

## GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center  
1627 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue West  
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, November 8, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Jeff Williams, Erica Roth, Kristi Leonard, Ken Hodgson, Dudley Timm, Tonya Gratz, Tyler Newcomer, Chris Newberry, Jason Thomas, Teresa Zimmer, Adam Wiegel, Dave Tarrell, Todd Jenson, and members of the public.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved on a motion by Hodgson, second by Leonard. Motion carried.

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$28,317.32. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Roth to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Tarrell gave an overview of the wildlife damage program. He presented the 2019 budget in the amount of \$3369.58. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Williams to approve the budget. Motion carried. Tarrell discussed the cooperative service agreement between Green County and USDA-APHIS. A motion was made by Williams, second by Timm to approve the cooperative service agreement. Motion carried.

Zimmer informed the committee the fall crop certification deadline is November 15. The November commodity loan interest is 3.625%. Their office has sent out over \$420,000 in payments for the market facilitation program. There is a COC election for area #1. Three candidates are running. Ballots are due December 3.

Thomas informed the committee EQIP applications are due November 16. There is a new farm bill on the horizon. They currently have 68 EQIP applications.

Gratz informed the committee she has been working on payments for Farmers of the Sugar River. She has also been doing surveys, designs, and manure pit inspections.

Newberry informed the committee he has been working on the tree program. He sent out 48 letters on well issues. He had not heard back from seven of them yet.

Newcomer informed the committee he has been working on cover crops and rotational grazing.

Gratz did a soil health demonstration with tilled and no-tilled soils. She added hydrogen peroxide to each to show how it would react to the carbon in the organic matter.

The committee reviewed recommendations from the Green County Livestock Facility Study group. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Timm not to approve:

- DNR or county offices have the right to obtain a manure or effluent slurry sample from any livestock facility or private septic system to use as they see fit to track down pollution sources.
- Request NRCS to provide incentives for composting, separating, and treating manure.
- Revise county code to modify setback distance to 250 feet for manure storage from private wells and 1000 feet for public wells.
- Require all new or modified manure storage structures to be double-lined (have a liner of clay plus something additional i.e. HDPE, concrete, etc.)
- Conduct more land application hauling audits/oversight in sensitive areas.
- Do not incorporate or inject manure greater than 4 inches below the soil surface.
- If self-monitoring of manure storage has not been done properly, the county should have the right to force the violator to hire county personnel for a fee.
- Green County Board and Green County Land and Water Conservation Department request to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to consider for all e. coli positive samples an investigation using microbial source tracking testing if offsite livestock contamination seems plausible.
- Notify neighbors of off farm spills or spills impacting surface water as soon as possible but within 24 hours. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Williams, second by Hodgson to approve:

- Increase surface water monitoring near potential impaired waterways.
- Increase education and outreach to landowners regarding the Wisconsin Manure Runoff Prediction website.
- Inform haulers and farmers of requirement that all land applicators have, at a minimum, one set of spreading restriction maps and written instructions present for land application sites where manure is actively being applied.
- Review and establish proper setbacks for land spreading manure.
- Strongly recommend fall cover crops on fields following corn silage, including sweet corn silage, and soybeans.
- Establish best management practices for odor and noise and recommend windbreaks around barnyards and storage for new and modified structures.
- Incorporate manure management prohibitions into Green County's storage ordinance.
- Restrict winter spreading. Encourage winter no-spread and frozen ground manure regulations that restrict January through March manure spreading to reduce nutrient runoff. Motion carried.

There was nothing in committee concerns.

In public comments it was discussed how public health is important.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2018, beginning at 9:30 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Williams, second by Timm to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM.