was made by James Rasmussen, seconded by James Kuhn to approve the bills in the amount of \$757.00. Motion carried 5-0.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next LCC meeting was scheduled for May 21, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Rasmussen to adjourn at 10:25 a.m. Motion carried.

Al Hoff & Chad Ziegler, recorders

MONROE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION, FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE & PLACE:

March 19, 2013 at the Monroe County Ag Services Center, Sparta, WI

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice-Chairman Kuhn called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. Present were D. Wegner; J. Rasmussen; Chapman entered the meeting at 8:35 a.m.; A. Hoff, LCD; B. Richardson, LCD; B. Micheel, LCD; M. Modjeski, DNR; K. Schilling, DNR; G. Wheeler, NRCS; members of the press. N. Van Wychen was absent.

MINUTES APPROVAL – 2/19/13:

Motion by Wegner, second by Rasmussen to approve the February 19, 2013 minutes as printed. Motion carried 3-0-2 (Van Wychen, Chapman absent).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Vice-Chair Kuhn asked if any members of the public had comments. There were none.

PAYMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION BILLS:

Hoff reviewed the monthly Land Conservation bills.

Motion by Kuhn, second by Rasmussen to approve the monthly bills in the amount of \$6,142.48. Motion carried 4-0-1 (Van Wychen absent).

STAFF REPORTS:

Greg Wheeler recognized Bob Micheel as the recipient of WLWCA's outstanding employee award in the technical category. The award was presented at the associations' recent annual meeting.

Micheel and Richardson discussed sessions they attended at the WLWCA annual conference.

Micheel discussed projects he is working on including a roofed barnyard in Oakdale Township and a manure storage in Adrian.

Richardson is assisting several landowners in preparing nutrient management plans. He also discussed the upcoming workshop for conservation contractors.

APPROVE PUBLIC FISHING EASEMENT FOR L. BALDWIN:

This item was postponed until the April meeting.

DISCUSS GOVERNOR'S BUDGET:

Hoff discussed the proposed state budget for the 2013-15 biennium. The budget as proposed makes permanent the \$1,730,800 lapse in GPR appropriations taken by DATCP in FY 12 and FY 13. These funds are used to provide grants to counties to pay for staff salaries and benefits. The amount available statewide is therefore reduced from 9.3 million to 8 million. The exact impact to individual counties is not known at this time. Changes to the funding formula as proposed in the ATCP 50 revision will also impact the staffing dollars received by counties.

SEG funds used for grants to farmers for nutrient management planning are reduced by \$2,856,700 annually, but the bottom line is there is \$700,000 more available for grants than there was in 2013 because of the required lapse of 3.5 million in 2013.

Bond funds used to cost-share conservation practices remain the same in the proposed budget.

NRCS REPORT:

Wheeler handed out information on Wisconsin’s Runoff Risk Advisory Forecast, an online tool intended to predict risk assessment for manure spreading.

Wheeler discussed a wildfire training session being held in Sparta.

DNR REPORT:

Schilling discussed steps being taken to notify landowners enrolled in Managed Forest Law (MFL) about their obligations to implement required practices. He said the deadline for 2014 MFL applications in June 1.

Schilling said State nursery tree orders for Monroe County landowners total 52,000 trees, a number that follows the recent trend of a reduction in tree planting.

FORESTRY & PARKS UPDATES:

There is currently one active timber sale on the county forest in the town of New Lyme. The non-lapsing park account resolution is on hold; other options are being looked into. Chad will be attending the WCFA spring meeting in Madison Wednesday through Friday this week

UPDATE: SAND MINING IN THE TOWN OF GRANT:

Chad spoke with a representative from U.S. Silica last week. It appears that at this time U.S. Silica will not be establishing a mine site and processing plant in the town of Grant.

APPROVE TIMBER SALE BIDS:

Six tracts were offered for bids.

