

TAYLOR COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of December 18, 2013 Meeting

The LCC meeting was called to order by Dave Krug at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held in the UW Extension Meeting Room, County-USDA Service Center, Medford, Wisconsin. Members present were David Krug, Chairman, Scott Mildbrand, Ray Soper, and Joann Smith. Ashly Steinke, County Conservationist; Emily Bachinski, Conservation Assistant; Ben Stanfley, Engineering Technician; Bob Brandt, Grazing Specialist; Bob Plawski, District Conservationist; Ed Zydzik, Wildlife Damage Specialist; Mark Berglund, *The Star News*; and Steve Suchomel, were also in attendance for part or all of the meeting.

MOTION by Soper/Mildbrand to approve the agenda as amended. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Mildbrand/Smith to approve minutes from October 15, 2013 LCC regular meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Soper/Smith to approve October-December 2013 bills and September-October 2013 budget analysis. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS:

LCD staffing and program update.

Tree and Shrub Sale Update. Emily reported that so far 1,715 trees were sold. That is 19% of the total trees ordered. Looking at data from 2011, sales picked up in January. Soper asked what the benefits are with including Price County in the tree sale. The benefits are that Price County residents have the option of ordering trees because their LCD does not do a tree sale, and we process the orders like normal, and we get the profit.

Soper brought up DATCP Grants that pay for salaries. Most are dissatisfied with the new rule. The change would apply to the first 100% position, the County Conservationist. They want the first position to work 100% on conservation, how they define it. That only includes agricultural practices. No County Conservationist currently meets the standard. Some thought that might mean they can't take part in activities such as zoning. It is a very big concern.

Farmland Preservation Program-Update on AEA Development. Steinke gave a presentation at the Towns Association meeting. Reception was lukewarm at best. The LCD would like to focus on Little Black and Deer Creek. Little Black was not there. The next step is to contact the Town Chair. If there isn't interest, there won't be much hope for the program to move forward. Smith mentioned that Little Black is concerned with land use and are moving forward with zoning. Ashly mentioned that the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA wants to expand. Zoning related to AEAs is at the township level.

Discuss/take possible action on well baseline data incentive. Steinke reported that there was talk at the LCD office on how best to handle the concerns of Little Black in the way that would benefit the people the most. Groundwater professionals advised that baseline data should be collected in a 2 mile radius of the future high capacity well. There was money left over in the water program budget that could be used towards the incentive. It was necessary to get the letter out soon to prepare the list of participants for spring testing. Mildbrand said it's good to get data, and look out for the citizens. But it may set a precedent for the future. It was clarified that collecting this data could cost \$150 to \$200. The cap was set at 50 people to receive \$100 incentive (172 letters went out). The incentive has the potential to impact the water program budget by \$5,000.

Soper mentioned that there should be a cap on the amount of money the committee is willing to spend. Krug liked the idea. **MOTION** by Smith/Mildbrand to authorize 50 incentives for up to \$100 to put towards the cost of collecting baseline data as presented by Steinke. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS:

Reports

Land Conservation Department - County Conservationist, reported:

- 1. Lake and Pine Breeze Dairy Visit-Update on their plan.** Stanfley, Bachinski, and Steinke visited Pine and Lake Breeze. The day was spent with Brian, Jeff, and Brad Gerrits. Concerns over water, nutrient management planning, wildlife habitat, and other concerns were discussed. They had just finished spreading manure and were ready to move forward and will soon be submitting permits. Their goal is to break ground in 2014, but it is more likely to happen in 2015. They do not have interest in using digesters for the North Breeze location. Mildbrand had it clarified that the LCD has jurisdiction over nutrient management and manure storage. They want large animal numbers in general because they believe the rotary 80 parlor is the most efficient, and large amounts of animals are needed to pay off that system. Since the animal numbers allowed were scaled back, they are not planning that system for North Breeze.
- 2. UCISC Grant Update-Update on possible new grants.** The LCD has been discussing how to utilize the money from the USFS. If we are going control invasives, it won't be that effective having someone do it part time. A full time person controlling invasives would be more effective. The DNR has an aquatic invasive species grant. Many counties have invasive species coordinators already. They work with the lakes and lake associations. The plan would be to get up to \$150,000. The DNR would need a match. That is where the UCISC Grant would come in. That could be used as a match to hire a full time employee. There would be no money coming from the County. The species of concern are phragmites, purple loosestrife, and Japanese knotweed. The concession from the committee is that Steinke move forward with the grant application, and if we get it, new discussion can happen on whether or not to accept it.
- 3. Grazing Update – Bob and Derrick.** Brandt reported that there were 9 total pasture walks, with one being in Ashland. There was an average of 25 people per walk. The numbers are down compared to the past walks. New grazing interest is there. Bob thanked the County for putting him on this fall. There is still some money in the GLCI grant. NRCS has applied for a grant to fund Bob. Nothing will be known until the Farm Bill passes. A map was presented of the locations of grazers he and NRCS have worked with. Bob worked with Derrick to produce the map.
- 4. Western Taylor County Tourism Board-Involvement in Maple Fest.** The Western Taylor County Tourism Board would like the LCD to have a booth at Maple Fest. We will emphasize the tree sale. It is set for April 26th. Krug agreed that we should be there.
- 5. SEG Grant money transfer to Marathon County.** No one could put to use the left over SEG money for nutrient management planning this year. The money was transferred to Marathon County. Many around the state could use it, and we chose our neighbor to transfer it to. This will not affect money received next year for nutrient management planning.

Natural Resources Conservation Service – Bob Plawski, District Conservationist, reported: NRCS is currently taking EQIP applications for 2014,

which ends Friday. They must be ranked by January 17th. There are 47 applications between Taylor and Price County. CSP applications will be taken until January 17th. There are 8, and have a goal of 15. The goal should be reached. There were 120-130 wetland determination requests. 90-100 were completed. They are mostly for clearing land, cropping, cleaning drains and surface ditches. They will check information in the applications, and then contracts will be made in March. They are glad to have Bob Brandt to generate grazing activities.

