

**Walworth County Board of Supervisors
Land Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 18, 2022
Walworth County Government Center, County Board Room 114
100 W. Walworth Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Brian Holt at 1:00 p.m.

Roll call was conducted and the following members were present: Chair Brian Holt; Vice Chair Sheila Reiff; Supervisor Rick Stacey; and Citizen Member Richard Kuhnke, Jr. Citizen Representative Sharon Travis was absent. A quorum was declared.

Others in Attendance either in person or remotely:

County Staff: Corporation Counsel/Director-Land Use and Resource Management (LURM) Michael Cotter; Deputy Director of LURM/County Conservationist Mandy Bonneville; County Administrator Mark W. Luberda; and UW-Whitewater Intern Jenna Suda

On motion by Supervisor Stacey, second by Vice Chair Reiff, the agenda was approved with no withdrawals.

On motion by Supervisor Stacey, second by Vice Chair Reiff, the minutes of the May 16, 2022, Land Conservation Committee meeting were approved.

Public Comment – There was none.

6. Lake District Representatives

Corporation Counsel/Director-Land Use and Resource Management (LURM) Michael Cotter inquired if anyone from the Land Conservation Committee (LCC) would be interested in serving on either the Booth Lake or Lauderdale Lakes Management District Boards. If not, the opportunity will then be offered to the County Board of Supervisors through the County Administrator's Report and Update, and finally to citizen representatives. Chair Holt stated he does have a lead on a citizen representative should the opportunity arise. Cotter then advised the Committee that Sharon Travis does intend to continue serving on the Land Conservation Committee and the Honey Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Board, as a citizen representative.

7. Res. No. 23-06/22 - Supporting an Amendment to the Darien Sanitary Sewer Service Area

(Referred back to the Land Conservation Committee for further inquiry and review at the July LCC meeting). Chair Holt explained that Res. No. 23-06/22 was referred back to LCC at the June County Board meeting. Since then, Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWERPC) has met and resolved this vote on their end relative to issues relating to the Amendment of the Darien Sanitary Sewer Service Area. Holt noted SEWERPC will re-examine the timeline and referral recommendation process from counties for inclusion of the materials submitted to their committee. Chair Holt recommended placing this resolution on file, as it is no longer relevant for the process that has already transpired. **Vice Chair Reiff offered a motion, second by Supervisor Stacey, to place Res. No. 23-06/22 – Supporting an Amendment to the Darien Sanitary Sewer Service Area on file. Motion carried 4-0.**

8. Resolution authorizing the Land Use and Resource Management Department's acceptance of an Innovation

Harvestable Buffer Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Deputy Director of LURM/County Conservationist Mandy Bonneville provided a summation of her Memorandum and proposed resolution (Pages 8-11) and explained that the \$20,000 in grant funding from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection would be utilized for establishment of harvestable buffers by landowners within the Delavan Lake and Geneva Lake watersheds. Funding for this grant expires

December 31, 2022 with no cost to Walworth County. Chair Holt explained further the harvestable buffer, which is a slight expansion of a filtration strip that guards a waterway, but allows the harvesting of grass for use of hay, feed or straw in exchange for money for lost acreage. **Supervisor Stacey offered a motion, second by Vice Chair Reiff, to approve acceptance of an Innovation Harvestable Buffer Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Motion carried 4-0.**

9. Land Conservation Committee Handbook and other available resources from the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association

Bonneville gave a brief overview of her Memorandum and the Land Conservation Committee Handbook 2022-2024 provided by the WI Land and Water Conservation Association (WI Land+Water) found on Pages 12-32. She noted additional training resources are available on the WI Land+Water website.

10. Briefing from July 2022 County Conservation Meeting held by Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association

Bonneville announced that she attended the 2022 County Conservation meeting held by the WI Land+Water and provided a brief overview of the events that took place. She stated one topic shared was relative to solar arrays, both small and large projects and specifically how they work with the Farmland Preservation Program and potential negative impacts that may be caused.

Cotter and Bonneville collaboratively introduced Water Quality Specialist Jenna Suda who is currently a senior at UW-Whitewater and will be working with the Aquatic Invasive Grant Program. Cotter stated he would like to introduce Samantha Stawarz and Casey Mullett at the next LCC meeting and speak about the permitting processes within the Land Use and Resource Management Department.

Confirmation of next meeting – The next meeting was confirmed for Monday, September 19, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

On motion and second by Supervisor Stacey and Vice Chair Reiff, Chair Holt adjourned the meeting at 1:18 p.m.