

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, 6:00 p.m., December 5, 2022

SUMMARY MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Members Present: M. Osterman, T. Wishau, G. Horeth, T. Rutkowski
T. Greil, J. Eckman

Committee Members Excused: T. Hincz, R. Grove, O. White

Youth in Governance Present: Mabel Beversdorf

Youth in Governance Excused: Charles Letsch, Rabeka Liberto

Staff Present: C. Sampson

1. Chairman M. Osterman took roll call and called the December 5, 2022, Racine County Land and Water Conservation Committee meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
2. A motion by T. Wishau, seconded by G. Horeth to approve the minutes from the November 7, 2022 meeting. The motion was approved (6-0) by the Committee.
3. A discussion regarding two transfers into the Racine County Soil & Water Resource Program Grant Funding. A transfer of \$12,000 from Jefferson County's SEG funds and \$9,500 from Kenosha County's bond funds were discussed. A motion by T. Wishau, seconded by G. Horeth to approve the two transfers. The motion was approved (6-0) by the Committee.
4. A discussion about the LWCC Chair signing approvals on transfer agreements prior to approval from the Committee. M. Osterman explained the State Statute does not clearly define the LWCC Chairman's ability to approve transfers prior to Committee approval. Also, the contract itself does not clearly show this designation. C. Sampson stated he contacted WI DATCP and received an email stating that the LWCC Chairman's authorized signature does signify Committee approval. M. Osterman asked the Committee if they felt a motion or resolution be needed to verify this action. After some discussion, G. Horeth made a motion, seconded by T. Rutkowski, to allow the LWCC Chairman to sign agreements representing the Committee for SWRM transfers received by Racine County with this documentation presented at the next Committee meeting and SWRM transfers from Racine County to other counties will be approved by the Committee. The motion was approved (6-0) by the Committee.
5. C. Sampson stated the WI DATCP requires cost share agreement extension approvals from the Committee. Currently, there are 9 nutrient management contracts in place that Racine County is waiting for submitted certified nutrient management plans. If the plans are submitted prior to

December 30th, then the agreements will not need extensions. If the plans are not submitted, they will be listed on the WI DATCP SWRM Extension Report approved by the LWCC. After some discussion, a motion was made by Jason Eckman, seconded by Taylor Wishau to approve the extension request.

6. M. Osterman presented an educational powerpoint about Septage Spreading in Wisconsin to explain how the WI DNR regulates the program and how agriculture is involved. M. Osterman and C. Sampson presented the power point to the Committee and answered questions.
7. C. Sampson stated the Allison Hamm (LCD staff) sent a letter requesting participation in the student poster contest (theme is "One Water") to all Racine County schools and received responses from: Waterford Union High School, Jerstad-Agerholm Middle School, Gifford Elementary School, and Goodland Montessori. Some Committee members expressed interest in helping judge the posters and C. Sampson said they will be invited in January. M. Osterman explained the individual county's have a contest and the winning posters advance to a Regional Contest. The Southeast Regional Contest winners will then advance to the State Contest and finally the winning State Poster's advance to NACD's National Contest.
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. He stated the producer-led conference is on December 13th and the Discovery Farms conference is on December 14th, both held in the WI Dells.

Osterman asked how the yields were at Case Eagle Park. T. Greil said the corn yield was better than expected and averaged about 160 bushel per acre. T. Greil said they were still waiting on finalized plot research results that will be made available this winter.

The WPCR Winter Workshop will be on February 10, 2023 with David Brandt as the guest speaker. The event will be held at the Cotton Exchange in Waterford.

9. C. Sampson gave a handout to the Committee of completed construction best management practices in 2022. C. Sampson stated Jon Grove on staff does most of the design and construction inspection and provided the list of projects. C. Sampson gave an overview of each of the projects and answered questions.
10. M. Osterman said NRCS was asking how to streamline and improve program delivery to expand access to extra program funds. Secondly, how can NRCS expand capacity among partners to assist with outreach. M. Osterman asked the Committee for any thoughts or ideas. T. Greil asked if the ideas would be incorporated into the Farm Bill. M. Osterman said the ideas would be moved to the State Board and then to the NACD to be potentially included in the Farm Bill.

T. Rutkowski said the funding could be potentially used in a carbon sequestration program.

T. Wishau suggested more farmer education on hemp cultivation and farming.

J. Eckman suggested a program on the impacts of solar farming and potential crop production loss.

C. Sampson stated to streamline program delivery that the County's and Producer Led groups can assist to provide outreach either at events or through mailings.

11. Other business: M. Osterman stated January 2nd and 16th are considered Holidays and the Ives Grove Complex will be closed on those days which pushes the next LWCC meeting to February 6th.

T. Rutkowski said Ron Doetch, a Kenosha farmer, was going to talk about regenerative agriculture at his farm at 10 a.m. tomorrow for anyone interested in attending.

A motion by T. Wishau / G. Horeth to adjourn at 7:22 p.m. The motion was approved (6-0) by the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Monte Osterman, Chairman
Land and Water Conservation Committee

Chad Sampson, Recorder