Farm Service Agency – Deb Esselman, County Executive Director, reported: Smith shared that Deb will now be working between Clark County and Taylor County. She will be in Taylor 2 days a week, then Clark 2 days a week the next week.

Wildlife Damage Program – Wildlife Damage Specialist, Ed Zyzdik, reported: The 5 year cooperative agreement that delineates responsibilities between the DNR, USDA, and the County must be signed. Nothing changed from the last one. **MOTION** by Smith/Mildbrand to approve the cooperative agreement between USDA, DNR, and the County. **MOITON CARRIED.**

Most damage from wildlife in Taylor County this year was solved without claims. The price for corn must be set. The last 2 years it was based off of the average. This year's average is \$5.20, which both Rusk and Price are using. Smith said current price is lower, around \$4.40 as a base. But since January prices were high, and the cost of seed was high in the Spring, it should be set as the average. Others questioned using a higher price than the current price. **MOTION** by Smith/Krug to set the rate for corn damage at \$5.20. **MOTION CARRIED.**

New for 2014, if the damage is above \$5,000, they will get a permit automatically. There will be 1,800 more bear tags issued in 2014. One zone in particular has a terrible success rate. Zone 21 is still open for wolf hunting.

DATCP-GLCI Grazing Program – Bob Brandt, Grazing Specialist, reported: how much money is left in the GLCI Grant for education (\$5,000).

Northwest Land Conservation Association (NWLCA) – Ray Soper, Taylor County Representative, reported: there may be phone in meetings in the future. The legislative committee discussed over a phone meeting positions to take regarding mining and grants. Position papers were developed.

Discuss employee performance reviews. Ashly reported that Stanfley just had his yearly performance review. It will go on file and he will get his annual raise.

Discuss/take possible action on variance for well setbacks for Chad Pearson and Damon Brandner. Stanfley reported that he is currently working with two producers. Brandner is expanding an existing pit. Pearson is also expanding and putting in a free stall and parlor. They need permits in order to rank higher for funding. They do not meet well setback standards of Taylor County. NRCS standards say there must be a 100 ft setback. Taylor County says it must be a 250 ft setback. The County's Manure Storage Ordinance should be updated to match NRCS's standard. It was agreed that this issue should be taken to the Board of Adjustments and the County Clerk. **MOTION** by Mildbrand/Soper to approve the variance in well setbacks for Chad Pearson and Damon Brandner. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Discuss/take possible action on Conservation Assistance's hours starting January 2014. The Conservation Assistant's hours were approved to go from 28 to 40 for 2013. Now for 2014, there would still be enough money in the budget to approve the same increase (\$5,000 would be remaining). Steinke proposes Bachinski stays on full time since there is plenty of work to do. Soper said circumstances have changed since the reduction of the Conservation Assistance's hours and the LCD needs someone working with nutrient

management. **MOTION** by Smith/Mildbrand to approve the Conservation Assistant's hours to continue to be full time at 40 hours per week for 2014. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Discuss/take possible action on procedures for exams and certifications. Currently the procedure for exams is for the employee to pay for them. If they pass, they get full reimbursement. It is argued that if it is required to get a certification, the county should pay for it. **MOTION** by Soper/Smith to have the procedure for taking exams for the purpose of becoming certified to having the County pay for the first exam, and the second if not passed on a case by case basis, for any required certifications. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Future Meetings/Events: It was clarified that permission is needed to attend meetings and events. **MOTION** by Mildbrand/Smith for the LCD staff and LCC committee to attend the WLWCA Conference in Appleton on March 10-12, 2014. **MOTION CARRIED.**

There is a grazing conference in Wausau that County Conservationists and Grazing Specialist will be attending. **MOTION** by Smith/Soper for Ashly Steinke to attend the GrassWorks Conference in Wausau on January 16-18th, 2014. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Next LCC Meeting.....Tuesday, February 11, 2014, 9:30 a.m.

MOTION by Smith/Soper to adjourn at 11:06 a.m. **MOTION CARRIED.**

TAYLOR COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of October 15, 2013 Meeting

The LCC meeting was called to order by Dave Krug at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held in the UW Extension Meeting Room, County-USDA Service Center, Medford, Wisconsin. Members present were David Krug, Chairman, Scott Mildbrand, Ray Soper, Joann Smith, and Tim Peterson. Ashly Steinke, County Conservationist; Emily Bachinski, LCD Conservation Assistant; Ben Stanfley, Engineering Technician; Bob Brandt, Grazing Specialist; and Brian Wilson, *Star News*, were also in attendance for part or all of the meeting.

MOTION by Soper/Peterson to approve the agenda as distributed and posted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Soper/Smith to approve minutes from August 20, 2013 LCC regular meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Peterson/Smith to approve August-October 2013 bills and July-August 2013 budget analysis. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Soper/Mildbrand to approve April-June 2013 bills and March-April 2013 budget analysis. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS:

LCD staffing and program update.

Drinking Water Testing and Education Program. Ashly reported that participant numbers have dropped due to price increase of each test. It doesn't make sense to request money in the budget for the water program and not spend it all. It was proposed to set the cost at \$20 per test and set a limit on the number of tests. Advertising was expensive, so we are re-evaluating advertising opportunities. Soper suggested lowering price for first time testers. We will also change how the program is facilitated. The department will have a booth at June Dairy Days in Gilman and at the Taylor County Fair in Medford. We can put in ad in the paper when we will be there to distribute bottles. Krug commented that we have the best well data in the state, and questioned what we do with the data. **MOTION** by Peterson/Soper to set a reduced rate for first time testers to \$20 for each test and keep the cost at \$25 for each test for those who have tested previously, and Ashly is free to work out the program details. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Farmland Preservation Program. Ashly reported that he and Emily met with those who administer the Working Lands Initiative in Marathon County to discuss the future of the FPP in Taylor County. In order to move forward with the FPP, we could connect with the Heart of America's Dairyland Agriculture Enterprise Area. The LCD will ask towns if they are interested. Once there is enough interest, each township involved in the AEA must be petitioned. Marathon will be petitioning because they plan on adding land onto the AEA. The townships that could connect to the AEA are Little Black and Deer Creek. It was mentioned that there are other options to create an AEA besides joining onto one already there.

