



**LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
MONDAY AUGUST 10, 2020, 7:15 P.M.
CALL: 1-312-626-6799
MEETING ID: 821 6329 3966**

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If you are interested in providing public comments on items on this agenda, you must submit your comments by noon on Friday August 7, 2020. To submit a public comment use the following email: andrew.baker@co.rock.wi.us

Join from a telephone:

- On your phone, dial the phone number provided above
- Enter the meeting ID number when prompted, using your dial-pad.
- Please note that long-distance charges may apply. This is not a toll-free number.
- Supervisors: Please identify yourself by name
- **Please mute your phone when you are not speaking to minimize background noises**
- We are new at holding meetings this way, so please be patient

Instructions for the hearing impaired –

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/207279736-Getting-started-with-closed-captioning>

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Monday August 10, 2020, 7:15 P.M.
VIA ZOOM

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes – July 1, 2020
4. Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements
5. Review Bills Paid
6. **Action Item.** Resolution: Recognizing Thomas Sweeney
7. **Action Item.** Resolution: YAHARA RIVER BASIN ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PROJECT APPROVAL OF INCENTIVE PAYMENT
8. **Action Item.** Support for Staff to pursue a Cooperative Agreement with Counties of Dodge, Jefferson and Walworth for an application for (and implementation of) Wisconsin DNR for of cost-sharing grant for lake and river planning, monitoring and protection, and aquatic invasive species. *Brief points to consider:*
 - Example agreement enclosed
 - Pooled resources can fund a share staff person
 - Guaranteed annual money for the Counties that want it, but must apply for it or have designee do so (Nov. 1 deadline)
 - Possibly further partnership with Rock River Coalition
 - More info at <https://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/nr193.html>.
9. **Action Item.** Land and Water Resource Management Program: Approval of Cost Share Agreements
 - Raymond and Jean Firm Trust - Diversion
10. **Action Item.** Producer Led Watershed Group
 - Approval of Letter of Support for creation of “Farmers on the Rock” Producer Led Watershed Group
11. **Informational Item.** Groundwater Workgroup Activities
 - UW-Discovery Farm USDA-NRCS Funding Decision (6/30/2020)
12. **Informational Item.** Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements
13. **Informational Item.** Semi Annual Report – Attendance at Conventions/Conferences
14. Adjourn



MINUTES

ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY JULY 1, 2020, 7:15 P.M. Virtual Meeting - Zoom

- Call to Order:** Chair Bostwick called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Committee Members Present: Stephanie Aegerter, Rich Bostwick, Wes Davis, Kaelyb Lokrantz, Mike Mulligan, James Quade, Alan Sweeney and Jeremy Zajac.

Committee Members Excused: NONE

Others Present: Andrew Baker, LCD; Chris Newberry, LCD; Greg Turco, Citizen; Dr. Brittney Keyes, Citizen; Maggie Bromley, Citizen; Katy Grogan; Citizen.
- Approval of Agenda:** Chair Bostwick asked to move Item 8 on the agenda to after Item 5. The Committee agreed. Supervisor Davis moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Supervisor Mulligan. **Motion Carried.**
- Approval of Minutes – June 3, 2020 LCC meeting:** Supervisor Davis clarified his statement in the minutes regarding the recently revised POROS Plan. The draft minutes reflect he stated the plan is currently being amended. Supervisor Davis stated, rather, the plan is complete and those involved should be commended on a job well done. Supervisor Zajac moved the minutes from the June 3, 2020 LCC meeting with the clarification, seconded by Supervisor Mulligan. **Motion Carried.**
- Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements:** Chair Bostwick welcomed recently hired County Conservationist Andrew Baker back to the Department. Andrew thanked the Committee for the confidence and opportunity to take on the new role.

Citizen Greg Turco, 4606 Hearthstone Dr, Janesville, read his written statement in support of the Resolution In Support of Effective Federal Carbon Fee & Dividend Legislation to Mitigate the Climate Crisis (full statement is available on file and via the meeting recording).

Andrew read the statement of citizen Eugene Beir, 8306 Eagle Dr., Milton, in support of the Resolution In Support of Effective Federal Carbon Fee & Dividend Legislation to Mitigate the Climate Crisis (full statement is available on file and via the meeting recording).

Andrew read the statement of citizen Barbara Fett, 548 Bostwick Ave, Janesville, in support of the Resolution In Support of Effective Federal Carbon Fee & Dividend Legislation to Mitigate the Climate Crisis (full statement is available on file and via the meeting recording).

Citizen Dr. Brittney Keyes, 1611 E Ridge Rd, Beloit, read her written statement in support of the Resolution In Support of Effective Federal Carbon Fee & Dividend Legislation to Mitigate the Climate Crisis (full statement is available on file and via the meeting recording).

Citizen Maggie Bromley, 1025 Willard Ave, Janesville, read her written statement in support of the Resolution In Support of Effective Federal Carbon Fee & Dividend Legislation to Mitigate the Climate Crisis (full statement is available on file and via the meeting recording).

