



Wisconsin Land+Water Conservation Association

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Legislative/Administrative Committee

Minutes of the March 23, 2021 Meeting

Meeting called to order by Calkins at 10:00 am.

▪ Roll Call

Committee Members: Kurt Calkins Chair (Columbia), Greg Baneck (Outagamie), Paul Daigle (Marathon), Wes Davis (Rock), Scott Frank (Shawano), Erin Hanson Vice Chair/Secretary (Door), Melissa Luck (Richland), Dan Masterpole (Chippewa), Amy Piaget (Dane), Russ Rindsig (Barron), Melissa Schlupp (Sauk), Lynda Schweikert (Grant)

WI Land + Water Staff: Christina Anderson, Matt Krueger

Agencies: Jennifer Heaton (DATCP)

Other Attendees: Kattie Abbot (Iowa), Chad Casper (Winnebago)

▪ Adopt Agenda/Additions (03/23/2021)

MOTION (Davis, Piaget) to approve the agenda. Motion carried, no negative vote.

▪ Discuss Targeted NR 151 Nitrate Standard Information Provide Initial Review/Feedback

DISCUSSION: Anderson provided background information about the current public comment period for the Environmental Impact Analysis (EIA). Anderson noted that the Legislature's Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules (JCRAR) may request additional review of the rule if the proposed economic impact is more than \$10 Million, or at any time during the rulemaking process. WDNR is accepting comments until April 10, 2021. WI Land + Water staff are asking for committee feedback so that they can be prepared for questions that may arise.

Committee comments included:

- Potential to leverage the rule implementation discussion in support of the WI Land + Water budget initiative to increase county conservation staffing grant.
- EIA starts with a flawed assumption that all farms have a nutrient management plan, which conflicts with the NMP subcommittee discussions about necessary changes to increase plan coverage in WI.
- EIA does not adequately recognize costs to producers, or the costs for implementation at the state and local levels.
- Need to recognize that groundwater quality is a significant problem and there is science to support that fact. There is a need for additional groundwater protections in the state.
- Concerns about areas to which standards apply, how to communicate those, and how to effectively implement standards when they are not uniform on any given field.

- WI Land + Water should highlight broad points related to recognizing the water quality problem and the importance of addressing it, while also showing concern for true cost and ability to implement the new rules.
- Beyond this – should continue to think broadly about available funding and big picture solutions.
- **Adjourn**
MOTION (Daigle, Piaget) to adjourn at 11:00 am.