NRCS Cooperative Agreements. The LCD is waiting on approval for the agreement. The agreement would pay Ben for his services when working with NRCS. Each practice has a set amount of hours, and Ben would be paid half of his hourly salary.

UCISC Grant. Meeting to discuss the grant was cancelled due to the Forest Service being closed.

North Breeze Dairy Update. There was a meeting September 23rd that included Ashly, the DNR, Brian Gerrits of North Breeze Dairy, and many of the Little Black Township. Brian gave an update on where the permitting process is. Preliminary DNR approval would limit water to 59-75 gallons per minute, or 2,700 cows. They will be submitting updated nutrient management plans and permits since they had to scale back on animal numbers. They want to prove in the future that they will have the capacity to expand animal numbers up to 4,000. Professionals including a hydro geologist have concerns with the 7 day pump test. That type of test in a fractured bedrock situation does not adequately reflect what will happen to the water table.

Thought was put into how to state the position of the LCD. It was decided to write a letter to North Breeze discussing the concerns. Soper stated it is a good idea to state our position based on scientific evidence. DNR will require them to alleviate any damage done to neighboring wells. The Department will go ahead and send out letters suggesting to gather baseline data on wells within a 2 mile radius of the site. **MOTION** by Soper/Peterson to approve letter and send it to Brian Garrets and the State agencies involved upon approval of the corporate council. **MOTION CARRIED.** Brian Wilson also requests a copy.

Discuss No-Till Drill. The no-till drill is in at Chili implement. Representatives will bring it up this week and go over it with Bob Brandt and Ashly. Summer storage will be at an airport hangar, and winter storage will be at the fairgrounds. Due to money from the DNR, the no-till drill will cost the department \$12,770 out of the \$23,520. Bob had received a lot of interest so far on the drill.

Any other old business.

Pit Violation. There was a pit violation where the pit was raised four feet with surrounding sand and gravel. It is currently $\frac{3}{4}$ full. The LCD is trying to promote grazing in order for there to be less manure in the pit. The department could fine \$100/day. The landowner is difficult to work with. The Department requested advice on how to deal with the situation. Suggestions included: pump more, fix it, or suffer the consequences. We can't ignore the situation, however, we should work to fix the problem before the Department goes to the DNR, and give him a timeline and outline what will happen if the rules are not followed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review and approve Steve Oberle Retirement Resolution. Resolution was created by Linda Daniels and read to the LCC by Ashly Steinke. **MOTION** by Mildbrand/Smith to approve the Resolution of Appreciation and Retirement. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Discuss other large farm operations in Taylor County. No new news on the sow operation. There is a new mink farm making process by pouring concrete in the Town of Taft. There may be more due to the rules and regulations pushing out the mink business in Denmark.

Reports

Land Conservation Department - County Conservationist, reported: work by Ben and Emily should be recognized. Things are going well in the Department. Soper stated Ashly has done well finally getting business done regarding the no-till drill.

Wildlife Damage Program – Wildlife Damage Specialist, Ed Zyzdik: informed the LCD before the meeting that he is working during the government shut-down, and wanted to remind the LCC that the County Budget/Financial Plan that needs to be signed does not mean any costs came from the LCD's budget. **MOTION** by Peterson/Mildbrand to approve the Wildlife Damage Program County Budget/Financial Plan. **MOTION CARRIED.**

DATCP-GLCI Grazing Program – Bob Brandt, Grazing Specialist, reported: he has put in on average 30 hours per week and has not included drive time while being

paid by the County. The pasture walk at the Peissig's was a success. NRCS was involved. There was a manure pit that Chris Borden described, and Rick Konop shared his knowledge. Two Medford Senior High classes also attended. Presented on September 28th to the Cattlemans Group. The October 8th pasture walk at the Tomandl's focused on the dairy apprentice program. There is a beef workshop coming up with one speaker talking about grass finishing beef on October 26th.

Northwest Land Conservation Association (NWLCA) – Ray Soper, Taylor County Representative, reported: it was agreed that the DNR needs to find a way to get money to support the County Committees. There will not be 70% cost-share to cover costs. There is a movement in Madison for legislation to allow townships to opt out of county zoning. The stance is opposed to the legislation. When a permit is signed, rules that were in place at the time of signing must be followed. DNR TRIM grants have limitations, they do not fund soft practices. Adaptive management will be the new way to reduce P and meet TMDLs for industries.

Review and approve resolutions. Money from the DNR was matched by the Taylor County Sportsman's club to mow walking trails and forest openings. The majority of the money will go towards 105 hours of labor on a tractor. **MOTION** by Mildbrand/Soper to approve A Resolution Requesting Taylor County Accept A Grant In From The WDNR's County Fish and Wildlife Management Grant Program and A Resolution Requesting Taylor County Accept A Donation From The Taylor County Sportsman's Club. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Future Meetings/Events: It was agreed that it would be beneficial for Soper and the LCD staff to attend the Burnett County Tour. The next meeting was changed from Tuesday December 17 to Wednesday December 18.

Burnett County Tour.....August 28th, 2013,
Medford

Next LCC Meeting.....December 18, 2013 (9:30 a.m.)

MOTION by Smith/Peterson to adjourn at 11:30 a.m. **MOTION CARRIED.**

TAYLOR COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of August 20, 2013 Meeting

The LCC meeting was called to order by Dave Krug at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held in the UW Extension Meeting Room, County-USDA Service Center, Medford, Wisconsin. Members present were David Krug, Chairman, Scott Mildbrand, Ray Soper, and Joann Smith. Tim Peterson was not present. Ashly Steinke, County Conservationist; Emily Bachinski, LCD Conservation Assistant; Ben Stanfley, Engineering Technician; Lanice Szomi, Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D Program Manager; Bob Plawski, NRCS District Conservationist; Ed Zyzdik, USDA Wildlife Damage Specialist; and Bob Brandt, Grazing Specialist ; were also in attendance for part or all of the meeting.