Citizen Katy Grogan, 1735 W Rugby Rd, Janesville, read her written statement in support of the Resolution In Support of Effective Federal Carbon Fee & Dividend Legislation to Mitigate the Climate Crisis (full statement is available on file and via the meeting recording).

5. **Review Bills Paid:** The committee reviewed the bills paid. Supervisor Davis asked a question regarding the payment to David and Lynette Wellnitz. Supervisor Sweeney explained that the payment was for practices to be installed through the Yahara WINS Adaptive Management program. No other questions were asked.

8. **Resolution: In Support of Effective Federal Carbon Fee & Dividend Legislation to Mitigate the Climate Crisis.** (Move up on the agenda). Moved by Supervisor Aegerter, seconded by Supervisor Davis. Supervisor Lokrantz introduced the resolution, including recognizing the other communities that have passed similar resolutions. Citizen Katy Grogan, leader of Citizens Climate Lobby, provided additional comments in support of the resolution. She explained that there are differences between the various draft legislation at the Capital right now. This resolution supports an option that has a low administrative cost. Ms. Grogan fielded questions. The Committee was informed that this resolution was passed on a 5-4 vote at County Board Staff Committee. Supervisor Davis asked if the City of Janesville has approved a similar resolution, to which the answer is yes. The City of Beloit has not. Supervisor Aegerter noted that the authors of the resolution carefully worded the resolution to specifically avoid giving the impression that this is solely a "climate change is real" message. Supervisor Lokrantz noted that the specific bill that this resolution is in support of has exemptions for military and agricultural activities. Supervisor Sweeney made comment against of the resolution, stating a carbon tax is a regressive tax and noted that in Europe where measures such as this have been put in place the cost of goods and services are too high. Supervisor Sweeney considers this concept a short sighted solution, noting this type of legislation has led to increased burning of wood rather than other fuels, which still releases carbon. With that, noting the clear support from others, Supervisor Sweeney moved to call the question to end discussion, seconded by Mr. Quade. The motion was defeated by a voice vote. Supervisor Davis asked if there is a fiscal impact directly related to this resolutions, which there is not since it is advisor only. Supervisor Aegerter future clarified that this type of legislation would result in effectively a tax on producers and exporters. There was additional discussion. Chair Bostwick called for the vote. **Motion Carried** (w/ Sweeney dissent).

6. **Construction Site Erosion Control/Storm Water Management Ordinance: Request to Waive Double Permit Fees – MS Properties.** Andrew explained the landowner's request that double permit fees be waived for an after-the-fact permit for a project that was started in the fall of 2019. Waiving of any permit fee is an action only the LCC can address. All fees have already been paid, so this is a request for a refund of a portion of the fees. Andrew referenced the landowner's letter in the packet and a staff report that was sent out via email earlier in the day. Supervisor Sweeney clarified that the request is to waive only the doubled portion of the total fee, not the fee in general. Andrew stated yes, the request is to return the doubled portion of the fee, totaling \$1,601.50. Andrew confirmed with the staff involved with the project that the landowner is currently in compliance the approved permit and the project is progressing. He also noted, as included in the staff reported, that two citations were paid for this violation (one for each applicable Ordinance), totaling \$1535.00. That action is not being appealed to the Committee, nor can it be. Andrew stated that the staff recommendation is the LCC approve a waiver of the double fee requirement with the condition that the erosion control and storm water management portions of project are substantially completed within the duration of the permit (1 year) and permit compliance is maintained. Completion of the building construction may occur after the permit duration provided only incidental stabilization around the building remains. Supervisor Aegerter moved to approve the request with the conditions as presented by staff, seconded by Supervisor Lokrantz.

7. **Resolution: Extending the Deadline for the Workgroup to Study High Nitrates Levels in Rock County's Groundwater.** Moved by Supervisor Lokrantz, seconded by Supervisor Quade. Chris Newberry explain the purpose of the resolution. The Workgroup is making good progress, but will not be able to complete the current task and sees value to extending work beyond the current deadline of December 31, 2020. If approved, the Workgroup will be extend to through December 2025. Chair Bostwick call for the vote. **Motion Carried.**

9. **Land and Water Resource Management Program - Approval of Cost Share Agreements:** Andrew Baker reviewed the Cost Share agreement to be considered for approval, one well abandonment for Roger Rebout and Sons Farm. Supervisor Zajac moved to approve the cost share agreement presented for approval, seconded by Supervisor Aegerter. **Motion Carried.**

10. **Update – Groundwater Workgroup Activities.** Chris Newberry gave the committee an update on activities since the last meeting. Chris also stated that the producer led watershed group effort is floundering somewhat due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The last meeting was held in February. Chris has a list of potential interested parties from the last meeting and will be scheduling another meeting shortly. It is likely that LCD will be taking the lead on this effort due to changes in UWEX staffing priorities. Supervisor Davis asked questions about lysimeters and whether or not there is currently state funding for the project. Chris stated there is not.

