



Wisconsin Land+Water Conservation Association

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Technical Committee

Meeting Notes

Date: Aug 13, 2019	
Start Time: 9:30 A.M.	End Time: 2:00 P.M.
Location:	Portage County Annex Building, <u>Conference Room #2</u> 1462 Strongs Avenue Stevens Point, WI 54481 715-346-1334 (<i>Chairperson: Matt Hanewall</i>)
Conference Phone:	515-604-9537 (long distance rates may apply)
Conf ID:	567881
<p>Committee Members: Paul Sebo, Washington Co.; Matt Albright, Vernon Co.; Ben Dufford, Bayfield Co.; Shawn Esser, Dane Co.; Paul Fredrich, Kewaunee Co.; Brian Goepfert, Juneau Co.; Mike Haase, Winnebago Co.; Matt Hanewall, La Crosse Co. (Chair); Paul Klose, Marinette Co.; Bob Micheel, Monroe Co.; Dan O’Connell, Portage Co. Erik Heagle, Grant Co.</p> <p><u>Non-Voting Advisors:</u> Matthew Woodrow – DATCP, Mike Gilbertson - DNR</p> <p>WI Land+Water Staff: Kate Brunner, SOC Program Manager</p>	<p>In Attendance: Sebo (phone), Albright, Dufford, Haase, Hanewall, Klose, O’Connell, Heagle, Woodrow, Gilbertson, Brunner</p> <p>Absent Committee Members: Esser, Fredrich, Goepfert, Micheel</p> <p>Guests: Adam Groshek (Wood Co.), Christina Anderson (WLW), Ken Pozorski (Marathon Co.), Drew Zelle (DATCP)</p>
<p>Notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WI Land+Water meetings are open meetings. Individuals may observe in person or via conference phone if desired. • Order and time allowed for agenda items may be changed due to pace of meeting or at the discretion of the committee chair. 	
<p>Next Meeting Date: Dec 12, 2019</p>	

ALL AGENDA ITEMS ARE ACTIONABLE.

- **Call to order:**
 - **Roll Call - Adopt agenda**
 - Agenda adopted by consensus
 - **Approve previous meeting minutes**
 - Minutes were received by committee yesterday so not yet reviewed by all.
 - No issues raised; though get in touch with Goepfert or Hanewall with edits.
- **Vote on Addition of New Committee Member: Adam Groshek, Wood County (All)**
 - Groshek is a UW Platteville grad with 2 years experience in private sector before joining Wood County as a technician 4 years ago.
 - Groshek attended June 7 meeting and today; he’d like to join Tech Committee.
 - Motioned approved unanimously to add Groshek to the Technical Committee.
 - Brunner will update website and email list.
- **WLW News (Brunner)**
 - Water Quality Task Force – counties have been invited to speak at all of them. WLW has been helping them prep background information and Krueger has a call with

remaining counties tomorrow afternoon. If anyone plans on attending and would like support, get in touch with Krueger if you'd like to join this call.

Funding is expected to come from this task force, though this is not certain since it would have to go up through legislature.

- Joint Allocation funding plan released for 2020 and that showed increases for WLW.
- Overall, increased funding expected for county staff, nutrient management and farmer-led programs.
- County Con meeting survey – we are looking for input from both those who attend and those who have not. Survey closes tomorrow.

➤ **SOC Update (Brunner)**

- DNR Proprietary Filtration Devices – still on target to have this in initial review this fall and broad, public review late 2019 or early 2020.
- DNR Horizontal Directional Drilling – team is being built right now with application period open one more week. Brunner reached out to Lindquist and Olson for input from WLW county membership. We don't expect any counties represented on this team—HDD permitting doesn't go through counties. Counties could help in distributing the team application announcement, especially to utilities, contractors and engineers.
- DNR Dewatering – the Team Leader left DNR so they were set back. May go for another initial review step before broad public review.
- NRCS – it's been over a year since they've had any standards due to staff changes and software/data management changes at NRCS. They expect any day the data management system will be complete and then many standard updates will be coming, including 590 Nutrient Management, 580 Steambank and Shoreline, and 634 Waste Transfer.