MOTION by Soper/Mildbrand to approve the agenda as re-distributed and posted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Mildbrand/Smith to approve minutes from June 18, 2013 LCC regular meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Mildbrand/Soper to approve June-August 2013 bills and May-June 2013 budget analysis. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Soper/Mildbrand to approve April-June 2013 bills and March-April 2013 budget analysis. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS:

LCD staffing and program update.

Ashly Steinke reported that there is enough money for Emily to be full time at 40 hours per week after checking with HR and the County Accountant. Could accrue benefits at 35 hours/week while working and getting paid for 40 hours per week for 2013. The committee stated that they do not believe this has to go to the Personnel Committee, which will be checked by Mildbrand. **MOTION** by Soper/Smith for the Conservation Assistant to work and get paid for 40 hours per week while accruing benefits at 35 hours per week for the remainder of 2013. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Drinking Water Testing and Education Program. UW-SP is the best option for the LCD to take lab business to. They have better pricing and some nearby labs do not test Arsenic.

Tree and Shrub Sale Update and Technical Advice. The LCD is going forward with the tree sale and will also add a component of technical advice. This will include making GIS maps of property and asking what else can be done. LCC wants us to work with Price County.

Farmland Preservation Program. Ashly explained that the FPP is now called the Working Lands Initiative. It is considered a sun-setting program in Taylor County. Must create an Agriculture Enterprise Area that is contiguous. We will start at the township level to gauge interest. After the AEA is created, the individual farmer would sign a contract. It would take a lot of time, but would be worth it. There is an AEA south of the county border and Taylor County could potentially join. It is up to the County Conservationist how much time he is willing to spend on the Working Lands Initiative moving forward.

No Till Drill Update. Ashly reported that after reviewing the budget there is enough money to cover the cost of the Great Plains drill with securing funding from outside sources. The Chili Implement quoted a price of \$24,699 for the drill. Outside funding sources include Pri-Ru-Ta RC & D, The Taylor County Sportsman's Club, the National Wild Turkey Federation, and the Wisconsin Waterfowl Association. These outside funding sources will contribute

approximately \$6,000 for the drill. There would be a charge of \$50 plus \$6 per acre, and if the renter breaks it, they fix it. The estimated amount of revenue per year from renting the drill will be approximately \$6,000. Mildbrand thought it would be a good idea, Soper questioned if the predicted demand level is accurate. Bob Plawski stated that he gets calls asking about a no-till drill frequently and Bob Brandt stated that usage is very weather dependent. Krug questioned the use of it for the purpose of food plots and this practice will be re-visited. The Sportsman's Club would also like to use it on trails and plots, which will be permitted on a project basis. **MOTION** by Soper/Mildbrand to approve the purchase of the 10 ft. Great Plains no-till drill with the funding from outside sources and extra money as presented by Ashly Steinke. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS:

Reports

Natural Resources Conservation Service – Bob Plawski, District Conservatoinist, reported: EQIP practices are funded and in the process of going in. It is going well. Had more contracts than before (42). There are 16 CSP contracts (2nd highest in the state). There have been a lot of wetland determination requests, 150. There is a local work group meeting coming up. The process for EQIP will be reviewed, and funding levels for the upcoming year will be reviewed.

Wildlife Damage Program – Wildlife Damage Specialist, Ed Zyzdik, reported: There have been 2 verified black bear attacks in Wisconsin in 2013, with one person losing an eye. Bear work has been slow, but will be long because of the variability of the corn stages. They will be staying aggressive on issuing damage shooting permits. It will now be up to the farmer if dogs can be used to hunt when a permit is issued. If there is more than \$5,000 in damage, they will automatically get a bear permit. Farmers must check traps every day when they are out. This is becoming inconvenient to farmers with land scattered. They are trying out monitors on the traps that will let the farmer know when they go off. There are 10 available that are going to 3 farmers. Wolf activity is slow this year. There is less demand for wolf season tags even though the amount of tags went from 116 to 251. There are meat processors that are willing to join in the 2013 venison donation program. **MOTION** by Krug/Mildbrand to participate in the 2013 venison deer donation program. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D, Inc. – Lanice Szomi, Project Manager, reported: Money was transferred via a small grants program from Pri-Ru-Ta to the LCD for the purchase of a no-till drill. The council will go into dormancy for up to 3 years, and will keep its tax exempt status for that time. They gave there leftover money in the form of a grant to 8 counties. Soper will remain a representative, but will no longer attend future meetings.

DATCP-GLCI Grazing Program – Bob Brandt, Grazing Specialist, reported: He has written 14 grazing plans, and has 12 more interested in grazing. There have been 4 pasture walks, 2 more scheduled, with more to come. He has also been doing CSP pasture scoring for NRCS. There is limited funding for technical assistance, and more for education. Individual work it great, and the education portion recruits more interest.

Northwest Land Conservation Association (NWLCA) – Ray Soper, Taylor County Representative, reported: At the August 7th meeting, a document of internal principles was worked on. The WLWCA budget was discussed as to how much should be spend on education and how much should be signed on lobbying. The impact of merging departments was discussed. Also tax 18 was discussed. New P limits will be a big deal coming up because those who discharge will find it hard to meet the standards and will have to work with farmers to reduce their outputs to make up the difference.

Review/Take action on 2014 LCD budget. The budget is \$500 less than it was last year. One line item that changed was the newsletter and publications line. Trees aren't budgeted

because no new money is needed. **MOTION** by Mildbrand/Soper to approve the 2014 LCD budget and send to the Finance Committee. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Certifications: CCA, Grazing Planner, and Conservation Planning. At the time of Ashly's hire, it was required that he become a CCA within 6 months of employment. It was determined infeasible and not the best use of department time. Through a DATCP training course, Ashly and Emily will be able to sign off on nutrient management plans without the CCA. Emily will take the CCA Exam while Ashly moves forward with becoming a certified conservation planner and grazing planner. After the appropriate amount of time has passed, Ashly will then look at taking the CCA Exam. The committee agreed.

Taylor County Well Delegation. Emily gave an overview of the County Well Delegation Program. It is a voluntary program to administer parts of NR 812. An ordinance has to be created. The major benefit would be to increase protection of the groundwater. The concern was if there is enough time to administer the program.

Town of Taft Sow Operation. No new information whether or not they are moving forward.

