



Wisconsin Land+Water Conservation Association

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Legislative-Administrative Committee

January 30, 2023 Agenda
Zoom Meeting Only

Date: Monday, January 30, 2023	
Start Time: 1:00 PM	End Time: 4:00 PM
Virtual Meeting Web link:	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83234428678?pwd=TDJMZmJrNWtEUzZCMjJRZWhlSndTdz09
Conference Phone:	1-312-626-6799
Access Code:	Meeting ID: 832 3442 8678, Access Code: 494058
Committee Members: Kurt R. Calkins Chair (Columbia), Greg Baneck (Outagamie), Diane Hanson (Marathon), Ben Wojahn (Vernon), Monte G. Osterman (Racine), Lynda Schweikert (Chippewa), Melissa Schlupp (Sauk), Amy Piaget (Dane), Brian Haase (Waupaca), Paul Tollard, Vice Chair/Secretary (Fond du lac), Scott Frank (Shawano), Melissa Luck (Richland), Katie Abbott (Iowa County), Bob Bultman (Door County), Fred Strand (Bayfield County)	
WI Land+Water Staff: Matt Krueger, Christina Anderson	
Notes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WI Land+Water meetings are open meetings. Individuals may observe in person, via conference phone, or via web conference 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 	
Next Meeting Time: March 20, 2023 1PM	

ALL ITEMS ARE ACTIONABLE

- Call to Order
 - 1:00 call to order
- Introductions
- Roll Call
 - Kurt Calkins, Matt Krueger, Christina Anderson, Lynda Schweikert, Scott Frank, Dan Zerr, Amy Piaget, Katie Abbott, Greg Baneck, Melissa Schlupp, Melissa Luck, Monte Osterman, Fred Strand, Diane Hanson, Mike Gilbertson, Brian Haase, Coreen Fallat
 - Guests: Greg Horeth, Ken Dolata, Chad Casper, Todd Morris, Max Blackbourn, Tom Mandli, Shane Wucherpennig, Chase Cummings, Sheri Denowski, Thomas Boisvert, Tyler Betry, "Walworth County"
- Adopt Agenda/Additions (1/30/2022)
 - One edit: Clean **Economy** Coalition of Wisconsin
 - Motion: Greg Baneck, Monte Osterman
- Approve Previous Meeting Minutes (10/10/2022)

- Motion: Amy Piaget, Monte Osterman
- Edit the minutes for the “next meeting”. December meeting was canceled.
- September 8 meeting minutes didn’t go out with the Agenda, Kurt sent them out during the meeting. We’ll approve at the next meeting.
- Agency Partner Reports
 - DATCP:
 - Working on Annual Report, send your Conservation in Action stories to Coreen.
 - 11 applications for the NOPP have been received.
 - Staff coordinating regional partnership meetings, TBD.
 - Working with DNR to allocate the Gulf Hypoxia funds. Some funds will be available for staffing in the MRB for innovation grants. Many conversations with DNR, NRCS about funding project-focused staffing we could apply for federal funding.
 - DNR:
 - NOD grant application coming in. Challenge with amount of funds available and costs of projects coming in.
 - Extension:
 - New faces: Anna James is working in Wood County/Central region, Sara Brown is working in Washburn County, Kelsey Highland in the Siren with the Ag & Water Quality group.
 - Meeting last week with the original PL groups/Red Cedar River to get some feedback. Hearing that the groups need help with recruitment.
- ATCP 50 Rule Revision Update
 - Meetings last December helped to share details on the areas of change. Will go to the ATCP board at the May 11 meeting. Can’t share the rule language/text until approval.
 - Open invitation from DATCP to have another meeting to go over some specifics. Nothing can be changed at this time, but comments can be accepted through normal public hearing process.
 - Hope to have hearings scheduled around May/June.
 - Leg/Admin will hold a meeting to determine submitting public comment (30-day window after ACTP board approves).
- Grassroots Support of Budget Priorities
 - Handouts created to support lobbying efforts
<https://wisconsinlandwater.org/conservationworks>
 - Connect WI Land+Water with your county lobbyist if you have them. Identify supervisors to connect with reps.
 - Good support from Ag Coalition. Release came out today with their budget priority package, including a call for county conservation funding.
 - More info will come to members soon.
- New Local Policy Input Process:

- Background
 - Strategic Plan goal from 2019 to create better transparency, streamline policy making.
 - A subcommittee from Leg/Admin assessed how our process has worked (resolutions), offered a new process. Local Policy Input Process was approved by the BOD in 2021.
- Next steps
 - Communications support from WI Land+Water
 - Committee next steps to codify process
 - Approve Local Policy Input Form/vetting questions
 - Suggestion for more space to explain issue, fillable form reviewed by committee, consider a prioritization.
 - Incorporate into all WI L+W committee policy and include in Leg/Admin GP.
 - Motion to move forward with a standardized fillable form to be submitted to the committee, based on the committee provided in the description. Baneck, Osterman second.
 - Invitation to area association members to attend meeting where local policy input will be considered
 - Information to area association on what action(s) will be taken in response to local policy issue
 - Internal tracking of issue
- Consideration of Lake Michigan Area Resolutions (submitted 12/5/22)
 - PFAs
 - Tom Mandli provided background on the PFAs contamination in the county.
 - Town of Peshtigo raised the issue in the county. Firefighting foams conducted self-testing 2013 of the groundwater. Didn't report to DNR until 2017.
 - Many pathways to contaminate gw with PFAs (testing sites, sludge...)
 - State law needs to be changed to protect local governments, landfills, need to hold source entities liable.
 - Tax payers shouldn't hold the burden of testing and clean up.
 - Discussion:
 - Dane County has experience. Work together across the county to coordinate. Educating the public, ourselves.

