

RACINE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION

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RACINE COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Also Known as a Subcommittee of

THE RACINE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Public Works Conference Room – 14200 Washington Avenue

Monday, 5:30 p.m., November 7, 2022

SUMMARY MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Members Present: M. Osterman, T. Wishau, G. Horeth, R. Grove
T. Rutkowski, T. Greil, J. Eckman arrived at 5:54 p.m.

Committee Members Excused: T. Hincz, O. White

Youth in Governance Excused: Charles Letsch, Rabeka Liberto

Staff Present: J. Grove

1. Chairman M. Osterman took roll call and called the November 7, 2022, Racine County Land and Water Conservation Committee meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. A motion by T. Wishau, seconded by T. Rutkowski to approve the minutes from September 19, 2022. The motion was approved (6-0) by the Committee.
3. Josh Holden explained the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP) budget. The Wildlife damage abatement and claims program is a DNR program and is DNR funded. Josh Holden went on to explain the program process. Josh Holden explained the budget just showed his operating services. T. Rutkowski asked how long the county has participated and the response was longer than 20 years. A motion by R. Grove / G. Horeth to approve the WDACP Budget. The motion was approved (6-0) by the Committee.
4. Josh Holden explained the crop price proposal. R. Grove said the crop prices are acceptable in the current market, T. Greil agreed. The next item was to determine the 90% harvest date. M. Osterman asked R. Grove and T. Greil for their expertise on when 90% of the crop harvest is completed. Some discussion on the date but December 1st was selected. A motion by R. Grove / T. Wishau to approve the crop price proposal and December 1st as the 90% harvest date. The motion was approved (6-0) by the Committee.
5. M. Osterman stated the next item is approving the transfer of \$10,000 in SWRM SEG funds from Trempealeau County to Racine County, \$6,885 in SWRM SEG funds from Burnett County to Racine County, and \$20,000 in SWRM bond funds from Milwaukee County to Racine County. J. Grove stated that Racine County is always searching for more funding from other counties, in this case a statewide email was sent out, offering up some remaining allocated funding to transfer. M. Osterman asked if the committee could get a clarification on what the administrative rule is for having the committee chair sign the transfer before possible approval of the committee. Some

discussion on other counties transferring out their allocated funds. A motion by J. Eckman / T. Wishau to approve the transfers. The motion was approved (7-0) by the Committee.

6. M. Osterman discussed the approved LWRM plan from the WI Land & Water Board and the kudos we received along with some discussion on focusing some efforts on the Lake Michigan shoreline. Also, some discussion on grants available through WI Land & Water and the cover crop rebate program through WI DATCP.
7. M. Osterman discussed updates from the NACD and a special meeting that was held to discuss the \$90 million they received from the USDA for the Climate Smart Commodities grant. Some discussion among T. Rutkowski, G. Horeth and M. Osterman on grant writing and funding. More discussion on staffing in Racine County compared to other counties around the state.
8. Watershed Protection Committee of Racine County update was started by T. Greil. He stated Jim Stute is working on a USDA grant and is going to be a speaker at the National No-till conference. J. Grove stated the producer-led conference is on December 13th and the Discovery Farms conference is on December 14th, both held in the WI Dells. Also the WPCR winter workshop will be in early February, 2023 with David Brandt as the guest speaker.
9. A motion by R. Grove / G. Horeth to adjourn at 6:24 p.m. The motion was approved (7-0) by the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Monte Osterman, Chairman
Land and Water Conservation Committee

Jonathan Grove, Recorder