Hiring of Intern for Golden Sands RC&D. Taylor County is included in the Central Wisconsin Grassland Conservation Area (CWGCA). Taylor County LCD is providing \$3,500 left over DATCP SWRM Grant money to hire an intern through Golden Sands RC&D to map grazing acres in the CWGCA. Golden Sands will provide work space, equipment, all oversee all administrative duties. **MOTION** by Mildbrand/Smith to enter into the agreement with Golden Sands RC&D for the mapping of grazing acres in the CWGCA **MOTION CARRIED.**

Invasive Species Grant from USFS. \$20,500 from the USFS was transferred to the LCD for control and education of terrestrial invasive species. The counties included are Taylor, Price, Rusk, and Sawyer. It does cover staff time. The LCD has until June 2016 to use it, and will start when the paper work is finished.

NRCS Cooperative Agreement. Request was submitted to enter into an agreement. Reimbursement was submitted for Ben for his work totaling \$13,972, and 300 hours and 12 grazing plans was submitted for Bob Brandt's technical assistance. We will not know if the agreement goes through until September or early October.

NRCS Operative Agreement. The last agreement was in 2007 and is now being updated. There is very little change to the previous one. It will be good for 5 years. **MOTION** by Mildbrand/Soper to approve the operational agreement between NRCS and the LCD. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Grazing Specialist Potential Extension. There is a need in the area for Bob Brandt to work more hours. There is left over county levy money. \$10,000 could go towards paying Bob for approximately 330 hours this fall. If passed it would then go to the Finance committee. He would work until the money runs out. The money has already been allocated towards Taylor County LCD, and hasn't been used because of the changing of positions. The North Central WI Grazing Initiative proposed by NRCS will potentially provide money as well to help keep fund Bob Brandt's position. **MOTION** by Soper/Smith to allocate \$10,000 towards the extension of the Grazing Specialist's hours and services. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Soper/Mildbrand for LCD representative(s) to attend listed future meetings and events and for LCC members to attend the NRCS Local Work Group meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NRCS Work Group Meeting.....August 28th, 2013,
Medford
WLWCA Fall Technical Tour.....September 25th, 2013,
Marathon County

Fall County Conservationist Meeting.....October 3-4th, 2013,
Wisconsin Rapids

Next LCC Meeting.....October 15th, 2013 (9:30 a.m.)

MOTION by Smith/Soper to adjourn at 12:31 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED.**

TAYLOR COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of June 18, 2013 Meeting

The LCC meeting was called to order by Dave Krug at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held in the UW Extension Meeting Room, County-USDA Service Center, Medford, Wisconsin. Members present were David Krug, Chairman, Scott Mildbrand, Ray Soper, and Joann Smith. Tim Peterson was not present. Emily Bachinski, LCD Conservation Assistant; Ben Stanfley, Engineering Technician; Lanice Szomi, Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D Program Manager; Deb Esselman, FSA County Executive Director; and Brian Wilson, *Star News*, was also in attendance for part or all of the meeting.

MOTION by Mildbrand/Soper to approve the agenda as distributed and posted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Soper/Smith to approve minutes from April 9, 2013 LCC regular meeting with a fix of a spelling error. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Mildbrand/Soper to amend the minutes by adding discussion of the second and third choice for the County Conservationist position and add discussion and establishment of salaries for the second and third choice for the County Conservationist position to the May 22, 2013 LCC special meeting and then approve of minutes of the May 22, 2013 LCC special meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Soper/Mildbrand to approve April-June 2013 bills and March-April 2013 budget analysis. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS:

LCD staffing and program update. Bachinski stated that she has been involved with invasive species control, nutrient management planning, and wrote an article on manure worth. Stanfley went over updates on projects for the upcoming season and stated that ordinances are out of date and will have to be revised in the future.

Drinking Water Testing and Education Program. Bachinski reported how much is in the budget this year for the program and the date of the 2013 program. Mildbrand suggested that it is worth looking into prices for the same services elsewhere for the future of the program. Attendees stressed the importance of water to county residence and the alarm of high arsenic in the water. The value of the program is hard to measure. Other counties wish they had a similar program. **MOTION** by Soper to charge \$25/test and explore other options for lab locations. **NO ACTION TAKEN.** The previous motion is to be rescinded. **MOTION** by Soper/Mildbrand to charge \$25/test, explore other options for lab locations, and to look at state recommendations for different tests and to only pay for what is recommended. **MOTION CARRIED.**

No-Till Drill Update. Szomi reported that the USFWS no-till drill rented was used by 14 farmers on an average of 20 acres per farmer at a cost of \$3/acre plus \$50/farm. Checks are being sent to the Land Conservation Department. We would like to get it back for the fall. The window for use is small. There were 2 major damages including one Brandt could fix and one he couldn't. Marathon LCD made \$6,000 this year by renting out a no-till drill they own. Daigle suggested the County buy a 10 ft. Great Plains no-till drill. Price County LCC committee did not agree to partner with Taylor County yet. Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D has money left in budget that it must give to a non-profit with the same mission. Counties could get up to \$1,000 for a project. Together with Price \$2,000 could go to a no-till drill purchase. Krug said it is worth looking further into.

NEW BUSINESS:

Reports

Natural Resources Conservation Service – Deb Esselman, FSA, reported on behalf of NRCS: NRCS is in the process of finalizing CSPs and are anticipating future sign-ups for EQIP.

Farm Service Agency – Deb Esselman, County Executive Director, reported: It has been difficult to take crop reports because we are in one of the wettest parts of the state with not even 50% planted. The Prevented Planting Payment is not working in the farmers favor. Farmers need feed so they are planting regardless of the rules. County should contact federal and state legislatures so that farmers can plant forage without being penalized for Prevented Planting. Insurance companies are making money on farmers insurance and it is very expensive to taxpayers, while 1 of the 3 companies is based in Australia. The Farm Bill passed in the Senate, but not in the House. No one knows if it will be finished by September 30th. Due to budget cuts they are allowing staff to retire early without penalties to cut staffing.

Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D, inc. – Lanice Szomi, Project Manager, reported: she has been involved with garlic mustard control with the DNR. She has put together the grant program and sent to County Conservationists. Bob Brandt has put together two pasture walks. One on July 11th, and the other on July 18th.

DATCP-GLCI Grazing Program – Lanice Szomi, Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D, inc. reported on behalf the Grazing Specialist: There could be money put back into the budget for the program for the coming years.

Northwest Land Conservation Association (NWLCA) – Ray Soper, Taylor County Representative, reported: that the importance of contacting your legislature was discussed. Sometimes it helps and sometimes it doesn't. The joint finance committee approved additional funding of 1.8 million. The restoration of funds can be vetoed by Scott Walker. A letter was written by Jim VandenBrook to Scott Walker supporting the funding in the 2013-15 budgets. It was suggested that it might be worth it to lobby Scott Walker. Also August 16th is the tentative date for the Northwest WLWCA tour held in Burnett County by Dave Ferris, the County Conservationist.

Review Nutrient Management Plans. The LCC committee reviewed Pearson's, Blasel's, Schley's, and Fielder's nutrient management plans.

Re-allocation of cost-share funds from DATCP reserve for NODs/NOIs. Stanfley reported the extra money received through a grant to be used on the Capelle project. He will have many practices done including roof runoff structure, manure transfer, waste storage facility, barnyard, vegetated treatment area, animal trail, critical area planting, and others. The project will receive an extra \$75,000 and can be used on other projects if it comes in under the estimated budget. This will look good when applying for future SWRM grants.

Correspondence: FPP e-mail; Considerations for modification of a FPP, Modification of FPP Agreement Application Form, Instructions, and Agreement; and Farmland Preservation Agreements: Eligible Land Uses.

MOTION by Mildbrand/Soper for Soper and LCD representative(s) to attend the August 16th Northwest WLWCA tour in Burnett County. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Northwest WLWCA Tour... ..August 16th, 2013, Burnett County
Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D Meeting.....July 19th, 2013, Hayward
NW WI Lakes Conference.....June 21st, 2013, Spooner (9-3)
Next LCC Meeting.....August 20th, 2013 (9:30 a.m.)

MOTION by Smith/Soper to adjourn at 11:28 a.m. **MOTION CARRIED.**

TAYLOR COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of May 22, 2013 Special Meeting

A special LCC meeting was called to order by Dave Krug at 9:50 a.m. The meeting was held in the UW Extension Meeting Room 1, County-USDA Service Center, Medford, Wisconsin. Members present were David Krug, Chairman, Scott Mildbrand, Tim Peterson, JoAnn Smith and Ray Soper. Others present were Marie Koerner, Human Resource Manager.

MOTION by Peterson/Smith to approve the agenda as distributed and posted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION by Peterson/Smith to go into Closed Session at 9:50 a.m. pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85(1)(c), for the purpose of conducting interviews for Taylor County Conservationist. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Peterson/Mildbrand to reconvene in Open Session at 4:30 p.m. pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.83, to take any necessary action on the matter discussed in Closed Session. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Discussion of the Closed Session. First, second, and third choice candidates for the County Conservationist position were discussed and decided upon. Salaries for the first, second, and third choice were discussed and established.

MOTION by Peterson/Mildbrand to offer the County Conservationist position to the first-ranked applicant with a beginning salary at midpoint to step 7 with 2 weeks of vacation. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Next LCC MeetingJune 18, 2013 (9:30 a.m.)

MOTION by Peterson/Mildbrand to adjourn at 4:35 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED.**

TAYLOR COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of April 9, 2013 Meeting

The LCC meeting was called to order by Dave Krug at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the UW Extension Meeting Room, County-USDA Service Center, Medford, Wisconsin. Members present were David Krug, Chairman, Scott Mildbrand, Tim Peterson, Ray Soper, and Joann Smith. Others present were Steve Oberle, County Conservationist; Emily Bachinski, LCD Conservation Assistant; Ben Stanley, Conservation Technician; Lanice Szomi, Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D Program Manager; Deb Esselman, FSA County Executive Director; Bob Plawski, NRCS District Conservationist; Bob Brandt, Grazing Specialist, was also in attendance for part of the meeting.

MOTION by Peterson/Mildbrand to approve the agenda as distributed and posted.
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Mildbrand/Peterson to approve minutes from February 18, 2013 LCC regular meeting and March 26, 2013 LCC special meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS:

LCD staffing and program update. Oberle informed attendees that the Forestry and Recreation Committee met on April 3rd and approved the re-filling of the County Forester position. Also the Personnel Committee approved filing the County Conservationist position and the County Forester position. Stanley went over projects for the upcoming season and that some have been approved by the DATCP engineer and has been writing grants. Bachinski stated that she has been involved with the fish program, nutrient management planning, and a clean boats clean waters training.

Taylor County Metallic Mining Committee update. Soper said that the language in the ordinance changed as a result of the meeting. The ordinance is now clearer. There will be a vote on the ordinance during the County Board session.

NEW BUSINESS:

Reports

Land Conservation Department – Steve Oberle, County Conservationist, reported: Oberle discussed his reflections looking back on his time in the LCD and the changes he would like to see now that he is leaving. He would like to see more follow up with people that staff has worked with, and more surface water quality monitoring to see if conservation programs are improving water quality.

Natural Resources Conservation Service – Bob Plawski, District Conservationist, reported: NRCS is in the process of approving EQIP applications. Between Taylor and Price County they received 68 applications. 15 landowners have been approved and are in contracts. The project's costs range from \$781 to \$95,293. 6 applications have not been approved. There will be a sign up for the Conservation Stewardship Program. 12.7 million acres will be available across the U.S. NRCS will be busy in the summer with CSP monitoring for those grazing. There will be an intern in the office starting in July that will work 20 hours per week as a volunteer.

Farm Service Agency – Deb Esselman, County Executive Director, reported: They are in the process of DCP sign-ups. They are about 51% complete. DCP could be cut by 8.5%. FSA is dealing with many budget cuts at the moment.

Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D, inc. – Lanice Szomi, Project Manager, reported: Szomi gave a report that recapped the grazing conferences and discussions.

