NORTH CENTRAL AREA LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION – Meeting Minutes

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

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NORTH CENTRAL AREA LAND & WATER CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Meeting Date: 6/9/2026

Meeting Location: Spring Meeting (held in conjunction with LCC Training) – Hosted by Lincoln County

In Attendance: Shawna Dishaw – Florence County, Kayla Littleton – Forest County, Ronald Karl – Forest County, Kyle Disterhaft – Langlade County, Katie Bahr-Bender – Langlade County, Tom Boisvert – Lincoln County, Elizabeth Peronto – Lincoln County, Mike Huth – Lincoln County, Elizabeth McCrank – Lincoln County, Kirk Langfoss – Marathon County, Caleb Armstrong – Marathon County, Matt Repking – Marathon County, Ken Pozorski – Marathon County, Kirstie Heidenreich – Marathon County, Allen Drabek – Marathon County, Rick Seefelder – Marathon County, Jay Schoenborn – Marathon County, Ann Lemmer – Marathon County, Jared Mader – Marathon County, Brooke Bembeneck – Marathon County, Laurie Miskimins – Marathon County, Chris Schultz – Oneida County, Linnaea Newman – Oneida County, Michele Sadauskas – Oneida County, Tracy Arnold – Portage County, Travis Bassett – Portage County, Quita Sheehan – Vilas County, Al Wirt – Vilas County, Shane Wucherpfennig – Wood County, Abby Leis – Wood County, Wayne Schulz – Wood County, Kyle Andreae – Wood County, Russ Perlock – Wood County, Tim Hovendick – Wood County.

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

Others Present: Matt Krueger – WI Land+Water, Michael Hook – WI Land+Water, Kelli Myers – WI Land+Water, Mark Kaczorowski – WDNR, Ben Uvaas – WDNR, Kaylin Felix – WDNR, Guolong Liang – UWEX

1. Kirstie Heidenreich called the meeting to order at 12:41 p.m.
2. Introductions were done of those in attendance.
3. Approval of Agenda.
    a. **A motion to amend the agenda to move the "Election of Area Representatives" ahead of "Election of Officers": Tom Boisvert – Lincoln County, seconded by Shane Wucherpfennig – Wood County.**
        i. **Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.**
    b. **A motion to approve the agenda as amended: Tracy Arnold – Portage County, seconded by Katie Bahr-Bender – Langlade County.**
        i. **Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.**
4. Approval of 1/28/26 meeting minutes.
    a. **A motion to approve the minutes as presented: Travis Bassett – Portage County, seconded by Katie Bahr-Bender – Langlade County.**
        i. **Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.**
5. Presentation from Host County (Lincoln)

a. Tom Boisvert provided a presentation detailing Lincoln County's stream crossing inventory efforts. Additional information regarding this effort can be found on the Lincoln County website here: https://www.co.lincoln.wi.us/land-services/page/streamcrossing-inventory-and-assessment

6. Election of Area Representatives
    a. LCC Representative to WI Land+Water BOD
        i. Kirstie Heidenreich opened the floor to nominations.
        ii. Brooke Bembeneck nominated Ann Lemmer.
        iii. Tom Boisvert nominated Elizabeth McCrank.
        iv. Kirstie Heidenreich closed nominations and requested that each nominee provide a brief summary of their interest in the role. **A closed ballot vote was then completed.** WI Land+Water staff assisted with vote tallying.
        v. Elizabeth McCrank was elected to this position.
    b. LCC Alternate to WI Land+Water BOD
        i. Kirstie Heidenreich opened the floor to nominations.
        ii. Linnaea Newman nominated Ann Lemmer.
        iii. A motion to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot to elect Ann Lemmer as the LCC Alternate to the WI Land+Water BOD: Travis Bassett – Portage County, seconded by Tracy Arnold – Portage County.
            1. Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.
    c. LCD Representative to WI Land+Water BOD
        i. Kirstie Heidenreich opened the floor to nominations.
        ii. Tracy Arnold nominated Tom Boisvert.
        iii. A motion to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot to elect Tom Boisvert as the LCD Representative to the WI Land+Water BOD: Travis Bassett – Portage County, seconded by Linnaea Newman – Oneida County.
            1. Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.
    d. LCD Alternate to WI Land+Water BOD
        i. Kirstie Heidenreich opened the floor to nominations.
        ii. Tom Boisvert nominated Tracy Arnold.
        iii. A motion to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot to elect Tracy Arnold as the LCD Alternate to the WI Land+Water BOD: Linnaea Newman – Oneida County, seconded by Travis Bassett – Portage County.
            1. Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.
7. Election of Officers
    a. President
        i. Kirstie Heidenreich opened the floor to nominations.
        ii. Tracy Arnold nominated Kirstie Heidenreich.
        iii. A motion to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot to elect Kirstie Heidenreich as NCLWCA President: Linnaea Newman – Oneida County, seconded by Shane Wucherpfennig – Wood County.
            1. Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.
    b. Vice President
        i. Kirstie Heidenreich opened the floor to nominations.
        ii. Brooke Bembeneck nominated Ann Lemmer.

