



## Wisconsin Land+Water Conservation Association

131 W. Wilson St. Suite #601 · Madison, Wisconsin 53703  
 (608) 441-2677 · Fax: (608) 441-2676 · [www.wisconsinlandwater.org](http://www.wisconsinlandwater.org)

# Technical Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Date: December 17, 2020	
Start Time: 9:05 A.M.	End Time: 11:37 A.M.
<b>Location:</b>	Zoom Meeting Only
<b>Conference Phone:</b>	If you'd like to attend this meeting, please contact the committee chair or WI Land+Water committee representative ( <a href="mailto:kate@wisconsinlandwater.org">kate@wisconsinlandwater.org</a> ) for the link to access the meeting
<b>Conf ID:</b>	Meeting ID: Upon Request      Password: Upon Request
<p><b>Committee Members:</b> 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.</p> <p><u>Non-Voting Advisors:</u> Matthew Woodrow – DATCP, Mike Gilbertson – DNR, Eric Hurley (absent from meeting) – NRCS</p>	<p><b>In Attendance:</b> Pozorski, Albright, Esser, Fredrich, Haase, Hanewall, Heagle, O'Connell, Groshek, Brunner, Woodrow, Gilbertson, Brock Tokach-La Crosse Co., Brady Stodola-Oconto Co., Karsten Peterson-Polk Co., Tonya Gratz-Green Co., Sherry Denowski- Clark Co., Tina Barone-Dunn Co.</p>
<p><b>WI Land+Water Staff:</b> Kate Brunner, SOC Coordinator.</p>	<p><b>Absent Committee Members:</b> Dufford, Goepfert, Klose</p>
<p><b>Notes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WI Land+Water meetings are open meetings. Individuals may connect by way of videoconference or dial in by phone.</li> <li>• Order and time allowed for agenda items may be changed due to pace of meeting or at the discretion of the committee chair.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Next Meeting Date:</b> 3/26/2021</p>	

### ALL AGENDA ITEMS ARE ACTIONABLE.

- **Call to order:**
  - **Roll Call - adopt agenda** – Motion to adopt, 1<sup>st</sup>-Heagle, 2<sup>nd</sup>- Albright. Agenda adopted
  - **Approve previous meeting minutes** – Motion to approve, 1<sup>st</sup>-Esser, 2<sup>nd</sup>-Heagle. Previous minutes approved.
  
- **Vote on Addition of New Technical Committee Member: Tina Barone, Dunn Co (All)-** Tina introduced herself at the August committee meeting. A motion was made to vote on adding Tina to the committee, 1<sup>st</sup> by O'Connell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Esser. Vote was unanimous to add Tina to the committee. Welcome Tina!
  
- **WI Land + Water News (Brunner)-** The 2021 WLWCA Conference registration is now open. Everything this year will look different due to the virtual format. Conservation awards are also open. Past years have been light on nominations so if you know of someone, nominate them today. An online platform has been found for the silent auction. Smaller items are recommended (gift cards, etc.) due to shipping concerns.

Elliot Meyer has gone back to grad school. Thanks, and good luck! A new communications director is planned to be hired in the new year to replace him.

- **SOC Update (Brunner)**- Health issues on other committees have slowed down some updates. SOC is currently working on filling a new chair spot due to the upcoming retirement of Perry Lindquist. Amy Piaget from Dane Co. has joined the SOC committee.

Minor work is still being done with the DNR permeable pavement standard. The standard is on the verge of being modified which would then go out for public comment however, the modifications may not require a comment period.

- **Status of the Revision to the Stream Restoration Standards (Brunner)**- Currently in the middle of working on the standards. Hoping to have a public comment period in early spring. Hoping for changes to be active in 2022. Changes will have 2 public comment periods and an NRCS review. Until the new revisions are active, follow the current standards for DATCP funded projects.
- **Update on the Verification of Depth to Bedrock Standard (Woodrow)**- The update is close to being released. Hoping to roll out in late January/February with targeted trainings after February. Rounds of meeting were done with counties to gather additional information. Counties were asked if implementing the new standard voluntarily or if they are waiting till the standards release. A standardized form is being worked on and DATCP is working with the SnapPlus team on what data would need to be collected.
- **Review of the Revised Direct Runoff from Feedlots Guidance Document (Gilbertson)**- Originally, interpretation assistance was needed for the question “what does a significant discharge mean?”. When finished in 2016, feedlots and processed wastewater were included in the guidance document. The big worry was writing legislation through guidance. Feedback at the time stated that the guidance didn’t go far enough. Since then a new program attorney has joined the DNR. He has since suggested removing the processed wastewater portion and adding more info to streamline the document utilizing information and findings from the court case of the County of Maui vs Hawaii Wildlife Fund.

