



# NORTH CENTRAL AREA

## Land and Water Conservation Association

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

---

Meeting Date: 9-18-2020

Meeting Location: WebEx online, hosted by Marathon Co

In attendance: Molly McKay-Langlade Co, Tracy Arnold-Portage Co, Carolyn Scholl-Vilas Co, Steve Kircher-Forest Co, Scott Goodwin-Florence, Paul Daigle-Marathon Co, Jana Suriana-Marathon Co, Amanda Kasperek-Lincoln Co, Penny Pohle-WI Land+Water, Bob Mott-Oneida Co, Gerry Zastrow-Portage Co, Tyrone Larson-NRCS, Elizabeth McCrank-Lincoln Co, Ron Nye-Langlade Co, Kurt Calkins-Columbia Co, Shane Wucherpfenning-Wood Co, Cassidy Neilitz-Forest Co, Haley Lucas-Langlade Co, Jen McNelly-Portage Co, Stephanie Boismenu, Oneida Co, Bob Thome, Oneida Co, Dan O'Connell-Portage Co

Counties present: Forest, Florence, Lincoln, Langlade, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Vilas and Wood

Counties not present: N/A

1. Call meeting to order at 9:00am
2. Pledge of Allegiance, Introductions of those in attendance
3. Approval of minutes from June 12, 2020
  - a. No corrections are needed
    - a. **Motion to approve June 12, 2020 minutes made by Steve Kircher-Forest Co, seconded by Paul Daigle-Marathon Co**
    - b. **Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.**
4. Treasurer's Report- Carolyn Scholl-Vilas Co
  - a. Carolyn Scholl-Vilas Co shared the budget on her screen and reviewed to date.
  - b. The CD made \$98.06 and has been renewed for another term.
    - a. **Motion to accept the treasurer's report presented made by Shane Wucherpfenning-Wood Co, seconded by Gerry Zastrow-Portage Co.**
    - b. **Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.**
5. Appoint/Elect North Central Area Officers
  - a. Vice chair/Coordinator
    - a. Molly McKay-Langlade Co explained what the job entails and what needs to be done. Molly McKay-Langlade Co is willing to assist from afar to help things transition.
    - b. Nomination for Steve as vice-chair/coordinator made by Carolyn Scholl-Vilas Co, seconded by Paul Daigle-Marathon Co.
    - c. No other nominations
      1. **Motion made for Steve Kircher-Forest Co to become vice-chair/coordinator made by Carolyn Scholl-Vilas Co, seconded by Paul Daigle-Marathon Co.**

## **2. Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.**

- b. Treasurer
  - a. Carolyn Scholl-Vilas Co discussed what the job entails and what needs to be done. Carolyn Scholl-Vilas Co is willing to assist to help things transition.
  - b. Cassidy Neilitz-Forest Co was appointed treasurer.
  - c. Discussion on how to switch things over, Carolyn Scholl-Vilas Co, Bob Mott-Oneida Co and Cassidy Neilitz-Forest Co will take care of that.
  - d. Carolyn Scholl-Vilas Co will help with the transition to new eligible signers, Cassidy Neilitz-Forest Co and Bob Mott-Oneida Co.
6. Strengths & Weaknesses of policy decision making processes (from Leg/Admin Com.) Kurt Calkins-Columbia Co
  - a. Leg/Admin Com and Board have been discussing the resolution process and how to create stronger resolutions. A newsletter article will be going out soon, but Leg/Admin also wanted to meet with each Area Association for discussion.
  - b. With the proposed new resolution process, resolution will be brought to the Leg/Admin Committee. This will allow the discussion to start and will also be able to be brought up through the year, rather than once a year.
  - c. Last year at the business meeting the North Central resolution was good but got sent back to the Leg/Admin Com for discussion.
  - d. This recommendation will be sent to the Exec committee.
  - e. Resolutions are to bring attention to an issue, take actions, and change something that is not working in Counties and/or Area.
  - f. Goal is to create a venue of good dialogue and get a better approach to get the right people involved in the conversation to make/create a better outcome.
  - g. Looking for a staff and supervisor from each Area on Committee so every Area is represented well. Still need a North Central supervisor to join.
  - h. North Central Area can formulate the issue at hand, send to Kurt Calkins-Columbia Co to put on the agenda and start dialogue right away and get a better well thought out resolution.
  - i. When resolutions are brought to the Board and business meeting, discussion regarding the process the resolutions went through will also be discussed.
  - j. Transparency is a big piece of this in order to develop a strong policy.
  - k. Past resolutions have no timelines; goal is to put some sort of time frame on the new resolutions so we can either revisit them or dismiss them.
  - l. Shane Wucherpfenning-Wood Co stated he was glad to see WI Land+Water taking this approach, it will help Wood County.
  - m. Bob Mott-Oneida Co discussed suggestions about "off the wall" resolutions. With the new proposed process there will be justification as to why that was the feeling.
  - n. Bob Mott-Oneida Co stated with the new proposed process concerns can be acted on quickly rather than waiting for once a year. We can also cover more Counties across the state that may have same concerns.
  - o. Kurt Calkins-Columbia Co discussed the WI Land+Water by-laws don't consider new issues due to COVID. Proposed process for bringing forward new resolutions is in the works and gaining support through committees, areas, counties through presentations.
  - p. Bob Mott-Oneida Co asked if Kurt Calkins-Columbia Co was going to all Area meeting, Kurt Calkins-Columbia Co stated yes he was. Kurt Calkins-Columbia Co stated after October 14<sup>th</sup>, there will be a clearer direction.

- q. Shane Wucherpfenning-Wood Co would like to bring to his committee up to date on this, will be a more organized effort so it's better perceived. Shane requested an educational component for committees, so they understand the new concept.
- 7. Consider any resolutions for 2021 Annual Meeting
  - a. Kurt Calkins-Columbia Co asked if North Central Area has any issues currently.
  - b. None at this time.
- 8. Youth Education Update-Tracy Arnold-Portage Co
  - a. State Poster and Speaking will be virtual.
  - b. Local and Area Poster and Speaking contests, will be up to the County and Area. The Youth Education Committee will be coming out with a "tip sheet" of how to pull these contests off this year.
- 9. County Updates
  - a. Forest - Steve Kircher-Forest Co
    - a. Working on water problems, shoreland restoration projects, high water still an issue and still looking for ways to get rid of it.
  - b. Florence - Scott Goodwin-Florence
    - a. Working on shoreland restoration projects, box culvert project, might have found Brazilian waterweed but not yet confirmed by WDNR.
  - c. Lincoln - Amanda Kasperek-Lincoln Co
    - a. Waterway project wrapping up. Matt Bremer-Lincoln Co is gone now.
  - d. Langlade - Molly McKay-Langlade Co
    - a. It's Molly's last day in Langlade Co, Chris Arrowood-Langlade Co will be main contact until her position is filled.
    - b. Water levels are still high County wide.
  - e. Marathon - Paul Daigle-Marathon Co
    - a. Presentation to Dave Solin went well and Dave was very appreciative. Director Becky has retired. Land+Water plan updates are happening; public meetings will be happening soon. Getting things done even with COVID issues.
  - f. Oneida - Stephanie Boismenu, Oneida Co
    - a. Pollinator gardens are going well.
    - b. Stephanie Boismenu, Oneida Co recently joined the Youth Education Committee and is looking forward to helping.
  - g. Portage - Tracy Arnold-Portage Co
    - a. Lots of groundwater flooding throughout the County. Working with Surface Water Grants.
  - h. Vilas - Carolyn Scholl-Vilas Co
    - a. Shawn O'Connell, LTE did a great job this summer. Another LTE is still on until November with the main goal of building volunteer capacity. Working on grants for next year. One will be a protection-based watershed management grant on the HUC 12 level.
  - i. Wood- Shane Wucherpfenning-Wood Co
    - a. Wild Parsnip work continues, Mill Creek TMDL work continues, a lot of use from their no-till drill and making progress with no-till/cover crop practices.
- 10. Land & Water Conservation Board report-Bob Mott-Oneida Co
  - a. The WI Land+Water work plan is being updated.

- b. Executive Committee updated goals and it's a very impressive list.
- c. Budget is underspent due to COVID-19.
- d. County Conservationist meeting was very successful but required a lot of staff time to pull off.
- e. DATCP allowing rollover of funding to 2021, WDNR a little less flexible.
- f. County participation may drop due to budget issues.
- g. Discussion of budget being approved in March at the business meeting, but we are 3 months into the year.
- h. No reserve account currently, discussion regarding if it's needed or not.
- i. Annual Conference is March 2021 will be virtual. 2022 and 2023 Conferences will be in the Wisconsin Dells.