iii. **A motion to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot to elect Ann Lemmer as NCLWCA Vice President: Linnaea Newman – Oneida County, seconded by Travis Bassett – Portage County.**
    1. **Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.**

c. Treasurer
    i. Kirstie Heidenreich opened the floor to nominations.
    ii. Shane Wucherpfennig nominated Kirk Langfoss.
    iii. **A motion to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot to elect Kirk Langfoss as NCLWCA Treasurer: Linnaea Newman – Oneida County, seconded by Tracy Arnold – Portage County.**
        1. **Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.**

d. Secretary
    i. Kirstie Heidenreich opened the floor to nominations.
    ii. Elizabeth McCrank nominated Tom Boisvert.
    iii. **A motion to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot to elect Tom Boisvert as NCLWCA Secretary: Travis Bassett, seconded by Linnaea Newman – Oneida County.**
        1. **Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.**

8. Agency Updates and Discussion
    a. WI Land+Water
        i. Kelli Myers provided an update.
        ii. The State Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) elections will be happening this fall. WI Land+Water would like to have one nominee from each Area Association across the State. If there is someone that is interested in this opportunity, they should contact WI Land+Water (Kelli) for more information.
    b. WDNR
        i. Ben Uvaas provided an update.
        ii. Ben reminded the group that the NR 151 Progress and Resources Analysis project (NPRA Project) responses should be submitted by July 31st.
        iii. At the time of this meeting, 17% of sites have data submitted for them.
        iv. Preliminary results from the project will be discussed at the County Conservationist meeting in October.
    c. UWEX Agriculture & Water Quality
        i. Guolong Liang provided an update.
        ii. Guolong discussed a program that allows farmers to better understand the amount of nitrogen that may be present in the groundwater, and the rate that may be applied through pivot irrigation systems. Interested individuals can learn more here: https://agwater.extension.wisc.edu/nitrogen-in-irrigation-water/
        iii. The Ag Water Quality Program and UW-Madison staff are working on a Science Assessment to accompany Wisconsin's Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy. This assessment will focus on quantifying the effectiveness of different agricultural best management practices in reducing nutrient losses from farm fields to Wisconsin's waterways. The program will initially focus on phosphorus. Interested individuals can learn more here: https://agwater.extension.wisc.edu/developing-a-science-assessment-for-wisconsins-nutrient-reduction-strategy/

