

Iron County Land & Water Conservation Committee Meeting
Thursday, February 6, 2025
4:00pm
Forestry & Hwy Board Room

1. Meeting called to order by Chair Haeger @ 4:00 pm.

Role Call – Present: Roy Haeger, William Thomas, Roxanne Lutgen, Larry Youngs, Ethan Rossing (USDA APHIS), Heather Palmquist, Carolyn Kolson-Janov (Lake Michelle Lake District)

Absent: 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 Lutgen/Thomas; MC.

5. Lake Michelle District – Board Appointee – County Representative –
Palmquist explained that Carolyn Kolson-Janov from Lake Michelle Lake District had come to her to get a County Representative appointed for the Lake Michelle Board. She explained that according to Wisconsin Statute 33.28 the lake district had to have a county representative on the board per 33.28(2)(a). There was interest from Cathy Lambi who has been on the board to fill this position.
Motion to appoint Cathy Lambi as the county representative to the Lake Michelle Board made by Thomas/Lutgen; MC.

6. Set the Corn Price for 2024 Bear Damage – Rossing presented to the committee on the damage program, he went over how the damage is calculated, how the corn price is set and provided a spreadsheet with various corn prices from several sources. The average for Iron & Ashland County was proposed at \$4.07/bu.
Motion to set the 2024 corn price for bear damage at \$4.07/bu made by Thomas/Lutgen; MC.

7. Approve the 2024 Wildlife Damage Claims – Rossing shared with the committee the damage claim for the Iron County farmer. **Motion to approve the 2024 Wildlife Damage Claims made by Thomas/Lutgen; MC.**

8. Grant Resolution – Palmquist provided the annual grant resolution for 2025, this resolution is passed every year enabling the County Conservationist to apply for any grant to help achieve the Iron County Land & Water Resource Management Plan. **Motion to approve and forward the Grant Resolution on to the full county board made by Thomas/Lutgen; MC.**

9. DNR Grant Resolution – Palmquist provided the annual DNR grant resolution for 2025, this resolution is passed every year enabling the County Conservationist

to apply for DNR Surface Water Grants to help achieve the Iron County Land & Water Resource Management Plan. **Motion to approve and forward the Grant Resolution on to the full county board made by Lutgen/Thomas; MC.**

10. Staff Reports –

Palmquist – reported that Stacy Dehne, DATCP Engineer, had left her position and currently the position was vacant. This could slow down our cost-share projects for 2025 and could be problematic for the LWCD's that Dehne had covered.

11. Move to closed session pursuant to Sec 19.85(1)(c) Wis Stats., to discuss hiring a Conservation Specialist and set starting wage. Motion to move into closed session made by Lutgen/Thomas; Roll Call – All Yes.

12. Return to open session: Take action on items discussed in closed session. Motion to return to open session made by Thomas/Lutgen; all Yes; MC. Motion to hire Rayona Suelflow for the Conservation Specialist at \$23.49/hr for the 6 mo probation period and then the full hourly rate of \$26.10/hr made by Thomas/Luten; MC.

13. Next meeting date – TBD.

14. Adjourn- Haeger adjourned the meeting at 4:57 pm.