

RACINE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION
14200 Washington Avenue
Sturtevant, Wisconsin 53177-1253
Phone: 262-886-8440 Fax: 262-886-8480

RACINE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Also Known as a Subcommittee of
THE RACINE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE PLANNING COMMITTEE
Ives Grove Office Complex Auditorium – 14200 Washington Avenue
Monday, 5:15 p.m., June 17, 2019

SUMMARY MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Members Present: T. Pringle, K. Buske, M. Osterman, D. Cooke, T. Greil,
T. Hincz (arrived at 5:38)

Committee Members Excused: R. Grove, T. Roanhouse

Youth in Governance Excused: V. Pulice, J. Janes

Staff Present: C. Sampson

Supervisor D. Cooke called the June 17, 2019 Racine County Land Conservation Committee meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

1. A motion by T. Pringle/M. Osterman to approve the minutes for the March 18, 2019 meeting. The motion was approved (5-0).
2. Information only: C. Sampson stated that the Speaker's Task Force on Water Quality is holding public hearings around the State. C. Sampson was informed that a session might be scheduled in Racine County in July. C. Sampson wanted to committee to be aware of the water quality issues in Racine County. Potential water improvements include: the dredging needed in the Waterford Impoundment, bluff erosion restoration on Lake Michigan, improvements on all waters listed on the 303d impaired waters list, aquatic invasive species and blue green algae in our lakes. T. Greil mentioned the erosion along the Wind Lake Canal. M. Osterman said the hearings were prepared with certain citizens set up to speak, and then other's as they were on the list. So, some citizens have not been staying around an entire day waiting to speak. M. Osterman stated that if you plan on attending, get there very early to sign up to speak and plan on spending most of the day at the hearings. T. Pringle motioned to receive and file, seconded by M. Osterman. Approved (5-0).
3. Information only: C. Sampson stated the Racine County Fair will be held on July 24-28. The Land Conservation staff will be at a booth in the commercial building. We'll be featuring conservation projects, the producer led group, and many other related items. A motion by T. Pringle to receive and file, seconded by M. Osterman. Approved (5-0).
4. Information only: An update from the Watershed Protection Committee of Racine County. T. Greil talked about a difficult spring for farmers to get crops in the ground with the wet and cold weather. T. Greil continued to state that no-till and cover crops can be more of a challenge with this weather. M. Osterman asked if farmers had access to information to help them become successful with cover crops. T. Greil said it is difficult when many farmers have it engrained in

their head that you need a residue free soil surface to plant your crops. C. Sampson stated that many resources are available on the Watershed Protection Committee's website as well as Discovery Farms and many other publications. Publications were handed out in the folders at the field days and winter workshops. C. Sampson said the next formal meeting for the WPCR will be on July 9th. They are going to discuss getting annual sponsors to become more sustainable. They are also going to discuss water quality testing. They will also be finalizing their brochure and website. T. Pringle motioned to receive and file, seconded by M. Osterman. Approved (5-0).

5. USDA Reports for Information only: C. Sampson discussed bullet point #3 on the Farm Service Agency report regarding the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and Continuous Conservation Program. Both programs opened for sign up on June 3rd. C. Sampson stated there are roughly 30 contracts than can be renewed for 10 to 15-year continuing agreements. It is important to have the owners possibly re-enroll their acreage. T. Pringle motioned to receive and file, seconded by M. Osterman. Approved (6-0).

6. Other Business: C. Sampson stated the next Southeast Area Land and Water Conservation Association meeting is scheduled at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 27 at the University of Milwaukee School of Freshwater Sciences. M. Osterman, K. Buske and C. Sampson plan on attending.

T. Hincz asked if Land Conservation had been contacted by interested citizens regarding the tree program. C. Sampson stated that they do receive many inquiries and the order forms for 2020 will be available around Labor Day.

7. A motion by T. Pringle, seconded by M. Osterman to adjourn at 5:48 p.m. Motion approved (6-0) by the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Grove, Secretary
Land Conservation Committee

Chad Sampson, Recorder