9. NCLWCA Training Request: Panel Discussion on Manure Spills/Incidents
    a. Panelists included:
        i. Mark Kaczorowski, Regional Nonpoint Source Coordinator, WDNR
        ii. Ben Uvaas, Water Resources Management Specialist & NR 151 Coordinator, WDNR
        iii. Kaylin Felix, Regional Spills Coordinator, WDNR
        iv. Matt Repking, Conservation Analyst, Marathon County CPZ
    b. The panelists discussed manure spill reporting, response, mitigation, and enforcement measures. Examples of previous manure spills were provided for context.
10. Treasurer's Report
    a. Kirk Langfoss provided the Treasurer's report. Kirk stated the organizations finances are in good standing.
    b. It was discussed that the budget will be reviewed and approved at the Summer Tour meeting. NCLWCA expenses have exceeded revenues in recent years, however, the expenses were for significant projects/programs. As a non-profit, NCLWCA should be spending funds on projects and services, which the organization has been doing. NCLWCA will need to discuss how the revenue/expense imbalance may need to be stabilized in the future.
11. WI Land+Water Legislative Priorities
    a. Tom Boisvert and Matt Krueger discussed that WI Land+Water is attempting to put together a comprehensive "Conservation Package" that can be presented to legislators to show what our top priorities are. The Leg/Admin Committee is taking the lead on this initiative.
    b. As always, fully funding conservation staffing requests will be the top priority. If opinions on other priorities exist, please consider letting Matt Krueger know or attend the Leg/Admin Committee to voice your opinion.
    c. No additional priorities from the NCLWCA were voiced at this time.
12. WI Land+Water Conservation Association Board Report
    a. Tom Boisvert (LCD Representative) stated that the BOD has not met since the Annual Conference. As a result, there is nothing to report at this time.
13. Youth Education Update
    a. Caleb Armstrong provided the following update:
    b. WI Envirothon was held on April 10th at Lions Camp in Rosholt. This year there were 24 high school teams and 5 middle school teams competing. Middleton High School was the winning high school and will be advancing National Conservation Foundation-Envirothon in Starkville, MS. Fox River Academy was the winning Middle school team.
    c. The middle school Conservation Camp for students entering grades 6, 7, and 8 will be held June 28th-July 1st, 2026, at Camp Lakotah in Wautoma WI.
    d. The high school Conservation Camp for students entering grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 will be held June 15-18th, 2026 at the North Lakeland Discovery Center in Manitowish Waters.
    e. Dylan Mayer and Allison Raddatz will receive NCLWCA scholarships for the camps. Other scholarship applicants received funding from their respective Counties, which ultimately provided full assistance to all applicants.
14. County Updates
    a. Due to time constraints, updates were not provided.
15. WI Land+Water Committees

a. Kirstie reminded the group that there are many different WI Land+Water Committees that could use more representation from NCLWCA members. Anyone with an interest is encouraged to join. A full list of committees can be found on the WI Land+Water website.

16. Other Business
    a. None
17. Next Meeting
    a. Save the date for the Annual Summer Tour! This year Marathon County is hosting. The event will be held on Thursday, September 10th, 2026.
    b. A NCLWCA business meeting will follow the Summer Tour.
18. Adjourn at 3:03 p.m.
    1. **Motion to adjourn: Tracy Arnold – Portage County, seconded by Katie Bahr-Bender – Langlade County.**
        a. **Vote: All ayes, no nays, motion carried.**

Host County			
	Planning Meeting/ Area Poster & Speaking Contest January/February	**Virtual Spring Meeting May/June**	**Summer tour/Meeting August/September**
2026	VILAS	FLORENCE	MARATHON
2027	WOOD	FOREST	ONEIDA
2028	FLORENCE	LANGLADE	PORTAGE
2029	FOREST	LINCOLN	VILAS
2030	LANGLADE	MARATHON	WOOD
2031	LINCOLN	ONEIDA	FLORENCE
2032	MARATHON	PORTAGE	FOREST
2032	ONEIDA	VILAS	LANGLADE
2033	PORTAGE	WOOD	LINCOLN
2034	REPEAT ORDER ALPHABETICAL	REPEAT ORDER ALPHABETICAL	REPEAT ORDER ALPHABETICAL

Elected and Appointed Terms		
Role	**Individual**	**Term/Appointment Expiration**
President	Kirstie Heidenreich	June 9th, 2028
Vice President	Ann Lemmer	June 9th, 2028
Treasurer	Kirk Langfoss	June 9th, 2028
Secretary	Tom Boisvert	June 9th, 2028
LCC Rep. WI Land+Water BOD	Elizabeth McCrank	June 9th, 2028
LCC Alt. Rep. WI Land+Water BOD	Ann Lemmer	June 9th, 2028
LCD Rep. WI Land+Water BOD	Tom Boisvert	June 9th, 2028
LCD Alt. Rep. WI Land+Water BOD	Tracy Arnold	June 9th, 2028