11. **Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements - Update.** Andrew stated he is working on final documentation for the Barlass Easements. The acquisition has been slowed somewhat for the property on County A due to right-of-way acquisition for the highway rebuild that has not been completed yet. The application period for the next cycle ends August 31st. Andrew will double check with past applicants that were not funded regarding interest in reapplying.

12. **Update – MS4 Permit Program.** Andrew stated that the agenda was amended to include this item following discussions with the County Administrator. He explained that the County is required to have a storm water permit for discharges from the County Highways with in the Urbanized Areas outside Janesville and Beloit. This permit has been required since 2006 and includes multiple requirements that the County has to meet, including public information and outreach and storm water quality modelling related to the Rock River TMDL. The permit has been revised/updated a number of times, with the most recent dated May 1, 2019 (5 year duration)The LCD is lead on the permit compliance efforts, but there is cooperation with Public Works. Based on program review the DNR last fall/winter, the County has been deemed out of compliance with the permit conditions. This resulted in a Notice of Violation sent to the Administrator's office. Andrew, Administrator Smith and Director of Public Works Duane Jorgenson had an enforcement conference with the DNR on June 30th discuss and clarify the concerns. Some items are minor, others will take more resources to address. Staff has agreed to provide a response with a timeline to address the matters by August 3, 2020. Compliance may require action by the LCC on policy or ordinance amendments in the future. Staff will keep the LCC informed in the process.

13. **Adjourn:** Supervisor Zajac moved to adjourn the July 1, 2020 Land Conservation Committee meeting at 8:29 pm, seconded by Supervisor Davis. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew Baker
County Conservationist

Minutes are not official until adopted by the Land Conservation Committee.

COMMITTEE REVIEW REPORT
WITH DESCRIPTION
FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2020

Account Number	Account Name	PO#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Description	Inv/Enc Amt
62-6200-0000-63100	Office&Misc Exp					
		P2000032	07/16/2020	US BANK	OFFICE SUPPLIES - STAPLES	64.45
62-6200-0000-65321	Building Lease					
		P2000025	07/16/2020	SILHA LLC,DAN	2020 OFFICE RENT JUL AUG SEPT	5,147.49
					Land Conservation PROG TOTAL	5,211.94
62-6225-0000-62199	Prof Services					
		P2000029	07/16/2020	USDA APHIS GENERAL	USDA FIELD SERVICES	1,804.03
					Wildlife Damage/Assmts PROG TOTAL	1,804.03
62-6280-0000-64928	Cost Sharing					
		P2001507	07/02/2020	TARTAN FARM CORPORATION	LR-007.20 WATERWAY SYSTEM	2,170.00
		P2001508	07/02/2020	Q AND N FARMS LLC	LR-006.20 WATERWAY SYSTEM	7,000.00
					LWC Plan Implementation Grant PROG TOTAL	9,170.00
62-6300-0000-64918	Marketing					
		P2001563	07/16/2020	ROCK VALLEY PUBLISHING LLC	CLEAN SWEEP AD	98.17
		P2001565	07/16/2020	ADAMS PUBLISHING GROUP OF SOUT	CLEAN SWEEP AD'S	542.85
					Household Clean Sweep PROG TOTAL	641.02

**COMMITTEE REVIEW REPORT
WITH DESCRIPTION
FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2020**

Account Number	Account Name	PO#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Description	Inv/Enc Amt
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I have reviewed the preceding payments in the total amount of **\$16,826.99**

Date:

Dept Head _____

Committee Chair _____

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Rich Bostwick
INITIATED BY



Randy Terronez
DRAFTED BY

Land Conservation Committee
SUBMITTED BY

July 7, 2020
DATE DRAFTED

Recognizing Thomas Sweeney

1 **WHEREAS**, Thomas (Tom) Sweeney began his employment with Rock County as County
2 Conservationist on May 10, 1999; and,
3

4 **WHEREAS**, Tom oversaw the development of the well-received Household Hazardous Waste (Clean
5 Sweep) program, Clean Sweep program, Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements (PACE)
6 program, Yahara River Watershed program and the Groundwater Nitrate Study Work Group program;
7 and,
8

9 **WHEREAS**, Tom will retire from public service on September 4, 2020.

10
11 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
12 this _____ day of _____, 2020, does hereby recognize Thomas Sweeney for his over 21
13 years of faithful service and recommends that a sincere expression of appreciation be given to Tom along
14 with best wishes for the future.

Respectfully submitted,

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE

Richard Bostwick, Chair

/s/ Kara Purviance

Kara Purviance, Chair

Alan Sweeney, Vice Chair

/s/ Richard Bostwick

Richard Bostwick, Vice Chair

Stephanie Aegerter

/s/ Tom Brien

Tom Brien

Wes Davis

/s/ Kevin Leavy

Kevin Leavy

Kaelyb Lokrantz

/s/ Louis Peer

Louis Peer

Mike Mulligan

/s/ J. Russell Podzilni

J. Russell Podzilni

James Quade, USDA-FSA Rep.

