



Zoning and Conservation 04/11/2012

Minutes

Sawyer County Zoning and Conservation Committee

April 11, 2012

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

Others Present: Len Eckerly, Dick Dewhurst, Linda Zillmer, Dan Tyrolt – LCO, Mike Koehler – NRCS, Dale Olson, Cindy Yackley, Gordon Christians, Supervisor- Town of Lenroot Terrell Boettcher – Sawyer County Record.

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

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

Motion by Johnson second by Bassett to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Audience Recognition

None

OLD BUSINESS

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Placid Lake Diversion Canal Update

Olson reported that the paper work has been finalized but no start date has been set. Project completion date is October 1st.

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Round Lake Watershed Management Issues Update

Paulsen reported that the Round Lake Property Owners Association have installed the temporary Weir and they are measuring every day. The monuments are in and they are being resurveyed. DNR has not responded yet to questions that have risen regarding the dam and Tom Artilla is in the process of scheduling a conference call with people in Madison as to getting some answers to those questions. He also reported that SEH was to measure 100 feet above the dam and 250 feet below the dam to get the elevation of the natural spring bed and he should have those results in a few weeks.

NEW BUSINESS

NRCS Business

Mike Koehler reported their budget has been an issue. There was more money for the cost share program this year, but short on staff. Next year looks to be a bad year according to the figures that have come out. Sign up for EQIP has been good with a lot getting funded. The Conservation Stewardship Program and all the EQIP contracts have been signed. Nine (9) applications were submitted for the Conservation Stewardship Program but quite a few have dropped out. The three that did complete everything were all ranked and were funded. One was for woodland, one pasture and one crop. He also reported that he's been assigned to a team for conservation compliance and has been assigned to do Washburn, Burnett and half of Barron County's compliance reviews. The same will be done with wetland determinations and highly erodible determinations. This will change the workloads increasing additional travel time.

DNR Business

No representative present

LCO Business

Dan Tyrolt reported that every day has been spent doing fish hatchery work. They have received their musky and walleye eggs and are producing fry at the present time and things are going well. Discussion was held on water quality of lakes within the county, but not necessarily within the reservation and the proposed water quality standards that are being set. There are issues that need to be resolved, the EPA needs to review and public hearings need to be held before they become effective.

Nelson Lake Boat Landing Resolution

Olson reported that there is a joint effort between ZAC and the Town of Lenroot regarding improvement to the boat landing at the dam site. Construction would consist of a looped access road and removal of some bogs along with some concrete pads poured into the water and a dock. A handicapped fishing pier is also being included in the plans. Bathrooms and parking already exist. A permit has been issued and he asked the Committee for approval of a resolution for grant funding from the Sport Fish Restoration Fund of the DNR. There would be some cost to both county and the town. The Town of Lenroot will be doing most of the work with in-kind labor, clearing, gravel and hauling. The total price is \$51,666.00 and the Sport Fish Restoration will pay half. Gordon Christians stated that there also may be a possibility of cost sharing with the American Disabilities Act for the handicapped pier. Olson estimated the cost of the handicapped pier to be approximately \$12,000.00. Olson suggested that monies could come from the power line account which the project fits the criteria. Another option would be to construct the boat landing now and the fishing pier later which would reduce the cost now. Locations of other ADA docks within the county were discussed as well as how this issue was handled with other townships. Johnson suggested not building the handicapped pier to cut the cost. Motion by Johnson, second by Gundersen to approve and recommend to the Finance Committee a resolution to improve the Nelson Lake boat landing site without the handicap fishing pier. Funding to come from the Environmental Impact Fund. Motion carried. Christians also stated this area would be a good location for a dry hydrant as there are no hydrants in that part of the township. He has submitted an application to the Town of Hayward.

Proposed Amendment to the Non-Metallic Mining Ordinance

Olson passed out copies of the proposed changes to the ordinance stating that a lot has been happening within the State regarding non-metallic mining. Paulsen recommended tabling this issue to next month's meeting to give the Committee time to review the proposal. Olson also mentioned that if the Committee wanted to wait 6 months he had a moratorium already typed up. Motion by Paulsen, second by Johnson to table this to next month's meeting. Motion carried.

Research results and recommendation for allowing horses in the residential zone districts by conditional use.

Paulsen read the results of a survey Olson conducted of other counties regarding the allowance of horses in a residential zone district.

The results were pretty much all over the board. Olson stated that his recommendation is to leave the ordinance as is. Horses are grassland animals that need room to graze and roam and residential lots are generally not large enough for that. Discussion was held on locations within the county where horses are kept. Dick Dewhurst spoke in favor of allowing them in the residential zone districts with a conditional use permit. It was determined that copies of the survey results were to be put in the Committee's mail boxes for them to review and to put this issue on the June agenda for further discussion.

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WeComm Tower Clarification

Olson informed the Committee that he received information from William Niemuth, of WeComm LTD, regarding a request for an exception from the ordinance to construct a 180' amateur radio tower and repeater system with an equipment building on a 300' x 300' leased parcel located in the Town of Meteor, to benefit public safety. Currently, the cell tower ordinance exempts amateur radio towers but the question is does the specifications meet the amateur radio criteria? The tower would have an exposed dipole antenna that would be located at 180 feet with an additional dipole antenna mounted on the side at 100 feet. The equipment building and guy wires would be located within a 6 foot chain link fence. The building would require underground electric and telephone for DSL access. The site would be built with grant funds from the 2011 Hospital Preparedness Grant and the project would need to be completed by June 30, 2012 to use the funds. Midwest Tower of Hudson would provide the site construction. WeComm is a 501 (c)(3) (non-profit) organization. Olson stated there are other towers in that area but he's looking for some guidance from the Committee. Discussion was held on the fee, and the 500 foot setback from property lines The Committee determined that the specs meet the criteria and it is for amateur radio and therefore exempt from the ordinance. Motion by Gundersen, second by Paulsen to allow the construction of the tower based on the exemption in the ordinance, but with the condition that no commercial attachments are to be placed on the antenna. Motion carried 4-1. Johnson voted no.

Department Work Report

Olson submitted the monthly calendar, permits issued, Kristi Maki's work report from January-March and summary of receipts for the month March. He informed the Committee that Assembly Bill 82 passed which adds cougars to the list of animals causing damage and that the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association (WLWCA) and the Wisconsin Association of Land Conservation Employees (WALCE) have merged with an equal amount of supervisors and employees on the state governing board for the area. He also informed the Committee that staff would be attending a WISLINE session about Assembly Bill 472, Wisconsin Act 170 regarding the changes that have passed in legislature, on some shoreland zoning standards and ordinances that regulate the repair and expansion of non-conforming structures and it may be possible that the recently adopted shoreland ordinance (NR115) and the existing zoning ordinance may need to be changed.

Review and Approve Monthly Vouchers

Olson informed the Committee that he received a breakdown of costs associated with the 2012 Ag Bear Agreement from APHIS.

Motion by Paulsen, second by Johnson to approve the monthly vouchers. Motion carried.

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Other Business for Discussion Only

Paulsen informed the Committee that he received an e-mail from someone from SEH informing him that they have finished the longitudinal survey of Osprey Lake and it will be sent to him in a few weeks. Discussion was held on the GIS meeting that was held and the need to complete the parcel mapping.

Adjournment

Motion by Johnson, second by Bassett to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Minutes prepared by Cindy Yackley