

Iron County Land & Water Conservation Committee Meeting
Wednesday, July 31, 2024
5:00pm
Forestry & Hwy Board Room

1. **Meeting called to order by Chair Haeger @ 5:16 pm.**

Role Call – Present: Roy Haeger, William Thomas, Roxanne Lutgen, Heather Palmquist
Absent Unexcused: Karl Krall, Dale Wehmas (Citizen Rep)

2. **Verify the meeting was properly posted.** – It was.
3. **Public Comment** – None.
4. **Minutes- Motion to approve minutes made by Thomas/Lutgen; MC.**
5. **LCC Training at the NW Area Meeting** – Palmquist updated the LCC on June 14th the NW Area Land & Water Conservation Association training for LCC members done by WI Land+Water Conservation Association. Palmquist passed out the LCC handbook to Thomas and Lutgen. Haeger attended the training finding it useful and reported how interesting it was to see other county's issues.
6. **Kaari Creek Project Update** – Palmquist reported that this project is scheduled to be completed next week. The Trout Stamp funding that was extended from last year was used and has been reimbursed. The remaining cost of installation will be paid for through the cost-share program and a grant through Trout Unlimited.
7. **Enbridge EcoFootprint Grant** – Palmquist reported this project is all set to go, they are waiting for the structure to be built. Due to plant closures production is behind, there is a chance this project may not be able to be installed this year and will have to extend the grant to 2025. Palmquist hopes to get the structure in enough time to complete this year before the stream deadline of September 15th.
8. **Approve 2025 WDACP Budget** – Palmquist went through the Wildlife Damage budget prepared by APHIS who now administers the program. This is a reimbursement program, the county pays the invoices submitted by USDA-APHIS and then seeks reimbursement from the DNR. **Motion to approve and sign the 2025 WDACP budget made by Thomas/Lutgen; MC.**
9. **WI Land+Water Budget Priorities** – Palmquist sits on the WI Land+Water Conservation's Legislation and Administration committee and reported they are currently working on the next state budget priorities. WI Land+Water lobbies on behalf of the counties for their funding which comes from DATCP. With the last budget cycle 2024/2025, the county staff funding took a hit. Palmquist shared a spreadsheet showing the funding for the last 5 years. This next budget cycle WI Land+Water will be lobbying hard with their top priority being county staff

support. At some point in time the LCC members may be asked to reach out to the legislators to support county funding.

- 10. Approve the 2025 LWCD Budget** – Palmquist went through the 2025 budget, and she showed the LCC how the budget was going off the existing 2024 cuts. The changes to the 2025 budget were the staff increase and insurance increase that the department staff was instructed to include per the Finance Committee. **Motion to approve the 2025 LWCD budget and forward to the Finance Committee made by: Thomas/Lutgen; MC.**

11. Staff Reports –

Wilson- provided a written report.

Palmquist – provided a written report. Questioned on what the Brad Matson Scholarship was, Palmquist explained Matson was a former LCC member who passed away. Matson was very involved and supported the WI Land+Water conservation camps. When he passed away his parents started a scholarship for youth to attend these conservation camps.

- 12. Approve Bills** – Palmquist passed around the revenue sheet and expense sheet to the committee. **Motion to approve and sign the bills made by: Thomas/Lutgen; MC.**

- 13. Next meeting date – TBD.**

- 14. Adjourn-** Haeger **adjourned the meeting at 6:16pm.**