



## MEETING MINUTES

**Committee:** Agriculture & Extension and Land Conservation Committee/Solid Waste Committee  
**Date:** Monday, December 14, 2020  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Location:** County Board Room, Lower Level of the Safety Building, 840 Clermont Street

The following discussion was held by the Committee at the meeting detailed above:

1. Meeting called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Chairperson Fischer.

### AG & EXTENSION AND LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE/SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

Name	Role	Status
Sandy Fischer	Chair	Present
Ron Nye	Vice-Chair	Present
Carol Feller Gottard	Member	Present
Reinhardt Balcerzak	Member	Present
Tom Schmidt	FSA Representative/Member	Present
Thomas Bauknecht	Member	Absent

### Non-Committee Members Present

Name	Interest	Name	Interest
Chris Arrowood	Land Conservation Technician	Carrie Kubacki	Health and Well Being Educator, Via Phone
Duane Haakenson	Zoning Administrator	Becky Rank	Deputy County Clerk/ Rec. Sec
Art Lersch	Area Extension Director	Holly Luerssen	4-H Program Coordinator, Via Phone
Dan Marzu	Ag Educator, Via Phone	Beth Meyer	Food Wise Educator, Via Phone

2. **Pledge of Allegiance.**

Motion by Nye, second by Balcerzak to excuse Bauknecht from today's meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

3. **Approve previous meeting minutes.** Motion by Nye, second by Feller Gottard to approve the previous meeting minutes of November 9, 2020. All ayes, motion carried.

4. **Public Comment on agenda items, and consideration of requests for items to be added to future meeting agendas.** None

5. **Land Conservation Business:**

- a. **Agency reports:** Arrowood stated Jeremy Irish from USDA-APHIS contacted him stating he will not report to the Committee until spring. Information only.

- b. **Discuss Chapter 19 of the Langlade County Code of Ordinances.** Arrowood stated after review he would like to have Chapter 19 rescinded from the Langlade County Code of Ordinances. Arrowood stated the information in this chapter is redundant in other chapters. Arrowood discussed the Annual self-certifications, stating he would like to stop this process stating it is not cost effective or efficient. The Committee would like Robin Stowe to attend the next meeting to discuss the discontinuation of the Annual self-certifications for Farmland Preservation. Haakenson stated the County Code of Ordinances will be discussed with Department Heads on December 17, 2020. Arrowood will email each Committee member a copy of the Chapter 19 for review. Information only.

## Meeting Minutes (Continued)

- c. **Discuss Farmland Preservation Notice of Noncompliance.** Arrowood updated the Committee on the Farmland Preservation Notice of Noncompliance. Arrowood stated usually by this time of the year the Land Conservation Department has notified the Committee a list of farms that are in Noncompliance of Farmland Preservation. However due to COVID the class was unavailable that helped the farmers write the Farmland Preservation Plan. Arrowood is working with the farmers that need more assistance in completing the plan. Information only.
  - d. **November Budget Update.** Arrowood presented the Committee with a written November monthly budget. Arrowood stated the department is over on supplies but under budget in travel and training. Committee reviewed with no questions or concerns. Information only.
  - e. **Department Update.** Arrowood presented the Committee with a written November department update. Arrowood stated he started in the Conservationist position on 11/16/2020. Arrowood stated the Conservation Technician position is vacant and has been posted internal and external with deadline for applications on 12/16/2020. Arrowood stated he is working on do the Farmland Preservation Spot checks, submitting grants and working with NRCS to get projects installed. Information only.
  - f. **Reports of events attended:** Balcerzak updated the Committee on the Mary Lake District Meeting. Feller Gottard stated the Post Lake Meeting was held by Zoom, however due to technical issues was unable to attend. Feller Gottard stated she contacted the Chairman and has obtained a recording of the meeting to review. Haakenson wanted the Committee to be aware of the high-water levels in Langlade County. Haakenson discussed the combination of the water cycles and record level rain this year.
6. **Ag & Extension Business:**
- a. **Program Updates: Health & Wellness Program, FoodWise Program, 4-H Program and Agriculture Program (including Research Station), Office Program Assistants.** Ag Educator Dan Marzu, Positive Youth Development/Health & Well-Being Educator Carrie Kubacki, 4-H Program Educator Holly Luerssen and Food Wise Educator Beth Meyer were present by phone to answer any questions on the written reports given to each Committee Member. Lersch presented the Committee with a letter from the Antigo Community Food Pantry thanking UW Extension of Langlade County for the generous donation of 1,360 pounds of potatoes. Information only. Reports will be on file in the County Clerk's office.
  - b. **Lead Office Program Assistant position.** Lersch stated Amanda Budzenski has accepted the Lead Office Program Assistant position. Lersch updated the Committee on the possibility that Budzenski may leave the County to pursue other career options. Lersch would like Committee approval to refill that position if Budzenski leaves the position. Motion by Feller Gottard, second by Balcerzak to approve the refill of the Lead Office Program Assistant if it becomes available forwarding it onto the Personnel Committee. All ayes, motion carried.
  - c. **November budget summary for Ag & Extension.** Lersch presented the Committee with a written November Ag & Extension budget summary. Lersch stated Ag & Extension will be under budget for the 2020 year. Lersch stated the savings is from travel and training due to COVID and a vacancy in the department. Committee reviewed with no concerns. Information only.
  - d. **Office hours overview.** Lersch updated the Committee on Ag & Extension office hours. Lersch stated almost 1 year ago the office was approved to open early Monday through Friday and close at noon on Friday. Lersch stated this has good well with no complaints. Lersch stated he will bring this item back periodically for review. Information only.

## Meeting Minutes (Continued)

- e. **Area Director university update:** Lersch updated the Committee stating the UW Extension staff will need to take furlough between January 2021 to July 2021. Lersch stated interim president Tommy Thompson has requested funds from the state for the University budget shortfalls due to COVID. Discussion held on the effects of COVID to the University. Information only.
- 7. **Schedule next meeting.** Monday, January 11, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room
- 8. **Adjourn the Meeting.** Motion by Balcerzak, second by Schmidt to adjourn the meeting at 10:21 a.m. All ayes, motion carried.

Minutes transcribed and submitted<sup>i</sup> by:

Becky Rank,  
Recording Secretary

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