The high bidders for each tract were as follows:

Tract 1-13:	Jelinek Trucking, Inc.	\$14,984.70	
Tract 2-13:	Delaney F.P.	\$28,472.20	
Tract 3-13:	Lambert F.P.	\$14,897.61	
Tract 4-13:	Lambert F.P.	\$25,227.58	
Tract 5-13:	Lambert F.P.	\$10,227.37	
Tract 6-13:	Lambert F.P.	\$20,275.06	Does not meet minimum bid.

A motion was made by James Rasmussen, seconded by James Kuhn to approve the high bid for each tract except for tract 6-13. Motion carried 4-0-1 (Van Wychen absent).

RESOLUTION: ACQUISITION OF WAGNER PROPERTY FOR FORESTRY AND SOLID WASTE PURPOSES:

Details of the transaction and accepted counter offer were presented to the committee.

A motion was made by James Kuhn, seconded by James Rasmussen to continue moving forward with the partnership between the Forestry and Solid Waste Departments to acquire the Wagner property. Motioned Carried 4-0-1 (Van Wychen absent).

PAYMENT OF FORESTRY & PARKS BILLS:

The committee reviewed the monthly bills.

A motion was made by James Rasmussen, seconded by Dean Wagner to approve the bills in the amount of \$2,995.67. Motion carried 4-0-1 (Van Wychen absent).

SET NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next LCC meeting was scheduled for April 16, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Kuhn, second by Rasmussen to adjourn at 10:25 a.m. Motion carried.

Al Hoff & Chad Ziegler, recorders

MONROE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION, FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE & PLACE:

February 19, 2013 at the Monroe County Ag Services Center, Sparta, WI

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Chapman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Present were J. Kuhn (8:45); D. Wegner; J. Rasmussen; N. Van Wyche; A. Hoff, LCD; B. Richardson, LCD; B. Micheel, LCD; M. Modjeski, DNR; C. Walroth, DNR; K. Schilling, DNR; G. Wheeler, NRCS; C. Ziegler, F&P; L. Revels, S. Brownell.

MINUTES APPROVAL – 1/15/13:

Motion by Van Wyche, second by Wegner to approve the January 15, 2013 minutes as printed. Motion carried 4-0 (Kuhn absent).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Chair Chapman asked if any members of the public had comments. There were none.

PAYMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION BILLS:

Hoff reviewed the monthly Land Conservation bills.

Motion by Van Wyche, second by Rasmussen to approve the monthly bills in the amount of \$4,414.84. Motion carried 4-0-1 (Kuhn absent).

WILDLIFE DAMAGE PROGRAM – 2012 CLAIMS REVIEW:

Phil Peterson told the committee that there are 2 crop damage claims for Monroe County in 2012. They are Jeff Snider in Oakdale Township with a payable amount of \$920.42 for damage to soybeans, and Bob Sutton in Lincoln Township with a payable amount of \$631.25 for damage to corn and soybeans. Peterson said both parties met the program requirements, and USDA, DNR, and County staff have recommended payment. Peterson answered questions from Rasmussen concerning hunter access to properties enrolled in the Wildlife Damage program.

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Wegner to approve 2012 Wildlife Damage payments to Jeff Snider in the amount of \$920.42 and Bob Sutton in the amount of \$631.25. Motion carried 5-0.

STAFF REPORTS:

Micheel and Richardson said they are working on designing conservation practices for the 2013 season. They have both participated in training sessions and meetings in the past month.

Richardson reported that 2013 nonmetallic mining reclamation fees have been received from mine operators. Monroe County has 1,090 active acres at the end of 2012. Richardson reported on issues discussed at a recent forum for NR 135 administrators.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS:

Hoff explained 2 budget adjustments. A 2012 budget adjustment is needed due to less Soil and Water Resource Management grant revenue from the State of Wis. (\$125,000 budgeted vs. \$112,468 received), and an increase in Nonmetallic Mining Permit revenue (\$11,000 budgeted vs. \$16,250 received). Hoff explained that the lost grant revenue was offset by the increase in nonmetallic revenue and under-spending in the Environment, Construction, and Development account.

The second budget adjustment is for the 2013 Wildlife Damage revenue and expenditure accounts.