/s/ Alan Sweeney

Alan Sweeney

Jeremy Zajac

Absent

Bob Yeomans

/s/ Jeremy Zajac

Jeremy Zajac

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AGENDA NO. _____

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

LAND CONSERVATION
COMMITTEE
INITIATED BY



ANDREW BAKER
DRAFTED BY

LAND CONSERVATION
COMMITTEE
SUBMITTED BY

JULY 30, 2020
DATE DRAFTED

**YAHARA RIVER BASIN ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PROJECT
APPROVAL OF INCENTIVE PAYMENT**

- 1 **WHEREAS**, Yahara Watershed Improvement Network (Yahara WINS) approached the Land
2 Conservation Department (LCD) in 2016 to discuss the merits of developing a partnership for the
3 Adaptive Management Program, for Rock County's portion of the Yahara River Watershed; and,
4
5 **WHEREAS**, Adaptive Management Projects allows municipalities to implement phosphorus reducing
6 projects within the watershed in lieu of making very expensive upgrades to their wastewater treatment
7 facilities while meeting water quality goals for phosphorus. The most cost effective projects for
8 phosphorus reduction can be found in the implementation of best management practices within the
9 agricultural sector; and,
10
11 **WHEREAS**, through many discussions with Yahara WINS management and Land Conservation
12 Department (LCD) staff a service agreement was developed, outlining all requirements for the
13 programs goals and expectations for both parties, more specifically the agreement requires Yahara
14 WINS to reimburse Rock County for all costs associated with the implementation of phosphorus runoff
15 abatement best management practices and associated costs for staff and support for said project on a
16 dollar for dollar basis; and,
17
18 **WHEREAS**, the Service Agreement was entered into by the Land Conservation Committee (LCC)
19 and Yahara WINS in early 2017, which allowed the LCD to commence with the implementation phase
20 of the Adaptive Management Project in Rock County's portion of the Yahara River Watershed; and,
21
22 **WHEREAS**, since early 2017, LCD staff has engaged landowners who expressed interest in program
23 participation, which has resulted in best management practice installation agreements to be initiated by
24 the land owners and the LCC; and,
25
26 **WHEREAS**, in some instances the BMP costs will exceed the Rock County's set financial thresholds
27 which require additional approvals by the Finance Committee and County Board of Supervisors; and,
28
29 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Best Management Practice Installation Agreements WINS-04.18, WINS-
30 5.18, WINS-1.19 and WINS-7.19 will exceed the aforesaid thresholds to provide funding for the
31 establishment of a water quality harvestable buffer system in the Yahara River Watershed. The
32 mentioned agreement is based on an incentive payment which requires the landowner to operate and
33 maintain the BMP system for a period of fifteen years.
34
35 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly
36 assembled this _____ day of _____, 2020, approves the incentive payments for Rock
37 County Best Management Practice Installation Agreement WINS-04.18 in the sum of \$14,850, WINS-
38 5.18 in the sum of \$16,500, WINS-1.19 in the sum of \$28,515 and WINS-7.19 in the sum of \$13,320

Respectfully submitted:

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Richard Bostwick, Chair

Alan Sweeney, Vice Chair

Stephanie Aegerter

Wes Davis

Kaelyb Lokrantz

Robert Potter

James Quade, USDA-FSA Rep.

Jeremy Zajac

FISCAL NOTE:

Yahara WINS will reimburse 100% of these costs. No County funds are required.

/s/ Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja
Finance Director

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

/s/ Josh Smith

Josh Smith
County Administrator

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §§ 59.01, 59.51 and 92.07(3), Wis. Stats.

/s/ Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Yahara River Watershed is threatened by excessive phosphorus from sources identified as agricultural runoff, urban storm water and wastewater treatment plant discharges. The elevated phosphorus levels are a threat to water quality and aquatic life throughout the Yahara Watershed. The Yahara Watershed Improvement Network (Yahara WINS), began in 2012 to reduce all phosphorus loads and meet water quality standards established by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). This program employs watershed adaptive management, a strategy in which all producers of phosphorus pollution, point and non-point sources, in the Yahara watershed basin work together to meet water quality goals. This strategy is more effective and less expensive than the sources working separately on individual solutions. Partners in Yahara WINS include cities, villages, towns, wastewater treatment plants, agricultural producers, environmental groups and others.

Yahara WINS approached the Land Conservation Department in 2016 to discuss the merits of developing a partnership to apply best management practices in Rock County's portion of the Yahara River watershed. A Service Agreement was entered into by both parties and the Land Conservation Department's Budget was amended to facilitate the cost share and/or incentive agreements.

Since then, staff has been engaged with various landowners whom expressed interest in the overall programs goals. Numerous agreements have been signed by landowners who have implemented best management practices. A number of agreements exceed the financial threshold established by County Board rules, requiring actions by both the Finance Committee and County Board of Supervisors. The payments for Rock County Best Management Practice Installation Agreement WINS-04.18 in the sum of \$14,850, WINS-5.18 in the sum of \$16,500, WINS-1.19 in the sum of \$28,515 and WINS-7.19 in the sum of \$13,320 will exceed the established threshold.