- DNR has been presenting information, testing surface and well water.
- Health and Conservation committee is also discussing PFAs, primarily talking about education, getting tools to better understand field sludge
- Is there a specific role that aligns with Land+Water mission? Some of this is outside of our scope.
- **Next Steps:**
 - Connect with NACD to learn more about how other states are engaged.
 - Matt will reach out to WCA, other environmental lobbying groups to learn more about their efforts.
 - Motion to send to Health & Conservation Workgroup to discuss advocacy and education outcomes, what appropriate WI L+W roles. Katie Abbott, Lynda Schweikert
- Shoreland Mgmt.
 - Tom Mandli provided background information on why this issue is important.
 - 2017 laws were changed, one-size fits all. Removed local control. We need more local support to protect our waters.
 - The law needs to be changed to allow local control over lake protection.
 - Discussion:
 - Need to consult with zoning partners (Karl Genrich, Counties Association, Muni, WCCA, DNR/NR 151 staff, Wisconsin Lakes)
 - Kurt suggests specific issue, harm so we can point to why this law has been so disruptive to lake systems.
 - Tom Boisvert, look into Burnett Co shoreland incentive program.
 - Outline what issues we have, does this overlap with lake classification issue on wakes, group to identify policy changes and route.
- **NEXT STEPS:**
 - Motion to solicit more information. Send back to the Counties/Areas to discuss, help identify examples, suggest partners to engage. Motion: Monte Osterman, Scott Frank

- Legislative and Policy Topics and Updates
 - Farmland Preservation Program updates
 - Last two sessions have had bills with proposed changes. Oldenburg and Testin's offices both ready to pursue again.
 - Concern over increasing tax credits with \$5.4M price tag. Option to pass the bill, add the money in the budget later. Still boosting the tax credits, but not including the budget reference to say exactly where it comes from.
 - Ag groups have made this a priority.
 - Oldenburg's staff drafting the bill without the price tag.
 - Q: does the program meet/exceed the current cap? Matt will ask DATCP.
 - Clarifying LCC membership in Chap. 92
 - Legislative revision with WCA, Farm Bureau with narrow scope.
 - The intent of the seat was to ensure ag has a seat on the board. Using the same definition of "ag rep" used in the FPP program.
 - Everyone agrees on the language. Legislators lined up to introduce the bill.
 - Reviewed definition and language change. Some concerns over "shall" vs "may". Not all counties include a farm rep. Suggestions for FB and WCA discussion:
 - Check legal interpretation of whether #2 "shall" preempts the "may" clause in #3 and #4.
 - Try to remove the clause on h. (Forest mgmt.) Stipulate it with a financial threshold (as determined in Chap 91; SS 91.86(1) \$6,000 gross income). Point out that many northern counties have shared FSA rep across county lines; filling these seats was a challenge before. also in ss 91.60 (2)a. \$6k/yr or \$18k/3yr is a real tree farmer with serious acres
 - Other draft bills
 - Changes to the PLWG program:
 - Allows PLWGs to be eligible for DNR surface water grants, and expands eligibility for DATCP funding to adjacent HUC-12 watersheds (compared to just one)
 - DNR quick assessment: this shouldn't impact county surface water grants.
 - Changes to well compensation program:
 - Expands eligibility, removes livestock requirement and lowers ppm from 40 to 10. Prioritizes need based on level of contamination.

- Initiatives with other organizations:
 - Clean Economy Coalition of Wisconsin (CECW)
 - New coalition, formed by Energy Foundation. Environmental Justice, Renewable energy groups.
 - Our role: Gives us a seat at the table, engaging on important clean energy, representing the local voice.
 - Christina sitting on Local Action Committee and Natural Climate Solutions Committee. Overall goals are maximizing federal funding opportunities and reviewing/suggesting policy changes. Christina will keep Leg/Admin updated on anything new that comes out of the group.
 - Clean Water Initiative
 - Working with them on Budget priorities, including County funding.
 - Still discussing CAFO program improvements
- Debrief on Nonpoint Program Meeting with DNR
 - Meeting with DNR in Stevens Point earlier this month. We incorporated information from previous discussions from Leg/Admin. Good discussion.
 - Mike Gilbertson had to leave the meeting, but included the following in the Chat:
 - DNR is committed to identifying specific actions that will follow as a result of the Jan. 13th meeting. This meeting provided a starting point to a discussion on a couple of topics identified due to a high need.
 - Three topics rose to the top; we discussed two:
 1. Communications
 2. Grants administration
 3. (Agreed to a future discussion) Challenges of implementing TMDLs both with CAFOs and non-permitted farms that have fields in a CAFO NMP
 - Jill Schoen and Chris Clayton have briefed our NPS staff in Madison and NPS Regional Coordinators and Supervisors.
 - One short-term opportunity is to utilize resources from the UWEX NREs to help with communications
- Research Advisory Committee to State Land and Water Conservation Board
 - Land and Water Conservation Board was not in compliance to report to the UW about research requests
 - A committee was formed to figure out how to comply. Survey will go out to county departments and LCCs for input on research. Likely to go out in March.
- Other Items of Interest
 - FYI, FSA County Executive Director were asked to check how minutes were addressed on the website and will reach out if they have issues. Making sure

FSA is not referenced. Example: Shawano Co “Vacant”, Amy leaves theirs blank.

- Adjourn
 - Kurt adjourned the meeting at 4:31. (determined that we do not need a motion to adjourn)