



LAKE Michigan Area Land & Water Conservation Association

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Lake Michigan Area Land & Water Conservation Association Annual Planning and Budget Meeting Minutes Brown County STEM Innovation Center January 5th, 2024

Members Present

Brown County 1-LCC, 1-Staff
Door County 1-LCC, 1-Staff
Kewaunee County 0-LCC, 1-Staff
Manitowoc County 0-LCC, 1-Staff
Marinette County 1-LCC, 1-Staff

Menominee County 0-LCC, 0-Staff
Oconto County 2-LCC, 1-Staff
Shawano County 0-LCC, 1-Staff
Sheboygan County 0-LCC, 1-Staff

1. Call Meeting to Order 9:30 a.m. – President Ken Fisher, Door County
2. Roll Call – see above, also present Jae Southerland NRCS, Erin Hanson WDNR.
3. Approval of Agenda – motion by Scott Frank, Shawano County, 2nd Tim Cole, Oconto County to move item 7 before item 6 and approve the agenda as amended. Carried.
4. Approval of Previous BOD Minutes Oct 6th 2023 Oconto County – motion by Davina Bonness, Kewaunee County, 2nd by Nick Peltier, Brown County to approve the October 6th 2023 minutes. Carried.
5. Treasurer’s Report – Ken Dolata, Oconto County reported that 2 checks were issued totaling \$439.99 for fall meeting expenses and deposited \$450 in registration fees and 1 check was issued to Oconto County for mailing/copies in the amount of \$21.32. As of 31 December 2023, there was an ending balance of \$2,098.28 in savings and an ending balance of \$766.98 in checking. Motion by Tom Mandli, Marinette County, 2nd by County to accept the treasurer’s report. Carried.
6. (7)Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey – Amy Wiersman WGNHS, Introduced herself and explained past, current and upcoming projects and available data. Amy also discussed if counties are interested in consulting with her or starting a project to contact her.

7. (6)WLWCA Reports –Scott Frank, Shawano County reported on the October and December WLWCA Board of Directors meetings. Had discussion on a variety of items to include the county conservationist meeting is being moved to the fall. Land and Water Conservation Board elections changes, approval of the organization’s 5-year strategic plan, approved 2024 budget, income for the organization is up, adding new financial and admin position half time, reorganization of some of the current positions, approved an event code of conduct policy, NRCS report on staffing and program funding status, state report on staffing status and grant cycles. Greg Coulhurst, Door County, discussed the next Great Lakes Committee Meeting, topics and speaker for next meeting. Davina Bonness, Kewaunee County, discussed the NE Technical meeting tour that was hosted by Kewaunee County stating they had great attendance and the tour was very educational. Scott Frank, Shawano County reported on the Legislative / Administration Committee meeting to include a number of legislative bills relating to conservation like the wake boat bill and solar and wind energy on prime farmland, online carbon calculator for farmers, producer led organization funding.
8. 2024 Activity Schedule – 2024 schedule was discussed and motion by Davina Bonness, Kewaunee County, 2nd Greg Coulhurst, Door County to adopt the 2024 schedule. Carried.
9. 2024 Annual Budget
 - a. Review 2023 Budget and Actuals – 2023 budget and actuals reviewed.
 - b. 2024 Budget Preparation and Adoption – budget was discussed, motion by Greg Coulhurst, Door County, 2nd by Pat Scanlan, Oconto County to approve the budget with all line items amounts remaining the same as 2023 except to place \$0 in the County Project Line item and add \$500 to Area Meeting expense to bring the total to \$1,000 for that line item. Carried.
10. Agency Reports – Jae Southerland, NRCS, reported on progress of filling the state conservationist position. Having a statewide NRCS staff meeting, which has not been held since 2019. Discussed Programs and program funding status, reported on staffing situation and what the future looks like. Erin Hanson, WDNR reported on that they are looking at doing an evaluation of the nonpoint program. Erin discussed available funding for the DNR programs and some of the funding rules regarding CAFOs along with application deadline. Also mentioned the statewide CAFO workshops being held this year around the state.
11. Other Information – The group as a whole discussed how each county is handling the change in the Land Conservation Committees requirement in Chapter 92 removing the FSA representative. There was much discussion and there were different opinions by counties on how the new rule is interpreted. Greg Coulhurst, Door County, explained that they finished their ground water study and will be presenting to county board. Dave Wentenkamp, Manitowoc County, informed the group about their producer led group they are working with, they are starting the rewrite of their land and water resource management plan, discussed their manure spreading training they host, working on countywide GIS spreading maps that will be on the county website. Dave also started discussion about the NRCS MOU. Tom Mandli, Marinette County explained about their clean water resolution that their county board passed.
12. Adjourn – Motion by Davina Bonness, Kewaunee County, 2nd by Scott Frank Shawano County, to adjourn. Carried.