Yahara WINS reimburses the County for costs associated with the aforementioned work, on a dollar for dollar basis.

Cooperative Agreement
to Satisfy Eligibility for
(designated agent name)
Calendar Year (2021)

Example

Blue highlighting indicates work currently performed by the Jefferson County
Water Resources Management Specialist

Project Title: _____

Term of Agreement: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

A. General Purpose

This Agreement documents the manner in which the (designated agent name) (hereafter “agent”) will provide core Aquatic Invasive Species (“AIS”) Prevention and Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (“CLMN”) services in the coverage area during the Term of Agreement referenced above. The coverage area includes the following counties: (county name), _____, and _____.

B. (county name) County designates (designated agent name) as its agent.

C. Goal of (county name) County

To improve surface water quality through the detection, prevention, and control of AIS and monitoring of lake water quality conditions.

D. Goal of the (designated agent name)

To provide technical assistance to communities, stakeholders, and volunteers within the coverage area to prevent the spread of AIS, to provide education about AIS impacts and prevention, and to conduct lake monitoring.

E. Annual Meeting Requirement

All parties agree to meet annually to plan, prioritize, and coordinate pilot project activities.

F. Duties of the Agent

In cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), the agent agrees to continue to implement an AIS Prevention and Outreach Program throughout coverage area. The agent will perform the following:

1) Provide local support and assistance in implementation of statewide communication and education priorities to ensure consistent AIS messaging.

a. Work with WDNR and UW Madison, Division of Extension in implementation of the Wisconsin Statewide Aquatic Invasive Species Strategic Plan.

- b. Collaborate with WDNR on delivery of consistent project communication, outreach, and educational programming.
- c. Participate in and coordinate local partner involvement in at least four statewide AIS initiatives including Landing Blitz, Drain Campaign, Waterfowl Hunter Outreach, Bait Shop Initiative and other campaigns as directed by the WDNR to AIS stakeholders in the coverage area. This includes providing media tools, resources, and messaging prompts to partners.
- d. Coordinate with WDNR staff and other local partners within the coverage area to share AIS prevention and education efforts.
- e. Meet with cooperative invasive species management areas (CISMAs), to assist with AIS education, monitoring, and response efforts.
- f. Assist AIS grant recipients with AIS education and outreach tools to ensure consistent messaging as grants are awarded.
- g. Participate in WDNR training on AIS Response Framework, including verification of AIS.
- h. Assist the WDNR, UW Madison, Division of Extension, UW-Sea Grant, and other partners in identifying audiences and knowledge gaps in AIS prevention, awareness, and compliance.
- i. Attend annual WDNR AIS and UW Lakes Partnership events and training sessions including, but not limited to:
 - i. AIS Partnership meetings
 - ii. Aquatic Invasive Species training sessions
 - iii. Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) trainings
 - iv. CLMN trainings
 - v. Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol trainings
 - vi. AIS Response Framework trainings
- j. Adhere to decontamination and disinfection protocols required by the WDNR for controlling, transporting, and disposing of aquatic plants and animals, and moving water. This includes requirements under s. 30.07, Wis. Stats., and ss. NR 19.055 and NR 40.07, Wis. Adm. Code, as well as compliance with the most recent WDNR approved 'Boat, Gear, and Equipment Decontamination and Disinfection Protocol'.
- k. Serve as media contact for the coverage area for all WDNR campaigns.

- 2) Coordinate the CLMN in (county name) County:
 - a. Conduct at least 2 CLMN training workshops for volunteers.
 - b. Order, manage, and distribute lake monitoring equipment.
 - c. Train new volunteers on use of monitoring equipment, as needed.
 - d. Perform at least 1 field checks on citizen monitors and conduct quality assurance checks on data entered into the WDNR Surface Water Integrated Monitoring System (SWIMS) by citizen monitors at the end of monitoring year.
 - e. Provide email/phone support to answer questions and be point of contact to CLMN volunteers.
 - f. Assist with SWIMS data entry, as needed.
- 3) Collect and report other chemical, biological, or physical data on lakes and lake ecosystems, including data on water levels and lake ice extent and duration as requested by WDNR.
- 4) Coordinate early detection monitoring for AIS:
 - a. Serve as local coordinator of the annual AIS Snapshot Day by recruiting and training volunteers and monitor at least 4 locations. (Jefferson County: done when time allows)
 - b. Monitor for AIS using CLMN methods at public boat launches.
 - c. Provide AIS response monitoring based on reports of AIS findings or repeated instances of AIS.
 - d. Assist with other AIS Pathways monitoring including pet store monitoring as needed by the WDNR, US Fish and Wildlife Service, UW Sea Grant, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), etc.
 - e. Conduct at least one Project Riverine Early Detection (Project RED) training workshop for volunteers.
- 5) Coordinate the Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) watercraft inspection program in (county name) County:
 - a. Seek volunteers to staff boat launches and educate boaters about AIS and prevention steps. (Jefferson County – as time allows)
 - b. Organize and coordinate at least three (Jefferson County = 1-2) CBCW trainings to train volunteers and/or paid staff on methods to conduct boat inspections and educate boaters about the AIS prevention steps.
 - c. Work with partners to apply for CBCW grants to fund additional inspectors.
- 6) Coordinate the implementation of the Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Program in (county name) County:
 - a. Support and expand the existing network of purple loosestrife biocontrol partners.
 - b. Plan and conduct at least one training workshop for purple loosestrife biocontrol partners.
 - c. Help identify insectaries, coordinate the collection and distribution of purple loosestrife biocontrol organisms to all interested partners, and target the release of organisms, where needed, in (county name) County.

