



Wisconsin Land+Water Conservation Association

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Technical Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: June 9, 2020	
Start Time: 9:35 A.M.	End Time: 11:16 A.M.
Location:	Zoom Videoconference Meeting Only
Conference Phone:	Connect on your laptop, tablet or smartphone (WiFi required) at: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81454396375?pwd=bnVicjV4K05sRTRPYWhnanV1UWVpdz09 Or, Dial in by phone: 312 626-6799
Conf ID:	Meeting ID: 814 5439 6375 Password: 534487
Committee Members: Ken Pozorski, Marathon Co.; Matt Albright, Vernon Co.; Ben Dufford, Bayfield Co.; Shawn Esser, Dane Co. (Vice Chair); Paul Fredrich, Kewaunee Co.; Brian Goepfert, Juneau Co.; Mike Haase, Winnebago Co.; Matt Hanewall, La Crosse Co. (Chair); Paul Klose, Marinette Co.; Dan O’Connell, Portage Co.; Erik Heagle, Grant Co. (Secretary); Adam Groshek, Wood Co. <u>Non-Voting Advisors:</u> Matthew Woodrow – DATCP, Mike Gilbertson – DNR, Eric Hurley - NRCS	In Attendance: Pozorski, Albright, Esser, Goepfert, Haase, Hanewall, Klose, O’Connell, Heagle, Groshek, Woodrow, Hurley, Brunner, Jodi Schappe-Adams Co, Tina Barone-Dunn Co, Anne McComas-Iron Co Absent Committee Members: Dufford, Fredrich
WI Land+Water Staff: Kate Brunner, SOC Coordinator.	
Notes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WI Land+Water meetings are open meetings. Individuals may connect by way of videoconference or dial in by phone. • Order and time allowed for agenda items may be changed due to pace of meeting or at the discretion of the committee chair. 	
Next Meeting Date: August 12, 2020 (Joint Meeting with PIC)	

ALL AGENDA ITEMS ARE ACTIONABLE.

- **Call to order:** 9:35 a.m.
 - **Roll Call - Adopt agenda-** Motion made by Albright, 2nd by Heagle. Agenda adopted by consensus
 - **Approve December 2019 minutes and previous meeting minutes-** December minutes approval motion by Esser, 2nd by Albright. Passed unanimously. April minutes approval motion by Esser, 2nd by Groshek. Passed unanimously.

- **WI Land + Water News (Brunner)** All staff are still currently working from home. The County Con meeting is still scheduled for July 9th & 10th virtually. There still will be a fee but will be significantly less. Concurrent sessions will be held like the March WLWCA Conference. New conservation employee meeting will be held online in mid-July. No recording of the presentation will be available at this time. Conservation Observance Day is canceled. WLWCA staff are figuring out different ways to recognize the winner. Additional licenses were purchased through Go To Meeting hopefully making video conferencing more accessible. Next committee meeting, jointly with PIC, is likely to be virtual.

- **SOC Update (Brunner)** Proprietary stormwater filtration will be published sometime this summer. The DNR permit approval process will be different with this standard than others. Horizontal directional drilling is still in the works. More of an urban standard but does have some wetland implications. This standard has about a 2-year time frame. Permeable pavement

has a team reviewing information to see if updates are warranted. Constant research is being done by USGS with support from others.