DATCP-GLCI Grazing Program – Bob Brandt, Grazing Specialist, reported: There are 3 more new plans, about 50 acres per farm, in Price and Taylor Counties. Brandt has been making maps that show different management options for fences, lanes, and water lines for each farm. Turnout for Ladysmith discussions was good (15 people times 3 meetings). Will try to complete 12 pasture walks this summer and will have a workshop on soil health. Will attend a meeting in Edgar to try to get an amendment put in the DATCP budget to restore statewide funding for grazing work.

Discussion and approval for purchase of a no-till drill. Brandt said that the last 6 years they have been using a no-till drill from the US FWS in Necedah. They have had trouble getting it and demand is high. They have the option to rent one at a per acre basis, but isn't feasible because it has to be returned by the end of the day. New drills cost \$25,000 and up while used ones are \$15,000 and up. Price County is interested in partnering with Taylor County for a purchase of one. They are important to the county to have land in no-till. The average farm has about 30 acres they would want to use this on, and can't justify the cost to buy one. They have charged \$10/acre and have given US FWS half the profit. They signed an agreement to grease and make repairs. Could ask for a match in money for purchase from local groups. Concerns brought up by LCC committee include the maintenance of the equipment, the quality of a used no-till drill, and the county getting involved in the rental business. Brandt will get more information.

Discuss/take action on approval of cost-share for feed leachate treatment systems. Stanfley asked permission to cost-share feed leachate treatment systems in Taylor County. One farm in particular is near a stream and would like to prevent a high BOD. It is an expensive project and would like to provide more support to the farmer. The project would include tile around feed bunkers leading to a manhole that would be treated on a vegetation strip. The new ATCP 50 will include this practice. One concern is the demand for cost-share this year. Stanfley said the money looks good yet. **MOTION** by Mildbrand/Peterson to approve cost-share for feed leached treatment systems in Taylor County. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Review and approve 2013 DATCP-SWRM grant application. Oberle broke down the cost for 3 positions in the LCD at full time with full benefits. It was made clear that this does not lock in anything. Staffing came to \$146,761 and cost-share came to \$178,000. **MOTION** by Peterson/Soper to approve 2014 DATCP-SWRM grant application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Review and discuss draft ATCP 50 resolution. Oberle explained the broad resolution for all of the counties. Will go to full County Board on April 16. ATCP 50 resolution include language to restore a proposed cut in base staff funding to the counties. **MOTION** by Peterson/Mildbrand to approve ATCP 50 resolution and forward to the full County Board for consideration. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Review and approve changes to the County Conservationist position description. Oberle stated the updates in the position description which included the minimum training and experience should include supervisory experience, and a CCA certification requirement. **MOTION** by Peterson/Smith to approve the revised County Conservationist position description. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Discuss/take action on forwarding County Conservationist position description to Human Resource Manager for advertising position. **MOTION** by Mildbrand/Peterson to forward County Conservationist position description to Human Resource Manager for advertisement. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Review Nutrient Management Plans. The LCC committee reviewed Barna's, Halopka's, and Skille's nutrient management plans.

Correspondence: WLCA Comments on the Governor's 2013-15 Budget (Assembly Bill 40) Committee on Joint Finance Public Hearings April 10, 2013.

Approve attendance at the NWLCA Meeting (Soper/LCD Representative). Hayward Library on May 17, 2013. **MOTION** by Peterson/Mildbrand to approve attendance at the NWLCA meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Next LCC MeetingJune 18, 2013 (9:30 p.m.)

MOTION by Mildbrand/Peterson to adjourn at 3:20 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED.**

TAYLOR COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of March 26, 2013 Special Meeting

A special LCC meeting was called to order by Dave Krug at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the UW Extension Meeting Room, County-USDA Service Center, Medford, Wisconsin. Members present were David Krug, Chairman, Scott Mildbrand, Tim Peterson, and Ray Soper. Johann Smith was absent. Others present were Steve Oberle, County Conservationist, Emily Bachinski, LCD Conservation Assistant, Lanice Szomi, Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D Program Manager; Deb Esselman, FSA County Executive Director; Bob Plawski, NRCS District Conservationist; Brad Ruesch, County Forestry and Recreation Administrator; Chuck Zenner, County Forestry and Recreation Chair; Brian Wilson, *Star News*, was also in attendance for part of the meeting.

MOTION by Peterson/Mildbrand to approve the agenda as distributed and posted.
MOTION CARRIED.

Introduction of Emily Bachinski, LCD Conservation Assistant. Emily stated she is originally from Stevens Point, WI and studied soils and land management at UW-Stevens Point. She had an internship at the Wood County LCD.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discuss/take possible action on LCD consolidation with other County departments.

The LCC and others reviewed budget figures from Marie Koerner, Human Resources Manager, related to keeping the LCD and Forestry and Recreation Departments separate, and the figures for combining them. Issues that could result in the consolidation are: The difficulty of finding someone to hire with both a forestry and conservation background, what the workload would be for remaining employees, how would the offices function being separate (phone calls), and would programs and revenues be jeopardized. Oberle explained the staffing grants, land and water plan, county programs. He concludes that 4 positions are needed in the LCD to implement programs, and 5 to implement the land and water plan. No action taken on consolidation.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discuss/take action on LCD Conservation Assistant position reclassification. Oberle discussed possible issues with the continuity of the departments programs and services. He proposed to add some duties and responsibilities of the Resource Conservationist position to the Conservation Assistant position. He would also like to add a certification requirement for the position and an increase in hours to 40. Some concerns were raised that this may force LCD to go over budget. Peterson suggested increasing hours temporarily until County Conservationist position is filled. **MOTION** by Soper/Peterson to approve proposed changes in the Conservation Assistant job description. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Discuss/take action on refilling LCD County Conservationist position. Soper discussed the importance of agriculture in Taylor County, and believes the LCD should not be reduced. Everyone agreed that the LCD should find a replacement for the County Conservationist, but does not know if they will be the head of one or two departments. **MOTION** by Peterson/Soper to fill the LCD department head. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Discuss/take action on LCC designee within the LCD. Oberle states that when gone, someone will need to sign off on items such as cost-share agreements, animal manure ordinance permits, and bills. Ben Stanfley would be qualified with his engineering experience. **MOTION** by Mildbrand/Peterson to appoint Ben Stanfley as LCC designee after April 12th, 2013 until County Conservationist position is filled. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Discuss potential agenda items for next regular LCC meeting (April 9, 1:00 p.m.). Potential items to be discussed during the next LCC meeting include: approval for cost sharing feed leachate systems, purchase of a no-till drill, resolutions pertaining to changes in ATCP 50, review any changes to County Conservationist position description.

