

SOUTHERN AREA ASSOCIATION
Wisconsin Land + Water Conservation Association

Southern Area Counties:

Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Richland, Rock & Sauk

President: Lisa Derr, Dodge County

Vice President: Kurt Calkins, Columbia County

Secretary/Treasurer: Becky Justmann, Dodge County

Area Coordinator: John Bohonek, Dodge County

March SAA Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 4, 2020
Riverview Room 2
KI Center, Green Bay

1. Introductions & Business

- Meeting was called to order at 4:25 p.m. by Lisa Derr.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Roll Call of Counties – Columbia 4 staff 0 LCC, Dane 1 staff 0 LCC, Dodge 1 staff 3 LCC, Grant 3 staff 1 LCC, Iowa 1 staff 0 LCC, Lafayette 1 staff 0 LCC, Richland 1 staff, 1 LCC, Rock 1 staff 0 LCC and Sauk 1 staff 0 LCC.

Absent: Green and Jefferson Counties

- No corrections or additions to the Agenda.
- Approval of Agenda – Motion by Lafayette/2nd by Grant. Motion Carried.
- Approval of October 24, 2019 Minutes – Motion by Dane/2nd by Rock. Motion Carried.
- Treasurer’s Report – Motion by Lafayette/2nd by Grant. Motion Carried.

2. Discuss Resolutions

- Resolution #1 - Request to Require a 590 Nutrient Management Plan or Phosphorus-Based Recommendations for All Land Applications of Domestic Sewage Sludge and Industrial Waste-Products

SAA discussed the need to start filling in gaps to allow real-time information. To fill that need, Southern Area will suggest an amendment at the annual meeting. The amendment will state that because it is generally accepted that geospatial information of permitted land applications is not readily available for planning purposes, we request the state formulate a process to assemble that geospatial information for use in nutrient management planning.

- Resolution #2 – Request to Require, and Allow the Enforcement of, an Annual 590 Nutrient Management Plan on “Existing” Cropland and Pastures Without the Requirement of a Cost Share Offer to the Landowner.

It was discussed that this may not have the desired effect to increase NM plans given current enforcement and reaction of landowners. Kurt shared that at the

earlier Board Meeting, it was determined to request that this resolution be sent back for further review.

- Resolution #3 – Support for Senate Bill 723, Increased Funding for Local Conservation Efforts

SAA agrees to join the final push for 723 given the companion bill unanimously passed the Assembly and this legislative session will end in about two weeks. Discussed members coordinating with producers to directly contact their senator regarding SB 723 discussing the good work that our county cons have done. There will also be a weekly social media campaign.

3. Legislative Updates by Kurt Calkins addressed with SB 723. As an aside, Kurt noted that the National Association of Conservation Districts only allows supervisors to vote. But Land + Water by-laws allow either LCC or staff to vote. So, a waiver was implemented that allowed staff to vote in NACD elections.
4. New Format for LCC trainings – To promote more LCC's engaging in training, will consider working with Wis. Counties Association where many locations for meetings are similar to Land + Water. Still tentative as after elections, LCC's may not yet be assigned to committees.
5. County Roundtable was waived.
6. Motion to adjourn by Lafayette seconded by Dane. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Meetings:

Next meeting will be May 28, 2020.

SAA Tour by Lafayette County tentatively August 13, 2020.