- d. Work with WDNR and UW Madison, Division of Extension to report infestations and track biocontrol releases in the SWIMS database.
- 7) Write a monthly electronic newsletter to provide AIS information and updates on Coordinator activities/outreach to partners:
- a. Each monthly newsletter will have, on average, two AIS-related articles.
 - b. Articles from newsletter will be shared through relevant social media.
 - c. Share relevant AIS articles with new and previously established partners for use in their newsletters.
 - d. Submit newsletter to county partners and WDNR contacts: (Jeanne.Scherer@wisc.edu).
- 8) Coordinate checks on WDNR AIS signage at lake/river public access sites within (county name) County:
- a. Conduct inspections of at least 10 public access sites to verify WDNR AIS signage is in place and in good condition.
 - b. Use WDNR-approved forms to conduct signage inspections and enter data in SWIMS.
 - c. Maintain digital photographs of AIS signs that have been inspected.
 - d. Install WDNR AIS signage, as needed, and per installation protocol. (Jefferson County = provided signs to partners to install)
 - e. Work with WDNR to design additional AIS signage, as needed.
- 9) Provide AIS outreach and education to local partners and AIS stakeholders:
- a. Conduct AIS and Habitattitude outreach and education at local schools, events, meetings, etc.:
 - i. Including, but not limited to, large public festivals, farmers markets, presentations to local school children (when requested), fishing tournaments, Habitattitude pet surrender events, and stakeholder meetings (e.g., Conservation clubs, boating clubs, angling clubs, etc.).
 - ii. AIS and Habitattitude outreach and education will be held minimally at 20 events/meetings/tournaments/etc.
 - b. Network with AIS stakeholders and partners at local events and meetings.
 - c. Contact at least five bait shops as part of the statewide Bait Shop Initiative and provide AIS outreach message and materials.
 - d. Share, on average, 2-3 AIS related posts per month via social media to increase AIS awareness and reinforce prevention messaging.
- 10) Facilitate entry of all data into SWIMS:
- a. Train partners how to enter AIS information into SWIMS, including for CBCW, CLMN, Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol, etc.
 - b. Ensure data entry into SWIMS is completed per annual reporting requirements that may include CBCW, CLMN, Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol, Snapshot Day, AIS Signage monitoring, and any incidental AIS findings.
- 11) Retain, for a period of six years after the end date of this agreement, all project records, including proofs of payment and proofs of purchase, showing events/tasks undertaken as part of this agreement.

- a. This shall include:
 - i. Training sessions attended.
 - ii. Training sessions held and name of participants attending.
 - iii. Meetings with stakeholders and/or partner groups.
 - iv. AIS outreach activities.
 - v. Media contacts.
- b. Participate in meetings with WDNR to discuss agreement accomplishments and financial status.

- 12) Submit semi-annual progress reports to (county name) County and WDNR.
- 13) Submit final reimbursement request to WDNR on forms provided by WDNR no later than 60 days after the end of this agreement.

G. Duties of (county name) County

- 1) To attend periodic meetings or conference calls with WDNR and (designated agent name) for the furtherance of this project.

		<u>County Allotments</u>
(county name) County		\$ _____
(county name) County		\$ _____
(county name) County		\$ _____
(county name) County		\$ _____
Total		\$ _____

		<u>Proposed Expenditures</u>
AIS Coordinator Salary and Fringe		\$ _____
Project Administration		\$ _____
Travel		\$ _____
Training, Marketing, Supplies		\$ _____
Office space, phone, internet, web pages		\$ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$ _____
Total		\$ _____

H. Declaration

By affixing our signatures below, we swear that the document above accurately portrays the relationship and intent of all parties.