Both were budgeted at \$35,000 and both will be reduced to the approved amount of \$25,095.

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Kuhn to approve budget adjustments for 2012 SWRM Grant revenue and Nonmetallic Mining Permit revenue, and for 2013 Wildlife Damage revenue and expenditure. Motion carried 5-0.

DNR REPORT:

Walroth reported that foresters are working on Wisconsin Forest Landowner Grant Program (WFLGP) applications as well as working with Managed Forest Law contracts that have mandatory practice requirements.

NRCS REPORT:

Wheeler reported that 3.2 million acres of CRP contracts are set to expire nationally. Monroe County has 191 contracts that will be expiring soon. He reported on a workshop being planned in Sparta for controlled burn training.

FORESTRY & PARKS UPDATES:

Community service finished splitting and stacking firewood at McMullen Park. Planning for the 2013 camping season is on-going.

There is one active timber sale in the Town of Lincoln and one active sale in Town of New Lyme.

LINE ITEM TRANSFER, F&P:

1. Park line item transfers (\$100.00 from Park Salaries):

To: Motor Vehicle Operation: \$100.00

2. Forestry line item transfers:

From: Site Conversion/Planting: \$850.00
Conferences/Seminars: \$600.00
Equip. Maint./Repairs: \$500.00
Forestry Supplies: \$200.00
Road Maintenance: \$325.00
Emp. Ed. & Training: \$16.96

To: Property Tax Payments: \$2,491.96

A motion was made by Nodji Van Wychen, seconded by Dean Wagner to approve the line item transfers and establish the new forestry account "Property Tax Payments". Motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION: AMENDING MONROE COUNTY CAMPING FEES:

Chad presented camping rates from neighboring county campgrounds and the resolution. Discussion regarding the parks financial situation and the camping rates occurred.

A motion was made by James Rasmussen, seconded by James Kuhn to approve the resolution. Motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION: STEWARDSHIP FUNDING APPLICATION:

This resolution will allow the Forestry & Parks Administrator to apply for a land acquisition grant through the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant program. The grant (if awarded and accepted) will pay for half of the land acquisition costs for 37 acres in the Town of Ridgeville that will be

enrolled into the county forest. If the county doesn't purchase the property; then the grant will not be applied for.

A motion was made by Nodji Van Wychen, seconded by James Kuhn to approve the resolution. Motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION: PARK NON-LAPSING ACCOUNT FRO SURPLUS REVENUE:

This resolution would direct the Finance Department to carry forward the surplus park revenue each year and deposit it in the Park Capital Improvements line item.

A motion was made by Nodji Van Wychen, seconded by James Rasmussen to approve the resolution. Discussion. A motion was made by James Rasmussen, seconded by Dean Wagner to amend the resolution to direct the Finance department to carry forward fifty percent of the Park Department's annual surplus each year going forward. Amendment passed 3-2. Van Wychen and Chapman voted no.

The committee voted on the original motion to approve the resolution as amended. Motion carried 3-2. Van Wychen and Chapman voted no.

The "no" voters were in favor of the original resolution as written.

PAYMENT OF FORESTRY & PARKS BILLS:

The committee reviewed the monthly bills.

A motion was made by Nodji Van Wychen, seconded by James Kuhn to approve the bills in the amount of \$1,844.17. Motion carried 5-0.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next LCC meeting was scheduled for March 19, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Van Wychen, second by Kuhn to adjourn at 10:10 a.m. Motion carried.

Al Hoff & Chad Ziegler, recorders

MONROE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION, FORESTRY & PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE & PLACE:

January 15, 2013 at the Monroe County Ag Services Center, Sparta, WI

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chair Kuhn called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Present were J. Kuhn; D. Wegner; J. Rasmussen; A. Hoff, LCD; B. Richardson, LCD; M. Modjeski, DNR; C. Walroth, DNR; K. Schilling, DNR; V. Blount, NRCS; L. Revels. Supervisors VanWychen and Chapman were absent.

