



# Wisconsin Land+Water Conservation Association

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## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

<b>Date: March 1, 2023</b>	
<b>Start Time: 8:31 am</b>	<b>End Time: 11:00 am</b>
<b>In-person meeting</b>	Laguna Vista Room, Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin
<b>Conference Phone:</b>	(605) 472-5443
<b>Access Code:</b>	126437
<p><b>WI Land+Water BOD Members (2022-24):</b> <u>Area 1 (LM)</u>: Scott Frank (<i>Shawano LCD</i>), Tom Mandli (<i>Marinette LCC</i>); <u>Area 2 (LW)</u>: Brian Haase (<i>Waupaca LWCD</i>), Mike Hofberger (<i>Calumet LWCC</i>); <u>Area 3 (SE)</u>: Marissa Castello (<i>Waukesha LRD</i>), Monte Osterman (<i>Racine LCC, Chair</i>); <u>Area 4 (S)</u>: Amy Piaget (<i>Dane LWRD, Treasurer</i>), Melissa Luck (<i>Richland LCC</i>); <u>Area 5 (W)</u>: Bob Micheel (<i>Monroe LCD, President</i>); Mary Henry (<i>Vernon LCC</i>); <u>Area 6 (WC)</u>: Chase Cummings (<i>Dunn LWCD</i>); Ken Gerhardt (<i>Clark LCC</i>); <u>Area 7 (NW)</u>: Ben Dufford (<i>Bayfield LWCD</i>), Craig Conroy (<i>Burnett NRC</i>); <u>Area 8 (NC)</u>: Carolyn Scholl (<i>Vilas LWCD, Secretary</i>), Jim Winkler (<i>Oneida LCC</i>)</p> <p><b>Non-Voting Advisors:</b> Dan Bahr (<i>Wisconsin Counties Assn</i>), Jamie Keith (<i>NRCS</i>), Chris Clayton (<i>DNR</i>), Coreen Fallat (<i>DATCP</i>), Mike Gilbertson (<i>DNR</i>), Beth Mason (<i>Ntnl Assn of Conservation Districts</i>), Dan Zerr (<i>UW-Madison Division of Extension</i>)</p>	
<p><b>WI Land+Water Staff:</b> Matt Krueger (<i>Executive Director</i>), Isabelle Paulsen (<i>Conservation Training and Membership Services Manager</i>)</p>	
<p><b>WI Land+Water Mission:</b> To protect, conserve, and enhance Wisconsin’s natural resources by advocating for and supporting county conservation efforts, for current and future generations.</p>	
<p><b>Notes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WI Land+Water meetings are open meetings. Individuals may observe via web or call-in if desired. Please state your name if using the dial-in option.</li> <li>Order and time allowed for agenda items may be changed due to pace of meeting or at the discretion of the board.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Next Meeting: July 13, 2023, Holiday Inn, Stevens Point, WI</b></p>	

**In Attendance:**  
 S. Frank, T. Mandli (phone/in person), B. Haase, M. Hofberger, M. Castello (phone, 9:19), M. Osterman, A. Piaget, M. Luck, B. Micheel, C. Cummings, K. Gerhardt, M. Gingras, C. Scholl

**Absent:** M. Henry, C. Conroy, J. Winkler

### ALL ITEMS ARE ACTIONABLE

**8:31 am**

**Call to Order – Chair Monte Osterman**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll call: Secretary Scholl conducted roll call. A quorum of the BOD was determined.
- Adopt agenda: Motion by Frank, Luck to adopt the agenda.
- Approve previous meeting minutes – December 13, 2022. Motion by Luck, Gerhardt to approve the meeting minutes from Dec 13, 2022.

