



## Wisconsin Land+Water Conservation Association

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### PIC Committee

#### Meeting Minutes

Date: January 11, 2022	
Start Time: 10:00 a.m.	End Time: 11:05 a.m.
Location:	GoTo Meeting
Committee Members: <b>Patty Benedict, Secretary</b> (Portage Co. LWCD), Sue Hendrickson (Douglas Co. LWCD), Brian Holt, Vice Chair (Walworth Co. LCC), Dale Konkol (Door Co. SWCD), Mitchell McCarthy (Sauk Co. LRED), Dan McFarlane (Waupaca Co. LWCD), Kyle Minks (Dane Co. LWRD), Dan O'Connell (Technical Com. Rep. Portage Co. LCD), Anthony Reali, Chair (Calumet Co. LWCD), Geoff Schramm (Ozaukee Co. LWMD), Nick Stadnyk (Rusk Co. LCDD), Megan Steckelberg, (Adams Co LCD) Advisors: Karl Gesch - WDNR, Dan Zerr- UW Extension, Eric Hurley - USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, Coreen Fallat, Drew Zelle - DATCP WI Land+Water Staff (non-voting members): Matt Krueger, Chris Schlutt, Kim Warkentin	In Attendance: As highlighted to left.  Others Attending: Tina Barone, Dunn Co. LWCD
<b>Notes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>WI Land+Water meetings are open meetings. Individuals may connect by way of videoconference or dial by phone.</li><li>Order and time for agenda items may be changed due to pace of meeting or at the discretion of the committee chair.</li></ul>	
Next Meeting Time: TBD	

#### ALL AGENDA ITEMS ARE ACTIONABLE.

- Call to order:** Reali called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- Roll Call:** Benedict called roll. Attendance as highlighted above.
- Adopt agenda:** Konkol/Holt to adopt agenda. Motion passed by voice vote.
- Approve October 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes: Benedict:** Benedict noted she corrected the second to last sentence under **Current Travel Restrictions and Mandates Discussion** adding the word "with" to now read "Schlutt and Warkentin toured Chula Vista recently and said they are willing to work **with** us to hold a safe conference. Konkol/McCarthy to approve minutes as corrected. Motion passed by voice vote.

**Wisconsin Conservation Legacy Award Draft Review – Reali/All:** Reali explained the suggestion for the award originated at a Board of Directors meeting and was presented to the PIC by Board member Monte Osterman. Reali, Hendrickson, Zelle, and Minks met to draft criteria, which was shared with the PIC. Under eligibility, it was suggested to include contributions related to providing assistance based on community needs. Zelle asked PIC members to email suggestions for revisions and he will incorporate into the draft. There was discussion regarding clarification on years of experience, whether to allow for a combination of years of service at county, agency, non-profit positions. It was felt a majority of the years of experience should be at the local level. On the second page, under 1) second bullet, "if applicable" will be removed. The award will be open to current and past employees and LCC supervisors. Revisions will be made and brought back at a future PIC meeting.

**2022 Conference Update – Schlutt:** Krueger stated the Executive Committee is scheduled to meet on January 13 to decide on the best course of action for the 2022 Annual Conference. Among counties, agencies, and partners, Krueger said there are varying degrees of directives/recommendations regarding travel/meeting restrictions. WI Land+Water staff welcomed input to pass on to the Executive Committee. If virtual, Krueger feels the conference would likely be pared down in comparison to the 2021 conference. He noted an in-person County Conservationist meeting is planned for July. Krueger said discussions have taken place with Chula Vista regarding financial options should our contract be broken, such as possibly booking for a

future conference. Regarding safety precautions offered by Chula Vista for an in-person conference, staff will mask upon request, enhance cleaning of meeting spaces, serve plated meals versus buffet, set up hand sanitizer stations, set up meeting rooms to safely distance, hotel staff will not enter hotel rooms to clean daily. Krueger said a hybrid option would be labor intensive for staff and come at a significant financial cost. PIC members will be provided with the Zoom link for Thursday's Executive Committee meeting. Discussion took place on attendance concerns whether in-person or virtual. An option to record sessions and offer virtually for a fee was mentioned. Points discussed should an in-person conference be held were safety, requiring masks, what type, proof of vaccination, and who will enforce. If virtual, Zoom meeting burn out was mentioned. Krueger stated revenues generated from the conference go into the association's operating fund. A suggestion was made to look into whether non-profits may qualify for any federal aid programs to replace revenues not collected. Reali asked whether the Executive Committee is looking for a recommendation from PIC. He feels a clear consensus was not reached at this meeting. The discussion will be shared with the Executive Committee, who will make a final decision. Schlutt suggested scheduling another PIC meeting the week of January 24. The decision will have been made and Schlutt will ask for assistance with conference sessions. Benedict will send a Doodle poll.

**2022 Conservation Awards Judging – Schlutt:** Schlutt said five PIC members have voted. She asked the remaining members to vote by end of day Wednesday so she can order the awards.

**Raffle Update – Warkentin/Benedict:** The raffle will be discussed at the next meeting.

**Silent Auction Update – Warkentin/Steckelberg:** Steckelberg reported the Silent Auction Subcommittee has a meeting following the PIC meeting. The online auction site, 32auctions.com, will be used and run through the entire conference. If the conference is in-person, items will be brought to the conference and winning bidders will take their items or arrange for someone to pick up for them. No shipping would be offered. There are currently 11 items. She will send a reminder after the Executive Committee meeting to solicit more items.

**Adjourn – McCarthy/Steckelberg** to adjourn. Motion passed by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Benedict  
PIC Secretary