



*Sawyer County Wisconsin*



Zoning and Conservation 12/07/2011

**Minutes**

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**Sawyer County Zoning and Conservation Committee**

**December 7, 2011**

Committee Members Present: Fred Zietlow, Bruce Paulsen, Warren Johnson, Chuck Gundersen, Bernie Kadlec. James Bassett, absent.

Others Present: Len Eckerly, Dick Dewhurst, Dale Olson, Cindy Yackley, Tim Seidl, Dianne Ince and Terrell Boettcher – Sawyer County Record.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Vice Chairman Zietlow.

Motion by Gundersen second by Johnson to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

Motion by Johnson, second by Gundersen to approve the revised November minutes. Motion carried.

**Audience Recognition**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Placid Lake Diversion Canal**

Olson reported that he received notification from the DNR Dam Safety Grant Manager that the grant application for the Placid Lake Diversion Canal Dam is complete and the county is eligible for funding from the Dam Removal Grant Program at 100% of final eligible costs up to \$50,000.00. The money will be received when the work is complete. Bids will go out this winter and work will begin after the spring road bans go off.

**Round Lake Watershed Management**

Paulsen reported that SEH is working on the first phase of the proposal which was presented to the committee last month. It will be going before the Finance Committee and County Board for final approval this month. Discussion was held on the ownership of Carlson Road.

Habitable Structures

Gundersen reported that the committee isn't in need of any changes to the ordinance at this time and that the Zoning Office has procedures in place and is handling situations using a new form that was drafted, as well as office policy being set so he doesn't feel there is a need for any more research or discussion on this issue.

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Flood Plain Maps

Paulsen requested this issue be postponed until next month so that the Land Records Director, Robyn Thake could attend.

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Revision of Cell Tower Ordinance

The changes that were proposed to the ordinance at last month's meeting have been made and the document will be forwarded to County Board for adoption.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Review bids for In Rem Abstracting

County Treasurer Dianne Ince reported that after sending out bid letters for the 2007 delinquent tax parcels, only one bid was received from Sawyer County Abstract, Inc. at \$30.00 per parcel for an estimated total cost of \$7,200.00. Ince stated that some of these parcels may be paid by the end of the month. Motion by Paulsen, second by Gundersen to approve the bid of Sawyer County Abstract Inc. Motion carried.

Rental of County Property

Dianne Ince informed the Committee that the county has a parcel that was foreclosed on in 2011 which is a home in the City of Hayward and is occupied by the current owner. She stated that the county would like to rent it out through the winter months to the property owner and one rental unit which will be empty as of January 1<sup>st</sup> and needs approval to follow through with the lease. Motion by Gundersen, second by Johnson to approve the lease of the property. Motion carried.

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NRCS Business

No representative

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DNR Business

No representative

LCO Business

No representative

Set Wildlife Damage Program Crop Prices

Tim Seidl reported on the 2011 recommended crop prices. Corn being \$6.29 per bushel, Soybean \$12.02 and Oats \$3.24. Corn Silage at \$65.00 per ton, Sunflower at \$18.00 per 50# bag and 3<sup>rd</sup> crop Alfalfa at \$70.00 per ton. Motion by Paulsen, second by Kadlec to approve the recommended prices. Motion carried.

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DATCP Funding Resolution

Olson reported that DATCAP is going to be cutting some staffing money and giving money to UW Extension to do nutrient management

studies. This is funds that the department counts on and mandated by State Statutes. So a resolution was drafted urging the Governor of Wisconsin and all elected representatives to reject further cuts to county land conservation staffing grants and recognizing the invaluable service that county conservation employees provide in managing and protecting the county's natural resources. Motion by Paulsen, second by Zietlow to approve the resolution and to forward it to County Board for approval. Motion carried.

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#### Monthly Work Report

The monthly department calendar, Kristi Maki's work report, the number of permits issued and summary of income for November was submitted for review. Olson stated that the department received funding for Kristi's position for 2 more years. Carmody was discussed and it was determined that an update will be given on the Carmody status next month, as well as the committee would like to see a graph of permit increase/decline from past years to date. The Committee also requested that an update be given next month on any legal issues that are ongoing with the department. Olson also reported that he received a letter from Michael O'Shea, engineer with Natural Resources Conservation Service regarding the quality assurance review that was conducted on two projects that Tim Seidl was involved in. The letter summarized the review which involved a stream crossing and shoreline protection.

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#### Review and Approve Monthly Vouchers

Monthly vouchers were reviewed and a question was asked regarding the Carmody billing statement as to why the department is paying the 2012 statement now in 2011. (Last year Carmody gave a percentage off of the billing statement if paid early) After some discussion it was determined that the department would contact Carmody and ask if there was any incentive for paying early this year.

Olson reported that the department has received the 2012 spring tree order for anyone interested in purchasing trees.

Olson also informed the Committee that Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association and the Wisconsin Association of Land Conservation Employees are going to be joining forces. Motion by Paulsen, second by Johnson to approve the monthly vouchers but hold the Carmody billing statement until next month unless there is an incentive to pay early. Motion carried.

NOTE: Carmody was contacted and they sent a revised billing statement showing a 10% discount (\$358.80) if paid before 2012.

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#### Other Business for Discussion Only

Dick Dewhurst mentioned that he received an e-mail regarding wind power and asked if the department had received anything about it. No one had.

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#### Adjournment

Motion by Johnson, second by Paulsen to adjourn. Motion carried.

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