FOR (county name) County
By:

FOR (designated agent name)
By:

Title:

Title:

Date Signed

Date Signed

Lake Protection & Monitoring Network: Funding Allocation Model

DRAFT 07 October 2019

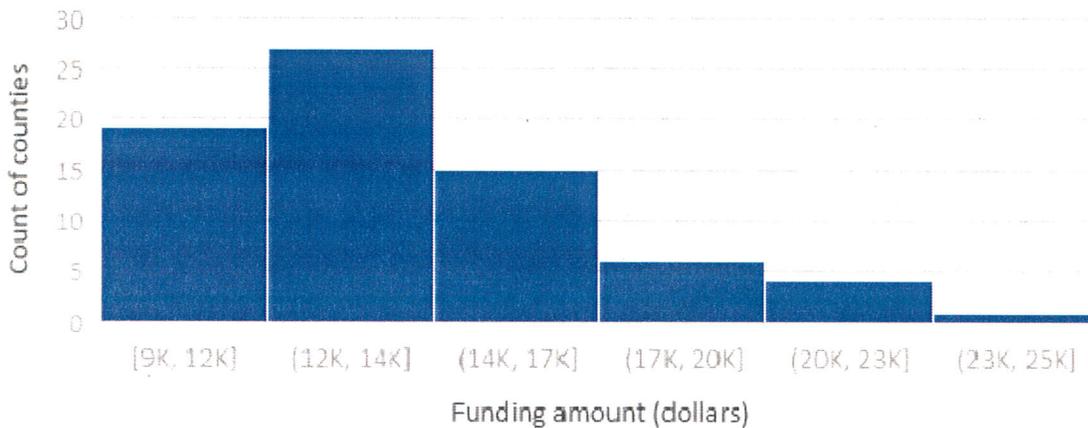
Results

Per-county funding allocation for this DRAFT model, where total funding appropriation is \$ 1,000,000

Adams	10,841.68
Ashland	16,178.26
Barron	14,794.42
Bayfield	20,090.27
Brown	11,087.00
Buffalo	10,475.52
Burnett	16,506.26
Calumet	14,143.86
Chippewa	14,770.19
Clark	12,136.46
Columbia	13,184.53
Crawford	9,457.42
Dane	21,316.24
Dodge	14,220.98
Door	12,371.23
Douglas	19,223.19
Dunn	11,764.68
Eau Claire	12,361.27
Florence	13,466.06
Fond du Lac	15,558.48
Forest	17,922.25
Grant	11,723.17
Green	10,935.31
Green Lake	11,849.11

Iowa	10,914.45
Iron	16,267.32
Jackson	13,899.04
Jefferson	13,003.36
Juneau	13,414.86
Kenosha	13,676.12
Kewaunee	10,316.18
La Crosse	11,336.18
Lafayette	10,367.40
Langlade	15,041.50
Lincoln	16,224.09
Manitowoc	11,881.03
Marathon	16,402.71
Marinette	19,934.19
Marquette	11,744.53
Menominee	10,822.18
Milwaukee	13,157.86
Monroe	12,188.79
Oconto	18,732.71
Oneida	22,003.33
Outagamie	11,382.89
Ozaukee	11,446.47
Pepin	9,014.19
Pierce	10,806.70

Polk	14,947.85
Portage	13,955.24
Price	16,656.90
Racine	13,053.49
Richland	9,578.37
Rock	11,017.45
Rusk	13,637.06
Saint Croix	10,734.22
Sauk	13,058.86
Sawyer	22,681.91
Shawano	17,518.44
Sheboygan	12,148.74
Taylor	13,443.66
Trempealeau	11,148.96
Vernon	9,070.83
Vilas	18,780.58
Walworth	16,133.95
Washburn	15,288.50
Washington	13,073.48
Waukesha	18,432.30
Waupaca	15,372.40
Waushara	12,300.02
Winnebago	14,513.81
Wood	13,097.11





Rock County Land Conservation Department

440 N US Hwy 14

Janesville, WI 53546-9708

Phone: (608) 754 - 6617

July 29, 2020

To whom it may concern:

This letter is to support the creation of the Farmers on the Rock, a producer led watershed group and a Memorandum of Understanding with the group. The purpose of the Farmers on the Rock is to reduce nitrate loading in groundwater and surface waters from agriculture in Rock County. Rock County Land Conservation Department, in partnership with the Rock County Public Health Department has identified numerous areas within the County of Rock where nitrate well tests results have shown an increasing trend of elevated nitrate levels above the Preventative Action Limit of 2mg/l and Enforcement Standard of 10mg/l. As a result of the observations and data collected, Rock County developed a Groundwater Nitrate Workgroup, composed of respected leaders from multi-agencies, agricultural producers, and agricultural industries, to provide assist with numerous objectives regarding upward trends of nitrates found in groundwater and well water. One objective was the establishment of a groundwater nitrate pilot project on the County Farm which includes the establishment of three observation wells and implementation of best management practices on the aforementioned farm. Another objective is the establishment of a producer led watershed effort to assist with the efforts of reducing nitrates entering the groundwater system. A third objective is to create partnerships with agencies and the agricultural community, to establish BMPs to reduce nitrate in groundwater, and to educate the community to launch the BMPs.

We are eager for the establishment of the Farmers on the Rock. The assistance of peer to peer education and implementation of conservation practices will assist the county in meeting one of their objectives in reducing the nitrate concentration in the groundwater.

Rock County will commit to contribute staff time, fringe benefits and travel costs needed to assist Farmers on the Rock in implementing conservation practices, managing funds, communication, planning and attending educational events and other resources. Rock County will provide assistance through various Conservation Specialists along with assistance from the UW Extension staff for the Information and Education efforts.