➤ **Update on the DATCP Verification of Land Features Standard (Brunner and Woodrow)**

- Making progress, it's been slower with a brand new standard for a new custodian.
- Team took time to ID the different methods of both intrusive and nonintrusive – identifying methods and those capabilities and accuracy and frequency of the sample.
- Team has reviewed other little issues like abandonment, depth to water table, closed depressions.
- Next meeting we'll hear from Manitowoc County on Lidar and its use in identifying closed depressions. Committee members believe that all and at least most counties in the Silurian dolomite area have Lidar.
- Governor's announcement about nitrate being added to water quality evaluations.
 - Nitrate expected to be approached differently and there is no plan to roll in nitrate to NR151 related to this DATCP standard. The scope looks a lot like the targeted performance standards (TPS) but DNR doesn't have a specific response plan. It's too early to know how nitrate will be incorporated into the rule.
 - Rep. Kitchens has a nitrate workgroup but it wasn't created related to Evers' latest announcement.
 - The next NR151 TPS could also be expanded to other parts of the state (e.g. to add carbonate bedrock and/or sands).
 - DNR may wait until SWIGG study is complete so more data is in hand. Their study has about one more year, and the current press has been limited results. DSPS may get involved on drainage and septic issues.

➤ **NRCS State Technical Subcommittee Update (Hanewall)**

- NRCS forestry subcommittee – Al Murray left county con position for Vilas Co. Forestry. He will continue to serve on NRCS Forestry subcommittee.
- NRCS wildlife subcommittee – Hanewall sat in for Keenan at last meeting – they discussed soil health, grazing, establishment of pollinator habitat using NRCS 645, CNMP changes, and EQIP funding. EQIP continues to funnel more dollars to large ticket items (70% now going to farmstead practices)
- Emergency watershed easement program discussed at both wildlife subcommittee and state tech committee – Albright mentioned that at State Tech Committee meeting

NRCS announced that this money is used for cropland flooded 3 of last 10 years. Cropland would be taken out of production but still seeded. It's a substantial amount of money and it will be accessible soon.

- Source water protection subcommittee (NEW) – Anderson from WLW chairs this subcommittee. Group will identify priority watersheds with higher nitrate in public water, they will have up to 95% cost share for specific practices (yet to be determined).
- Soil health – Hanewall will check on our reps and get an update.
- **Guiding Principles Document (Hanewall)**
 - Matt Krueger provides background – The idea is to make the 7 committees have consistent guiding principles. It is useful for the WLW Exec Committee and in onboarding new staff and new committee members.
 - Hanewall had emailed draft document to the committee for comment.
 - Changes since that version were received:
 - There is currently no NRCS advisor though there had been in the past. Angela Biggs appointed Eric Hurley to be an advisor to this WLW Technical Committee. He won't attend all meetings but will be available to consult as issues come up.
 - Do other committees have something specific about geographic diversity? Matt Krueger will check other committee's guiding principles for consistency.
 - Mission statement change to add in technical assistance.
 - Major function change: "Support SOC through review of tech standards...."
 - DATCP engineer title
 - Role of WLW Staff is included under the advisor section. How the committee makes decisions is already covered under the broader WLW bylaws.
 - Advisors don't vote so Robert's Rule of Order don't apply to them specifically.
 - Next steps: Heagle motioned to approve the guiding principles with the edits discussed, O'Connell 2nd
 - These are expected to be finalized and approved at Dec. Exec Committee meeting.
- **Finalization of 2019 Fall Technical Tour (Albright)**
 - Thursday Oct. 3
 - Tour will include grazing goats for invasives, Jersey Valley dam (PL566 blowout), rebuilding streambank downstream from blowout
 - Brunner confirms this year we have \$900 budget (\$700 allocated for tour, \$200 from Tech Committee funds). The remainder of the expenses are covered by fees collected at registration, which has been \$10-\$20. Cost depends on price of bus and food.
 - Vernon Co is also tying this in with a separate event on Oct. 4
- **Update on the Significant Discharge Guidance Document Rewrite (Gilbertson)**
 - Process wastewater is being pulled out; there is already enough info in the code on process wastewater. Runoff from feedlots will remain.
 - The revised document should be ready by Dec. Tech Committee meeting
- **SITCOM Update (O'Connell)**
 - They just met and made some plans for future training.
 - Trainings have fallen behind with other workloads due to wet year.
 - Training ideas for conference were provided.
- **2020 Annual Conference Breakout Session Discussion (All)**
 - Each committee member offered suggestions on topics for the annual conference. Committee agreed that a full-day technical roundtable would be beneficial.
 - The committee then narrowed down a shorter list of the top ideas.
 - The topics, prioritizing and potential speakers were all recorded in a separate working spreadsheet to be shared with PIC and WLW staff for conference planning.
- **Adjourn Technical Portion of the Meeting**
- **Merge with PIC (11:00 AM): Further discuss 2020 breakout sessions and conference planning (All)**
 - Krueger reviews the priority topics of PIC.
 - Brunner reviews the top priority topics by the Tech Committee.

- Shlutt will use the lists of topics and contacts to start coordination for the conference.
- Joint PIC-Tech Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 pm.