MINUTES APPROVAL – 12/18/12:

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Wegner to approve the December 18, 2012 minutes as printed. Motion carried 3-0-2 (VanWychen, Chapman absent).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Vice Chair Kuhn asked if any members of the public had comments. There were none.

PAYMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION BILLS:

Hoff reviewed the monthly Land Conservation bills.

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Wegner to approve the monthly bills in the amount of \$7,512.15. Motion carried 3-0-2 (Van Wychen, Chapman absent).

STAFF REPORTS:

Richardson and Micheel have been doing surveys and working on 2013 practices. Richardson said annual report requests and invoices have been mailed to nonmetallic reclamation permit holders in the county. Monroe County has 35 active mines with 1,008 active acres. Richardson reported on the Wisconsin Counties Association Frac Sand Task Force, which recently held a meeting in Tomah. Some of the discussion was on the process for siting high capacity wells. Richardson will be attending a Feb. 12 meeting for county staff administering nonmetallic mining reclamation permits.

ACT ON TRI-CREEK LAND RENT CONTRACT, 6 ACRE PARCEL:

Hoff told the committee that he met with the landowner currently renting a 6 acres parcel at Tri-Creek that was left off the recent bid package due to access problems. The landowner, who has access to the county land from his land, has not yet responded with a proposal on the property.

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Wegner to allow Hoff to negotiate a lease with the current renter of the 6 acre parcel as long as the minimum rental rate is \$175/acre, and to contact the renter of the nearby county cropland if an agreement cannot be reached for the minimum amount. Motion carried 3-0-2 (Van Wychen, Chapman absent)

DNR REPORT:

Walroth reported that foresters are working on spring tree planting and new Managed Forest Law applications.

Modjeski reported that one wolf was harvested by gun during the recent wolf hunt.

NRCS REPORT:

Veronica Blount reported for NRCS. She updated the committee on the 2012 EQIP signup. Monroe County currently has 67 applications. Veronica passed out a copy of a newspaper article

about a Monroe County landowner who used NRCS assistance with a grazing plan.

FORESTRY & PARKS UPDATES:

Community service is splitting and stacking firewood at McMullen Park.

There is one active timber sale in the Town of Lincoln.

2012 PROPERTY TAX; HABELMAN PARCEL:

Two options were discussed: One is to pay the taxes; the second option is to request that the Finance Committee write off the taxes; the town, state and schools portion would be paid out of the general fund.

A motion was made by Dean Wagner, seconded by James Rasmussen to postpone action until next month. Motion carried 3-0-2 (Van Wychen, Chapman absent).

LINE ITEM TRANSFERS; FORESTRY & PARKS:

Park line item transfers (\$3,605.00 from Park Salaries):

Electricity:	\$2,800.00
Printing Costs:	\$380.00
Park Supplies:	\$225.00
Motor Vehicle Operation:	\$200.00

Forestry line item transfers (\$150.00 from Site Conversion/Planting):

Salaries:	\$100.00
Fringe Benefits:	\$50.00

A motion was made by James Rasmussen, seconded by Dean Wagner to approve the line item transfers. Motion carried 3-0-2 (Van Wychen, Chapman absent).

REVIEW CAMPING RATES AT McMULLEN PARK:

Chad presented camping rates from neighboring county campgrounds. Discussion regarding the parks financial situation and the camping rates occurred.

A motion was made by Dean Wagner, seconded by James Rasmussen to increase the daily rate to \$19.00, the weekly rate to \$110.00, the monthly rate to \$350 and to implement a seasonal rate at \$1600.00. Motion carried 3-0-2 (Van Wychen, Chapman absent).

PAYMENT OF FORESTRY & PARKS BILLS:

The committee reviewed the monthly bills.

A motion was made by James Rasmussen, seconded by Dean Wagner to approve the bills in the amount of \$11,727.01. Motion carried 3-0-2 (Van Wychen, Chapman absent).

SET NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next LCC meeting was scheduled for February 19, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Wegner, second by Rasmussen to adjourn at 10:25 a.m. Motion carried.

Al Hoff & Chad Ziegler, recorders