- **Status of the Revision to the Stream Restoration Standards (Brunner)** The 4 current standards are being looked at together by the team. Currently 580 (Streambank and Shoreline Stabilization) is the only cost shareable practice through DATCP funding, all can be funded through NRCS EQIP funding. The group is trying to bring more specifics to each standard. It's too soon to know any changes but, the hopes are to have them out for review by the end of the year. Will take another year to publish after that. More will be known at their next meeting.
- **Update on the Verification of Depth to Bedrock Standard (Brunner and Woodrow)** Still open through June 22nd for public comments. So far lots of comments have been made along with some significant changes. The information can be found on the SOC website. DATCP has created a document to clarify which categories and topics are addressed under the standard versus program implementation decisions to be determined by DATCP or DNR through rulemaking. More comments are encouraged. Also, DNR nitrate vulnerability areas are not included in this standard. A separate subcommittee is looking into whether the composting facility standard could be updated with research/changes related to pathogen reduction.
- **EFH-4 Exhibit A Update and Implications for 313 (Woodrow)** This addition to chapter 4 of the Engineering Field Handbook deals with geologic subsurface investigations for waste storage facilities (313). Additional investigations are needed for “tanks” (Piping Structures, vertical walls, slurry stores, etc.) that hold more than 50,000 gallons, exceeds a footprint of over 800 square feet, or more than 50% of the tank height is above ground. Four separate case scenarios are added depending on soil types (see attached document). The additional testing stems from concerns with settling and cracking of structures. Work with your area engineering staff if any of these scenarios arise. Torvane apparatus and pocket penetrometers will be available to DATCP and NRCS area engineering staff to assist in testing soil shear stress.
- **Update on the Significant Discharge Guidance Document Rewrite (Gilbertson)**
Discussion put on hold until the December meeting.
- **SITCOM Update (O’Connell)** The statewide training survey deadline was June 12th. The last April/May meeting consisted of reprioritizing the committee’s mission and roles within. SITCOM is currently working on getting trainings up to speed, announcements, who leads and develops trainings, and organization. The goal is to “maintain our level of expertise”.
- **2020 Fall Technical Tour Preliminary Agenda (Dufford)** Hanewall will check in with Dufford to see if anything is new. The 2020 tour is currently up in the air due to Covid-19, with the odds not looking great on happening this year. The plan currently is to model the tour off the 2018 State Engineering Tour.
- **Status of the Coon Creek Watershed (Hanewall)** The Coon Creek Watershed was the nation’s first established watershed in 1933. The watershed encompasses parts of LaCrosse, Vernon, and Monroe counties. 14 PL566 dams are above Coon Valley. In August of 2018, 8 dams had overtopped and 3 breached due to heavy rains. All dams that breached are in Monroe County. The 3 counties, along with NRCS, have teamed up to update their emergency action plans and put together a plan for stabilizing the breached structures. They were awarded an NRCS Re-planning Grant of 1.6 million dollars. The grant money is being used for watershed re-planning and hydraulic modelling with and without structures in place. Once the plan has been approved by the sponsor counties and NRCS, a second, larger project implementation grant will be applied for.

UW Madison has also proposed a project to the group. The proposal includes utilizing graduate students focusing on land use changes in the watershed and on how municipalities can help better manage floods.

- **Recruitment of Technical Committee Member from the SE or WC Region (Hanewall)**
Discussions have been made with folks from the south east and west central areas. Nobody in the south east yet and waiting to hear back from the west central area. It's a goal of the committee to have representation from all areas but not a requirement.
- **Tips and Tricks for COVID-19 Workplace Effectiveness (All)** Since the start of the pandemic, many changes have occurred throughout offices in the state. All have had restrictions (ppe usage, no customer contacts, etc.), some have been constantly open, some have been teleworking, and some are just starting to open back up. The USDA is following White House guidelines for re-opening (the data, not statements or twitter). The State is opening in Phase 1 right now but there have been some inconsistencies between state and federal guidelines. Challenges have been technology usage and getting new hires on board/acclimated. Some tips, tricks, and happenings with dealing with COVID-19 are as follows:
 - Lots of changes have been happening quickly helping people look at things differently.
 - Learning and embracing new technology.
 - Becoming more efficient and creative.
 - More critical thinking.
 - Looking at and deciphering more data.
 - Embracing leadership and bringing more people together.
 - Learning new skills and committing to continue learning.
 - "Be patient, be kind".
- **2021 Annual Conference Breakout Ideas (All)** Chris sent out an email with the list of comments from the 2020 WLWC conference in Green Bay. Be prepared to come to the next meeting with ideas for next year's conference. The statewide survey results will be done by the next scheduled meeting. All ideas are welcome, tech roundtable (hot topics relevant for the time), LCC, interest topics, etc.
- **Adjourn** Motion to adjourn by O'Connell, second by Goepfert. Meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m. central.