We sincerely hope to be able to work together starting later in 2020, work that we are confident will be incredibly significant to our county and state.

Sincerely,

Richard Bostwick
Chair, Rock County Land Conservation Committee

Alan Sweeney
Chair, Rock County Groundwater Workgroup



Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grants Now Open for 2021

Release Date: July 21, 2020

Media Contact: Leeann Duwe, Public Information Officer, (608) 224-5130,
leeannm.duwe@wi.gov

MADISON – The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is accepting applications for the Producer-Led Watershed Protection grant program. Applications are due by September 21. These grants are awarded to producer-led groups whose projects help support and advance conservation initiatives by bringing farmers together with their local communities. Each group is eligible for up to \$40,000 each year in matching funds.

“Producer-led groups continue to build strong communities that work to protect our state’s water quality and soil health,” said Governor Tony Evers. “Supporting connections between farmers and neighbors at the local level helps to address environmental challenges in rural areas across the state. As climate change continues to affect our state in many ways, producer-led groups are a critical part of ensuring the strength of Wisconsin’s agriculture industry for generations to come.”

Producer-led grants help farmers develop solutions for the water and soil quality issues in their area. Farmers and community members work together to identify strategies that are best suited for their specific watershed based on land surface, soil type, types of operations, resource concerns, and other factors that differ among regions of the state.

“With the increased funding provided in the 2019-2021 biennial state budget, more producer-led groups have the opportunity to build their current network or start a new one,” added DATCP Secretary-designee Randy Romanski. “With greater opportunity for more groups to receive grant funding, Wisconsin’s agricultural producers can continue to help lead conservation innovation in their own industry and their own communities.”

Application Requirements

Applicants must be groups of at least five farmers whose farms are in the same watershed. A watershed is an area of land where precipitation collects and drains into a body of water. Each farm must have produced at least \$6,000 in gross farm revenue last year, or \$18,000 over the past three years. Each group must partner with either a county land conservation committee, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension, or a nonprofit conservation organization. Both newly formed and established groups may apply. Grant funds cannot pay for real estate, loans, equipment purchases, or lobbying.

How to Apply

DATCP will only accept applications by email in Microsoft Word format. Application materials are available at https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/ProducerLedProjects.aspx. For questions, contact Rachel Rushmann by email at rachel.rushmann@wi.gov or by phone at (608) 224-4622.

Background

Since 2015, DATCP has awarded about \$2 million to 31 producer-led watershed groups across the state. Groups have focused on education, field trials, incentive payments for implementing conservation practices, conferences and field days, and gathering baseline data on soil health and water quality.

###

Find more DATCP news in our [newsroom](#), and on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).



June 30, 2020

Brenda Egan
Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System
21 North Park Street, Suite 6401
Madison, WI 53715-1218

Dear Brenda,

Thank you for the proposal submission (#MSN240840) for NRCS Wisconsin funding opportunity number USDA-NRCS-WI-CCA-20-GEN0010656. NRCS greatly appreciates the time commitment by UW Division of Extension to develop a quality proposal submission.

NRCS Wisconsin received 18 proposal submissions for this opportunity, with a total federal funding request that exceeded 11.8 million dollars. We were very pleased with the large quantity of proposal submissions and for all the excellent potential partnership opportunities from which to select.

All proposals received by the submission deadline were reviewed by a NRCS technical review board. The board evaluated and ranked the proposals based on the criteria and priorities as stated in the funding opportunity announcement. Due to a reduced quantity of NRCS funding being made available than originally anticipated, NRCS Wisconsin can only proceed with award approval for a limited quantity of proposals.

Unfortunately, the proposal submission by UW Division of Extension was not selected for funding approval due to the outcome of the ranking process and NRCS funding availability.

NRCS Wisconsin greatly appreciates all the effort made by UW Division of Extension associated with the proposal. While it is unfortunate that NRCS cannot proceed with funding, it is hoped that new opportunities will become available in the future to collaborate and to advance shared conservation goals and objectives.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please let me know.

Respectfully,

Eric Allness
Assistant State Conservationist – Partnerships

cc:
Amber Radatz, UW-Discovery Farms
Angela Biggs, State Conservationist, NRCS, Madison, WI



Rock County Land Conservation Department

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Land Conservation Committee
County Administrator Josh Smith

From: Andrew Baker, County Conservationist/Acting Planning Director

Date: July 12, 2020

Re: Semi Annual Report – Attendance at Conventions/Conferences

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "AMB", is located to the right of the "From:" line.

Per resolution 06-9A-087, each department head is responsible for reporting on a semi annual basis all out of state training conventions or conferences along with associated costs per event, per employee and of all instances of attendance at all training, conventions, and conferences that exceed costs of \$1,000 per event, per employee (in state or out of state). This memorandum is for informational purposes.

Please be advised that no Land Conservation Department employee attended an out of state event or any event that exceeded the \$1,000 threshold per event, per employee for the first half of 2020.