



MINUTES

**ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, 09/02/2020, 7:15 P.M.
Virtual Meeting - Zoom**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Bostwick called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Committee Members Present: Stephanie Aegerter, Rich Bostwick, Wes Davis, Kaelyb Lokrantz, Mike Mulligan, James Quade, Alan Sweeney and Jeremy Zajac.

Committee Members Excused: None

Others Present: Andrew Baker and Chris Newberry, LCD
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Supervisor Zajac moved to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Supervisor Lokrantz. **Motion carried unanimously.**
3. **Approval of Minutes – June 17, 2020 and August 10, 2020 LCC meetings and August 18, 2020 Joint Meeting with P&D Committee:** Supervisor Davis offer a couple corrections to the August 10th meeting minutes, noted by Staff. Supervisor Lokrantz moved the minutes from the June 17 and August 10, 2020 LCC meetings and the August 18, 2020 Joint Meeting with P&D Committee with the clarifications, seconded by Supervisor Aegerter. **Motion carried unanimously.**
4. **Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements:** None
5. **Review Bills Paid:** The Committee reviewed the bills to be paid. There were no questions.
6. **Resolution: AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE 2021 CLEAN SWEEP PROGRAM.** Andrew explained that this is the annual grant application, which is one of the funding sources for the program. Other funding sources in the past have been user fees, contributions from partnering municipalities and, in the last few years, a portion of the ATC Fund Balance. Andrew reminded the Committee that in August 2019 they voted that 2020 would be the last year that the ATC Fund balance would be used as a consistent source of funding for the program, because it is an exhaustible source. At the time, the Committee directed staff to develop MOUs with the participating partners to have a written confirmation of funding, rather than “voluntary” contributions. Doing so would make planning and budgeting much easier. The Committee confirmed they would intend to adhere to the decision made in 2019 regarding the future of funding for the program. Andrew informed the Committee that staff would continue to work on the MOUs. Motion to approve the resolution by Supervisor Davis seconded by Supervisor Zajac. **Motion carried unanimously.**
7. **Construction Site Erosion Control/Stormwater Management Ordinance: Fulton Church request for 6 month Permit Extension (Permit ECSW-2019-018).** Andrew explained that the permit holder is requesting an extension because the project has to be completed in the time frame dictated in the permit (1 yr). There were difficulties find a contractor at a cost they could afford. There are no compliance issues on the property. Motion to approve the six month by Supervisor Davis seconded by Supervisor Mulligan. **Motion carried unanimously.**

8. **Approval of Farmland Preservation Notice of Noncompliance Documents;** Raymond and Shawn Ibeling (Voluntary, 100 acres total does not participate in the program) and Donald Wollinger (Voluntary, 216 acres, does not participate in the program). Motion to approve the notice of noncompliance documents by Supervisor Zajac seconded by Supervisor Quade. **Motion carried unanimously.**
9. **Land and Water Resource Management Program - Approval of Cost Share Agreements:** Andrew reviewed the Cost Share agreement to be considered for approval; a waterway and diversion Dan Husisheere, a rebuild waterway for MacFarlane Pheasant Farm and cover crop installation at the County Farm for Scott Flemming. Supervisor Zajac made a motion to approve the cost share agreements presented for approval, seconded by Supervisor Quade. **Motion carried unanimously.**
10. **Producer Led Watershed Group: Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with “Farmers on the Rock” Producer Led Watershed Group for grant application and program administration.** Andrew and Chris explained that the MOU is a necessary requirement for the Group to apply for grant funding from DATCP. Essentially the LCD will agree to provide staff support for the group and provide a funding/accounting mechanism to manage any funding acquired by the Group. Supervisor Davis made a motion to approve the MOU as presented, seconded by Supervisor Zajac. **Motion carried unanimously.**
11. **Groundwater Workgroup Activities.** Chris provide the LCC with an update regarding the Groundwater Nitrate Workgroup activities, with the previous meeting being held on September 1st. Next meet will be held on October 27th at 8:00. Chris also informed the LCC regarding his work on the Producer Led Watershed Group and the 9KE planning project status.
12. **Approval of Letter of Support and Intent** to be a Contributing Partner in an application made by the American Farmland Trust for the Natural Resources Conservation Service’s (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). Andrew explained the effort by the American Farmland Trust to leverage local program dollars into an application for RCPP. The main purpose to so continue to permanently preserve farmland. At this time, what is being requested is a letter of intent, no commitment. Andrew provide Staff a rough estimate of the dollars that the County will put into the PACE program over the next 5 years, which helps the application score by showing there is a local program committed to permanent preservation of ag land. No county funding will be required for match, etc, if the program application is approved. The sources of funding for the RCPP at the federal level are different and separate from the funding for ACEP-ALE (the federal program that compliments the PACE program). Supervisor Quade made a motion to the letter of support and intent, seconded by Supervisor Lokrantz. **Motion carried unanimously.**
13. **Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements - Update.** Andrew stated he is working on final documentation for the Barlass Easements. Andrew will also look into concerns relayed from NRCS regarding the reviews of appraisals done in the past by current consultant, indicating some appraisals have been rejected. There is no interest at this time to look for a different appraisal consultant.
14. **Adjourn:** Supervisor Sweeney made motion to adjourn the September 2, 2020 Land Conservation Committee meeting at 7:51 pm, seconded by Supervisor Davis. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew Baker
County Conservationist

Minutes are not official until adopted by the Land Conservation Committee.