

**LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA**

Polk County Government Center
100 Polk County Plaza, Balsam Lake, Wisconsin
September 12, 2013 9:30AM*
County Board Room

Call to order	(Chair)
Approve Agenda	(Chair)
Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting	(Chair)
Public Comments	(Chair – Speakers limited to 3 minutes)

2014 Budget Recommendation (discussion/action) (County Administrator/ 10 minutes)

Wildlife Damage Abatement Program (discussion only) (C. Blonk / 10 minutes)
-Program Update

Polk County Agriculture and Farmland Preservation Plan (E. Wojchik / 20 minutes)
-Plan Review (discussion only)

Voucher Review and Financial Reports (discussion only) (Dept. Head / 5 minutes)
-Review bill sheet

Director's Report (discussion only) (Dept. Head / 10 minutes)
-Horse Creek Watershed Council
-County Conservationist meeting
-NWLCA Area Tour
-Millpond Box Culvert
-Variable Rate Technology field day

Agency Report 10:30am (discussion only) (A. Moore/ 15 minutes)

Committee Observances (Chair / 5 minutes)

Adjournment

Committee note: Dale Wood will bring treats

*Note – Meeting may start following Lime Quarry Committee meeting

This meeting is open to the public according to Wisconsin State Statute 19.83. Persons with disabilities wishing to attend and/or participate are asked to notify the County Clerks office (715-485-9226) at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time so all reasonable accommodations can be made. Requests are confidential.

Polk County Land Conservation Committee

Dean Johansen, Chair Larry Jepsen, Vice Chair William Johnson Herschel Brown Dale Wood, FSA Rep.

Polk County Land Conservation Committee

The Land Conservation Committee met September 12, 2013 in the North Conference Room of the Polk County Government Center.

Supervisors Present: Herschel Brown, William Johnson, Larry Jepsen
Dale Wood, FSA Representative

LWRD staff: Tim Ritten, Patti Andersen, Eric Wojchik

Also present: Aaron Moore, Director, FSA
Cindy Blonk, Wildlife Damage Technician
Dana Frey, Polk County Administrator

In absence of Chairman Johansen, Vice Chairman Jepsen called the meeting to order at 8:59 am. Motion made (Brown/Wood) and seconded to approve the agenda in a different order than presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made (Brown/Johnson) and seconded to approve the August 14, 2013 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments None.

2014 Land & Water Resources Budget Recommendation: Administrator Frey distributed the LWRD budget highlighting the seven different programs LWRD administers for the county. Discussion held on additional conservation planner for department.

Wildlife Damage Abatement Program: Blonk distributed a map highlighting the increased bear damage to crops in the county. Because the DNR regulations state bears must be trapped before shooting permits are issued, Blonk stated there are only six farms with bear shooting permits. Blonk also stated that bear damage is worse in Polk County than deer damage.

Polk County Agriculture and Farmland Preservation Plan: Eric Wojchik, Conservation Planner, distributed and reviewed a draft of the Polk County Agricultural and Farmland Preservation Plan. Due to Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection mandating that all counties throughout Wisconsin needed to update their farmland preservation plan, a committee of county personnel and selected county citizens, put this draft together highlighting all aspects of farmland preservation in Polk County.

Voucher Review and Financial Reports: Ritten reviewed and discussed the voucher reports for August.

Director's Report: Ritten discussed the following:

- Horse Creek Watershed Council hosted a 4-county meeting
- County Conservation Meeting in October
- NWLCA Area Tour in Burnett County on Oct. 18
- Millpond Box Culvert will begin construction soon

Pending approval by the LCC Secretary and amendment at the next meeting.

- Variable Rate Technology Field Day Oct. 9

Agency Report: Aaron Moore, FSA Director, stated the new Farm Bill budget has affected the FSA office. FSA has accepted 25 applications for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) this summer. With the lack of precipitation this fall, crops are below average for yields this year. The grain prices did not look good as well as milk prices not looking good. From the USDA drought monitor, half of Wisconsin is in abnormally dry status. Forage need is desperate with some cutting CRP for needed supplies.

Committee Observances: None

Adjournment: Motion made (Brown/Johnson) and seconded and carried to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.