



Wisconsin Land+Water Conservation Association

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Legislative/Administrative Committee 4/8/2020 Meeting Minutes

Date: 4/08/2020	
Start Time: 9:00 AM	End Time: 12:00 PM
Location:	Conference Call Only
Conference Phone:	(877) 826-6967
Conf ID:	9793943
<p>Committee Members: Kurt R. Calkins Chair (Columbia), Greg Baneck (Outagamie), Greg Cleereman Vice Chair/Secretary(Marinette), Paul Daigle (Diane Hanson-Alternate)(Marathon), Perry Lindquist (Waukesha), Dan Masterpole (Chippewa), Raymond Soper (Taylor), Ben Wojahn (Vernon), Monte G. Osterman (Racine), Dave Solin (Langlade), Carolyn Scholl (Vilas), Carl Chenoweth (Dane), Lynda Schweikert (Grant), Melissa Schlupp (Sauk), Amy Piaget (Dane), Kriss Marion (Lafayette), Brian Haase (Waupaca), Bryce Luchterhand (Clark), Erin Hanson (Door), Paul Tollard (Fond du lac), Scott Frank (Shawano), Melissa Luck (Richland)</p>	
<p>WI Land+Water Staff: Matt Krueger, Christina Anderson</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notes WLWCA Meetings are open meetings. Individuals may observe in person or via conference phone if desired. • Order and time allowed for agenda items may be changed due to pace of meeting or at the discretion of the committee chair. • Please Inform Chair If You Are Unable To Participate 	
<p>Next Meeting Time: July CC Meeting</p>	

ALL AGENDA ITEMS ARE ACTIONABLE

- **Call to Order:** Calkins at 9:02 am
- **Roll Call:** Calkins
On the call: Calkins, Baneck, Daigle, Lindquist, Wojahn, Osterman, Schweikert, Schlupp, Piaget, Haase, Hanson, Tollard, Frank, Krueger, Anderson, and Coreen Fallat (DATCP)
- **Adopt Agenda/Additions** (April 8, 2020)
MOTION by Piaget, seconded by Baneck to approve the agenda. Motion carried, no negative vote.
- **Approve Previous Mtg Minutes** (2/20/2020)
MOTION by Piaget, seconded by Schlupp to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2020 meeting. Motion carried, no negative vote.

- **Election of Vice President /Appointment of Secretary-** For Legislative & Admin Committee
 - Calkins explained the upcoming retirement of Cleereman created a need to fill the Vice Chair/Secretary role. A special conference call following County Board elections will be scheduled to elect committee Chair and Vice Chair for two year terms and to appoint the Secretary. Committee historically has combined the Vice Chair and Secretary positions.
 - **MOTION** by Haase, seconded by Daigle to elect/appoint Erin Hanson as Vice Chair/Secretary. Motion carried, no negative vote.

- **Q&A With Minnesota Assn of Soil & Water Conservation District Exec Dir, Leann Buck** RE their resolution process
 - Buck described the MN association structure which includes a formal Board of Directors comprised of representatives from eight regions (areas) of MN. Each Soil and Water district in the state is served by five elected supervisors.
 - Buck described the MN association process for passing resolutions at their annual meeting each December.
https://www.maswcd.org/MASWCD_Resolutions_Process/MASWCD_Resolutions_Process.htm
 - Seven months before annual meeting the association sends template and instructions to each dues-paying member district. Fiscal cost for resolution is part of template and is based on estimated level of association staff effort.
 - Six months before the annual meeting resolutions from each district are considered at area regional meetings. Each area director facilitates and resolutions are voted on by the elected district supervisors.
 - Resolutions passed by areas are forwarded to the association's Resolution/Policy Committee (comprised of supervisors and agency staff advisors). The committee may suggest combining similar resolutions but does not vote or rewrite resolutions. If the committee does not support a resolution they can indicate that to the board as a flag for discussion. Association staff work with authoring districts to review suggested changes. Most of the time the suggestions are accepted by author, but if not the association defers to author.
 - Resolution/Policy committee forwards the resolutions to the Board of Directors who distributes the resolution packet back out to everyone to let them know which resolutions will be considered at the annual meeting. The board does not vote on resolutions or provide narrative opinions about them. Association wants to avoid board dominating the conversation and wants local voices to be able to be heard.
 - 1-2 months before the annual meeting is a pre-balloting vote. Districts review the resolutions and approve/disapprove/or suggest resolutions be brought forward for further discussion at the annual meeting. Ballot results are available at the annual meeting. At the annual meeting the Chair will move that all resolutions with unanimous pre-balloting support be adopted to streamline discussion on the floor.

- Following the annual meeting the MN association has a two day retreat to give the board time to discuss and plan what to do with resolutions. State and federal agency advisors participate in portions of that discussion.
 - Resolutions for emergency issues (eg: natural disasters) can be submitted by districts to the board outside of the regular process following association guidance. At annual meeting the board meets the first day to review emergency resolutions and introduce the resolution packet. Voting happens second day allowing time for thoughtful consideration.
 - Adopted resolutions have a four year sunset provision. This allows some to eventually expire. The last page of the call for resolutions lists all that are expiring that year. Policy handbook based on resolutions does not expire so it is not necessary to keep bring same resolutions forward.
 - MN association timing works with NACD schedule and there is enough time to get resolutions that apply to national policy to regional NACD meetings for consideration.
 - Benefits: association can know what's important to districts; association can identify which districts have interest in particular issues; all members have opportunity to discuss at area meetings and districts can still vote even if not at annual meeting; gives purpose to board members and identifies priorities for board; allows association to be proactive and bring issues forward rather than just reacting to agency or legislative issues; provides guidance for areas outside typical scope that are still important for districts.
 - Resolutions guide the association's work and inform policy documents. The board has ability to make policy guidance and depending on issue may develop a white paper that will be their standing policy.
- **Agency reports**
 - Coreen Fallat, DATCP gave updates resulting from COVID-19 emergency:
 - All DATCP grant deadlines have been extended to May 15
 - AEA petition deadline extended to August 5
 - Supporting agriculture is considered essential by DATCP. Staff are limited to pre-approved site visits, may have discretion when in field in future.
 - DATCP is working with DNR on guidelines for dumping milk. April 7 webinar will be posted on youtube.
 - Electronic signature of cost share agreement can be accepted. Fallat will look into revised form allowing typed signature and guidance for notarized signature.
- **Discuss Next Steps Regarding Resolution #2 from 2020 WI Land & Water Conf**
 - WLWCA Annual Conference motion was to send resolution to legislative committee.
 - Daigle suggested developing a position paper that outlines the logic and call to action, timeline, and necessary steps to implement nutrient management with cost share and existing staff. If the legislature chooses not to fund then can push to remove requirement for cost sharing. Nutrient management should be recognized as a basic requirement for farming in Wisconsin. Position paper could be used to initiate conversations with farm groups, DNR and DATCP, as well as other partners (eg. lake groups).

- General agreement on proposed approach. Timeline would be for Daigle to bring position paper to next committee meeting in July so that paper available for fall.

- **Discussion of SB 723 and Legislative Updates**
 - Krueger reviewed current status. COVID-19 changed everything. Senate floor period expected in March was cancelled and the legislative session ended April 1. All water quality bills that had passed the assembly and were not taken up by the senate died. There may be an extraordinary session related to COVID-19. Financial projections for state have also changed. Reasonable strategy will be to acknowledge pandemic and look for something in budget process, starting contact with agencies before July-August.

- **Adjourn**
 - **MOTION** by Frank, seconded by Tollard to adjourn at 10:56 am.