Keep in mind, everything is site specific and use your best professional judgement when making your determination. This should be used as a support document to NR 151 rules.

New questions posed to the committee are “How do we finish this document and set up the process” and “What do/would you see on the site”. Numerous questions still arose from the committee.

“Why focus on surface water and not groundwater?”, answer- the document applies to all waters of the state including groundwater. “Is a water sample needed to determine non-compliance?”, answer-no

Other questions and statements from the committee were:

- Are all waters on the same playing field when it comes to pollution?
- Re-add the processed wastewater portion back into the document.
- What to look for on a site, necessary documentation, what communication to have, what are the enforcement options?
- How do we create uniformity between counties? (This was the original intent of the guidance document)
- Could site visit “tips” be added?
- If processed wastewater is taken out, what happens then if processed wastewater is an issue on site?

- We may need to have separate documents for process wastewater and feedlots if process wastewater is removed.
- The initial reason for this guidance was because there were questions regarding determining whether a discharge of process wastewater was significant even with the guidance from NR 151.055(3) Wis. Admin. Code.
- Are counties or the DNR potentially liable if they fail to address processed wastewater and a water quality problem later arises as a result?

Adding the processed wastewater portion back to the document seems to be a consensus decision by the committee. The challenge for the DNR becomes how do they do that without “legislating through guidance”? Mike intends to revisit this topic with the DNR attorneys. Any additional comments, questions, or concerns can be submitted to Mike Gilbertson.

- **SITCOM (AITCOM) Update (O’Connell)**- 2021 training development is in the process of moving forward. SITCOM (statewide training committee) is currently in a reorganizing phase. Looking at adding new members to total +/- 17 committee members. SITCOM decided on adding 2 DNR reps to the committee. 1 more member needed from DNR. Someone from the waterway/wetland sector was a suggested addition.

Due to the diversity of training needs across the state, part of the reorganization will be to bring back the AITCOM’s. Each AITCOM will work with, and have, a member on the larger SITCOM. The 5 DATCP areas will be used for this. As always, good training announcements will continue to come from WLWCA on behalf of SITCOM.

- **2021 WI Land and Water Conference Roundtable and GIS Ideas (All)**- Still looking for 1-2 additional presenters to show off county soil and water conservation projects. Send ideas to Drew Zelle, or Kate or Chris from WLWCA. Looking to highlight innovative ways to control cropland erosion. Possible presentations from Dane, Dunn, or Marathon counties (continuous cover and harvest buffer programs, low impact manure injection, 6’ row cropping with cover crops, etc.)? Tony Reali (Calumet Co) and the PIC committee settled on the mobile GIS app session, Survey 123 & Mobile Collector. Presentations will be done by Winnebago & Outagamie counties.
- **NRCS State Technical Subcommittee Updates (Engineering, Soil Health, Forestry and Wildlife) (Albright, Hanewall)**- **Engineering**- EQIP dates were announced, reviewed RCPP/Driftless funding for streams. Minnesota RCPP has sent over +/-2.5 million dollars to Wisconsin to utilize on projects. Minnesota is finding out that its costing up to \$50,000 per project for engineering costs.

**Forestry & Soil Health**- Nothing to report from forestry and have not heard back from soil health.

**Wildlife**- Melissa Schlupp (Sauk County) reported that the committee has met once, focusing on identifying conservation priority areas (CPA’s) for the next CRP signup. FSA has been asked to provide maps for the areas, received nothing yet. Trying to incorporate multiple areas in CPA’s.

- **Revitalization of the AutoCAD Users Group (Hanewall)**- Stephanie Schultz (NRCS) has reached out to counties about trainings and creating a mailing list for people that are using AutoCAD. Training is being planned for January and continuing into spring. One topic per training will be the current focus. Technicians will help prioritize these training topics. Numerous trainings will go on with a time of about an hour a piece.
- **2021 Meeting Dates (Hanewall)**- The 4 meeting dates are either set or tentatively set: 3/26, 6/4, 8/13 (Tentative, combining with PIC committee), 12/16 (Tentative, depending on County Con meeting)

- **Thank You Adam Groshek! (Hanewall)**- Adam will be leaving the committee as he has taken a job as an engineer with a private drinking water firm. Will be working with municipalities and private wells throughout the state. Best of luck Adam!
- Additionally, Mike Gilbertson added that the DNR is looking for additional feedback on the BITS system. So far, not much positive feedback has been submitted. DNR is aware of the bugs currently. They are looking for more info on its use with MDV, TRM (currently a TRM model is available for testing), etc. Send all feedback to Mike Gilbertson.
- **Adjourn**- Motion to adjourn 1<sup>st</sup>-Heagle, 2<sup>nd</sup>- Fredrich. Adjourn at 11:37 A.M.