**8:36 am Approval of External Committee Representatives – Osterman, Executive Director Matt Krueger**

- Scott Frank, Shawano County briefly described the DATCP Livestock Siting Technical Expert Committee: Every 4 years this is reviewed, nutrient management aspects, runoff management and waste storage, 10-12 members; finalizing a report in June. Motion by Haase, Hofberger to approve Scott Frank as committee representative.
- Zach Mohr, Eau Claire County briefly described the DNR Technical Committee Wetlands Advisory Team. They are reviewing and shaping a permit process. Motion by Cummings, Piaget to approve Zach Mohr as committee representative.
- Annual reports may be added for the summer meetings. Matt and Carolyn will work on this. Topic will be on the next executive comm meeting agenda.

**8:45 am Executive Committee Report – President Bob Micheel**

President Micheel reported on the following:

- Creation of a document retention policy – underway.
- Annual audit review – underway. Wegner CPAs to complete this process.
- Health and Conservation Workgroup as a standing committee – executive comm is scoping the idea of working cooperatively with Public Health Departments as a possibility. The standing committee has worked since 2016 and many different entities participate to bridge a gap between different work communities.
- Wisconsin Conservation Tribal Advisory Council engagement – Would the tribe want to participate in Land and Water common goals in a more formal process? What would that look like? Conversations continue.

**9:08 am WI Land+Water Committee Policy – Krueger**

- We reviewed draft Committee Policy Article II Section 5, General review has been taking place for about 1 year. Policy language, roles, and processes have been “cleaned up” by the committee. Krueger gave an example of a new resolution process. Motion by Frank, Luck to amend the draft policy language. All Ayes. Discussion. Motion by Scholl, Haase to approve draft Policy as amended: All Ayes.

**9:25 am Strategic Planning Subcommittee – Krueger**

Krueger requested volunteers for a sub-committee to think thru what the strategic planning process will consist of, and examine potential facilitators. Sub-Committee will meet online 3-4 times before Fall 2023. Volunteers = Frank, Piaget, Luck, Castello (maybe). Discussion.

**9:36 am Break (and Board of Directors Photo)**

- 9:49 am**      **Review of 2022 Q4 Financials – Treasurer Amy Piaget, Krueger**
- Budget vs Actual Summary Report – Piaget reviewed highlights of 2022, many lines were underspent. Net income line factors in climate resiliency work and this line will be spent down as 2023 progresses. Discussion.
  - Motion by Cummings, Scholl to approve budget as presented. All Ayes.
- 10:02 am**      **Executive Director’s Report – Krueger**  
 Krueger reported on the following:
- Conference highlights – This is the first in-person conference in 3 years. Over 475+ participants! Sponsorship 34 sponsors \$14,400; at annual business meeting, a vote will be taken on new committee resolution process. Conservation alumni will be coming to visit us during the conference!
  - Financial/grants assistance is needed for the staff. A Grants Manager position has been approved. Has not been posted yet.
  - Legislative/policy updates – Asking \$18M for Conservation staff and programs. Also meeting with Ag Coalition (who are supportive of County staff), the Governor’s budget exceeded the DATCP ask. Wait to see what Legislators do with the Governor’s proposed budget. Farmland Preservation Bill policy changes and financial sections have been separated. Chapter 92 FSA language will be presented at the annual meeting on Friday.
- 10:41 am**      **Highlights from National Assn. of Conservation Districts Annual Conference – Osterman, Micheel** – There were 6 WI attendees, opportunity to network with other states, WI is lucky to function as LCC and LCD, Climate change topics were big discussion item. NACD has given over \$50M over the states in recent years. DC fly-in occurring to help educate Legislators. NACD by-laws changed to include WI as eligible voters. Numerous states have commented that WI is a leader in conservation. Executive Directors have formed their own group—the Association of Conservation Executive Directors—which will be a valuable resource for Matt (and other EDs).
- 10:21 am**      **Advisor Reports** – Chris Clayton, DNR – pass-through funds come in thru Office of Great Waters helps pad funding for GLRI grant funds, reaching out to counties to fund projects (\$2M). Four projects likely to be funded. Karl Gesch, DNR non-point source coordinator, can answer questions you may have regarding the funds. \$4.2 mil over 4 years from EPA – for 9KE development and implementation, funds available for internal data admin.
- 10:55 am**      **Announcements**
- 11:00 am**      **Adjourn**