#### 11. Agency Report

- a. WI Land+Water- Penny Pohle-WI Land+Water
  - a. Dave Solin presentation photos are on the WI Land+Water Facebook page.
  - b. Sitcom article in newsletter regarding trainings. Area trainings (AITCOM) are going to be starting up but need additional members.
    - 1. Dan O'Connell-Portage Co discussed AITCOM. North Central is within 2 DATCP Areas and we need people in our area to sit on both AITCOMS in order to get the training specific to our Area of the State.
- b. DATCP-none
- c. NACD-none
- d. UWEX-none
- e. DNR- none
- f. FSA-none
- g. NRCS- Tyrone Larson-NRCS
  - a. New funding for farmers made available due to COVID.
  - b. Thanked all the LCD's for their efforts with the NRCS programs.
  - c. USDA centers remain closed to public, trying to open but tests are still high so they remain closed at this time.

#### 12. Other business

- a. Shane Wucherpfenning-Wood Co spoke about a grant opportunity that a group of 6 Counties are working on to address nitrates in groundwater. Short timeframe as it's due Oct 30. Shane Wucherpfenning-Wood Co would like a letter of support from North Central.
- b. Shane Wucherpfenning-Wood Co made a motion that once proposal is complete to send letter from North Central Area.
  - a. Paul Daigle-Marathon Co stated we should have the application first and be able to read through it, maybe have a special meeting for discussion if needed prior to North Central Area letter. It is also not an agenda item.
  - b. Motion made to write a letter of support from North Central Area made by Molly McKay-Langlade Co, seconded by Gerry Zastrow-Portage Co.
  - c. Vote: All ayes, no nays, motioned carried
    - 1. Shane Wucherpfenning-Wood Co will provide draft language for letter. Bob Mott-Oneida Co and Steve Kircher-Forest Co will work together to get letter completed.
- c. Everyone thanked Molly McKay-Langlade Co for her efforts and wished her well.

#### 13. Adjourn at 11:24pm

- a. **Motion to adjourn made by Shane Wucherpfenning-Wood Co, seconded by Carolyn Scholl-Vilas Co.**

**b. Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.**

Next meetings:

2021 Speaking/Poster Contest & Planning Meeting-Forest County host (January/February)

2021 Reorganizational/Spring Meeting-Lincoln County host (April/May)

2021 Summer Tour & Meeting-Wood County host (August/September)

<b>Host County</b>			
<b>2020</b>	<b>LANGLADE-COMPLETE</b>	<b>MARATHON-COMPLETE</b>	<b>WOOD-POSTPONED TO 2021</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>FOREST (switched in 2020)</b>	<b>LINCOLN (switched in 2020)</b>	<b>WOOD</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>LINCOLN</b>	<b>ONEIDA</b>	<b>FLORENCE</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>MARATHON</b>	<b>PORTAGE</b>	<b>FOREST</b>
<b>2024</b>	<b>ONEIDA</b>	<b>VILAS</b>	<b>LANGLADE</b>
<b>2025</b>	<b>PORTAGE</b>	<b>WOOD</b>	<b>LINCOLN</b>
<b>2026</b>	<b>VILAS</b>	<b>FLORENCE</b>	<b>MARATHON</b>
<b>2027</b>	<b>WOOD</b>	<b>FOREST</b>	<b>ONEIDA</b>
<b>2028</b>	<b>FLORENCE</b>	<b>LANGLADE</b>	<b>PORTAGE</b>
<b>2029</b>	<b>FOREST</b>	<b>LINCOLN</b>	<b>VILAS</b>
<b>2030</b>	<b>LANGLADE</b>	<b>MARATHON</b>	<b>WOOD</b>
<b>2031</b>	<b>REPEAT ORDER ALPHABETICAL</b>	<b>REPEAT ORDER ALPHABETICAL</b>	<b>REPEAT ORDER ALPHABETICAL</b>

Minutes submitted by Tracy Arnold-Portage Co, NCLWCA Secretary 2020