

**Pierce County Land Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, February 28th, 2023 8:30a.m.**

**PCOB Lower Level Meeting Room; 412 W Kinne St. – Ellsworth, WI**

**LCC Members Present:** Jerry Kosin, Sheila Lorentz, Melvin Pittman, Dean Bergseng and Daniel Puhmann

**LCD Staff Present:** Rod Webb and Retta Isaacson

**Other:** Alec Sundelius (USDA-APHIS)

**Call to order:** Jerry Kosin called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

**Public Comment:** Samantha Bowen expressed her concerns on a possible dairy expansion in Salem township and subsequent groundwater impacts. Sheila commented that she had received calls from citizens about similar concerns. Nancy Weiss echoed those concerns and inquired about expansion plans and manure spreading. Rod responded that at this time no expansion plans have been submitted to the Land Conservation Dept. He also explained the scope of the Land Conservation Dept. involvement if a dairy facility expands is through the waste storage ordinance.

**Adopt Agenda:** Dean Bergseng moved to adopt agenda. Dan Puhmann seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Approve January 24th, 2023 Meeting Minutes:** Dean Bergseng moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Dan Puhmann seconded. Motion passed with all favor.

**Discuss/Take Action to Approve 2022 Wildlife Damage and Abatement Program (WDACP) Wildlife Damage**

**Claims:** Alec Sundelius presented a 2022 deer damage claim. Discussion included how claims are paid through a hunting license fee account. Mel Pittman motioned to approve the claim. Dan Puhmann seconded. Motion carried with 3 in favor and 2 opposed.

**Discuss Revising Pierce County Waste Storage Ordinance (101 Article IV):**

Rod updated the committee on discussions he had with Brad Lawrence (Corporation Counsel) about the ordinance updating process and how more exploration into the legal scope of this type of ordinance is needed. The committee discussed what a waste storage ordinance update versus an agricultural performance standards and prohibitions ordinance would look like for implementation and effectiveness at protecting Pierce County resources. The timeline of revision was also discussed.

**Department Updates**

1. Rod discussed a well-attended Farmer-Led watershed event on Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>
2. The department is looking forward to spring and implementing the conservation practices planned.

**USDA-FSA Report:** Although a representative was not in attendance Rod gave the updates FSA provided. Continuous CRP is currently open for enrollment. General CRP opened for enrollment on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> and closes April 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Discussion Regarding Future Agenda Items:** The 2024 DATCP grant application will be up for approval and the LCC would like to be updated on the county waste storage ordinance revision progress including ordinances that other counties have implemented.

**Discuss Next Meeting Place, Date and Time:** 8:30 am Tuesday March 28th, 2023. Pierce County Board Room

**Adjournment:** Mel Pittman moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 am. Dan Puhmann seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.