



NORTH CENTRAL AREA

Land and Water Conservation Association

Florence, Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Vilas and Wood

Meeting Date: 08-20-2021

Meeting Location: Mead Wildlife Area, Marathon County; hosted by Wood County

In attendance: Steve Kircher- Forest County, Carolyn Scholl, Vilas County, Michele Sadauskas, Oneida County, Kelly Sleeter, Florence County, Kayla Littleton Forest County, Paul Daigle, Marathon County, Jared Mader, Marathon County, Brooke Bembeneck, Marathon County, Shawn O'Connell, Vilas County, Robert Ashbeck, Wood County, Shane Wucherpennig, Wood County, Rodney Mayer, Wood County, Caleb Armstrong, Wood County, Klayton Kree, Wood County, Lori Ruess, Wood County.

Counties present: Forest, Florence, Marathon, Oneida, Vilas, and Wood

Counties not present: Lincoln, Langlade and Portage

1. Call meeting to order 11:49 am.
2. Introductions of those in attendance
3. Secretary's Report- No report.
 - a. Minutes from May 4, 2021 were distributed via email.
4. Treasurer's Report – No report.
 - a. Election of New Treasurer – Kirk Langfoss, Marathon County volunteered to take the Treasurer's position prior to this meeting. Steve thanked Carolyn Scholl for all her years of service.
5. President Report – No Report.
6. Youth Education Update – Steve emailed and read the Youth Education Report that was submitted to him.
 - a. Poster & Speaking Contest
 - i. As of August 13, 2021 the 2022 them has not been announced.
 - ii. The Poster and Speaking Subcommittee met on August 11. Both contest are going forward; anticipate in person contests for both contests. Back-up plan is virtual contests if conference is virtual.
 - iii. Counties and Area Associations have the options to hold either in person or virtual.
 - iv. For Speaking Contests, students have the option to send a video or perform in person.
 - v. Guidelines and entry forms will be released as soon as the poster theme is announced.
 - vi. Area winner's information must be submitted to Kim at WI Land + Water by February 11, 2022.
 - b. WI Envirothon
 - i. Slinger FFA represented WI at the virtual NCF-Envirothon July 25-28 and placed 5th in the oral presentation.
 - ii. The Envirothon subcommittee will meet the end of September.

- c. Conservation Camps
 - i. Both camps cancelled in 2021 due to COVID-19.
 - ii. Marinette County will no longer be hosting Sand Lake Conservation Camp for middle school students at Camp Bird. Looking for alternate location and an organizer.
 - iii. High school camp will be held in 2022 if circumstances allow.
- d. Silent Auction
 - i. Thank you to all who donated auction items. It's time to start thinking about items for 2022.
 - ii. A hybrid auction is being considered, allowing on-line bidding for member not attending the conference; should an in-person conference take place in 2022.
- 7. New Wisconsin Land + Water Website – Wisconsin Land + Water Conservation Association has a new website. Check it out for on-demand resources that provide county conservation members the information they need to succeed.
- 8. County updates
 - a. Forest
 - i. Steve Kircher – Forest Co gave a very brief update.
 - b. Florence
 - i. Kelly Sleeter - Florence Co stated he is new to the position and learning. His goal is to give the conservation program some “teeth” and he is focusing on creating enforcement of violations.
 - c. Langlade
 - d. Lincoln
 - e. Marathon
 - i. Paul Daigle – Marathon Co gave a brief update on what is taking place in Marathon Co. He introduced his two new staff members, Jared Mader, Water Resource Technician and Brooke Bembeneck, Conservation Specialist.
 - ii. Using MDV funds to provide incentive payments to farmers to lower phosphorus farm wide in a Pilot HUC 12 watershed.
 - iii. Received notification from State legislatures that a bill is being drafted to fund a top priority conservation goal, reduction of agriculture phosphorus run-off in the Fenwood Creek. New funding would come out of the general fund. Excited to see if this will move forward.
 - f. Oneida-
 - i. Michele Sadauskas – Oneida Co gave a brief report on what is going on in Oneida County. Land & Water Conservation merged with Zoning Department. Busy working on violations with Zoning.
 - g. Portage
 - h. Vilas
 - i. Carolyn Scholl-Vilas Co shared she wrote a grant last year for Rice Creek protection project.
 - ii. Introduced her new employee, Shawn O’Connell, project Coordinator. The plan is for Shawn and volunteers to do a watershed wide assessment in the spring of 2022.
 - iii. LTE resigned as going into Marine Biology. The LTE helped with AIS and lake monitoring.
 - iv. Looking forward will be doing a survey of culverts and road crossings between road and wetland areas and sizing for flood control. Putting in for another grant for next year.
 - i. Wood
 - i. Shane Wucherpfennig-Wood Co introduced his two newer employees, Caleb Armstrong, Conservation Specialist and Klayton Kree Engineering Technician.

- ii. Installation of hard practices has slowed due to COVID. Contractors are very busy and hard to get bids on projects.
- iii. Very busy second season for rental of our no-till drill and first season of our roller-crimper.
- iv. Cost-sharing cover crops and residue management acres through MDV funds and Mill Creek 9-Key element plan funding.

9. Adjourn at 12:26 pm.

a. **Motion to adjourn made by Shane Wucherpennig-Wood Co., seconded by Paul Daigle-Marathon Co.**

Next meetings:

2022 Speaking/Poster Contest & Planning Meeting-Lincoln County host (January/February)

Host			
	Planning Meeting/ Area Poster & Speaking Contest January/February	Reorganizational/ Spring Meeting May/June	Summer tour/Meeting August/September
2022	LINCOLN	ONEIDA	FLORENCE
2023	MARATHON	PORTAGE	FOREST
2024	ONEIDA	VILAS	LANGLADE
2025	PORTAGE	WOOD	LINCOLN
2026	VILAS	FLORENCE	MARATHON
2027	WOOD	FOREST	ONEIDA
2028	FLORENCE	LANGLADE	PORTAGE
2029	FOREST	LINCOLN	VILAS
2030	LANGLADE	MARATHON	WOOD
2031	REPEAT ORDER ALPHABETICAL	REPEAT ORDER	REPEAT ORDER ALPHABETICAL

Minutes taken and prepared by Lori Ruess – Wood Co for Tracy Arnold – Portage Co, NCLWCA Secretary 2021

*There were no handouts to include from the meeting. *