Correspondence: Waukon feed ranch proposal, talking points on proposed ATCP 50, WLWCA letter for ATCP 50 hearing, Article titled "Farmland and Conservation Efforts Take Double Hit in Walker Budget", WLWCA update, and an article titled "Margaret Krome: Farmers explain how land conservation cuts hurt."

Next LCC Meeting April 9, 2013 (1:00 p.m.)

MOTION by Mildbrand/Soper to adjourn at 3:03 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**TAYLOR COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of 2/18/2013 Meeting**

The monthly LCC meeting was called to order by Dave Krug at 9:37 AM. The meeting was held in the UW Extension Meeting Room, County-USDA Service Center, Medford, WI. Member present were David Krug, Chairman, Tim Peterson, JoAnn Smith, Ray Soper, Scott Mildbrand arrived at 9:47 AM. Others present were Steve Oberle, County Conservationist, Ben Stanfley, LCD Technician, Deb Esselman, Ed Zyzdik, Wildlife Damage Specialist, Mary Williams and Lanice Szomi, Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D.

MOTION by Peterson/Soper to approve the agenda as distributed and posted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Soper/Peterson to approve the December 18, 2012 regular meeting minutes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Dec 18, 2012 – February 17, 2013 bills were circulated for review, and the December 2012 budget analysis was distributed.

MOTION by Soper/Smith to approve the budget analysis as presented. Oberle pointed out that \$30,000 was saved in staff wage/benefits due to changes that occurred during the fall of 2012. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Peterson/Mildbrand to approve the January-February 2013 bills. Discussion about the \$1,200/year dues to WLWCA and if the county was getting their money's worth. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS:

North Breeze Dairy update: Oberle discussed letters that have been sent back & forth between the DNR and North Breeze Dairy. The Dairy has a new consultant that is challenging the pump test results. The letters cite the initial pump tests that were sufficient for a high capacity well. The dairy needs 140 gallon of water/minute to maintain the potential 4,000 animals. DNR assumes they would get 70-80 gal/min. This would support less head of cattle, if the dairy would want to continue with building the dairy at this location. Oberle & the Town of Little Black will continue to monitor the situation.

NEW BUSINESS:

Reports

Land Conservation Department – Steve Oberle, Conservationist reported: The nutrient management class at NTC is being finalized. The Conservation Assistant position has been filled. He welcomed Emily Bachinski to the department. She will start on 3/4/13.

The joint allocation from DNR/DATCP for 2013 is staffing - \$118,928, Support/cost share \$61, 741.00. Application is due April 12, 2013 for the 3 LCD position & hard practices to DATCP for next year.

Natural Resources Conservation Service – Deb Esselman reported: Equip sign-up had over 60 applications between Price & Taylor counties. They are busy with HEL updates. Barnyards & manure storage cost-share applications are up.

Wildlife Damage Program – Ed Zyzdik, Wildlife Damage Specialist reported: Ed asked the committee to approve payment of two bear damage on corn claims, one for \$1,485.71 and the other for \$2,749.51.

MOTION by Peterson/Smith to approve payment of these claims as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Ed updated the committee that the wolf program will look at high depredation places in WI and create a list. Successful 2012 wolf tag holders will have access to that list in order to reduce populations in those areas, which could reduce the number of damage claims.

Farm Service Agency – Deb Esselman: DCP sign-up starts February 19. The Farm Bill is extended for 1 year. MILK program was \$.59/lb. for September and \$.02/lb. for October. Crop reporting change – November 15th for all forages & winter seeded crops.

Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D Council – Lanice Szomi, Project Manager reported: RC&D support resolution for the continuation of GLCI (grazing) funding in the State Budget and support for the AIS resolution. Oberle informed the committee that grazing specialist, Bob Brandt, has 12 grazing applications for EQIP. Council will have a meeting on Feb. 22 in Hayward.

Intro of Ben Stanley, LCD Engineering Technician: Ben started with Taylor County LCD on 12/10/12. He updated the committee about his background and education. Ben handed out a project list of outlining what he’s been working on. Some are on hold until participants hear about their EQIP approval before they move ahead. Ben is looking forward to meeting & working with more Taylor County producers.

Taylor County Metallic Mining Committee: Soper had a copy of the ordinance. There will be a public hearing/comment on 3/25, then 4/1 mining committee meeting, then the ordinance will go to the April County Board meeting for approval. There are copies of the ordinance available & is worth looking at prior to its approval. He feels this ordinance is the best they could do to protect the environment & citizens of Taylor County.

2013 LCC Meeting Schedule: The 2013 schedule will continue to be the 3rd Tuesday of every other month. Those dates would be April 16, June 18, August 20, October 15 and December 17.

Review Conservation & NMPs: 5 plans were reviewed by committee members.

Correspondence: Oberle handed out the annual business meeting agenda for the WLWCA conference. Jim Vandenbrook, WLWCA coordinator, to review Farm Bureau policy in 2013, UW-webinar on managing nutrients on WI soils – new guidelines for NMP.

Other New Business: Representative Mary Williams attended the meeting and gave an update on the Mining bill in WI and also the state budget.

Future meetings/events:

Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D meeting (Soper)..... (Hayward) February 22, 2013
2013 WLWCA Annual Conference (Soper/Oberle/Stanley/CA) (WI Dells) March 11-13, 2013

Next LCC Meeting9:30 AM, April 16, 2013

MOTION by Mildbrand/Peterson to attend these meetings. Discussion that employees trade-off attending WLWCA each year. CA will not attend in 2013. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Peterson/Smith to adjourn. **MOTION CARRIED.**