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PIERCE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

8:30 a.m. Pierce County Office Building

Ellsworth, WI 54011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Gilles, Delbert Hamilton, Jerry Kosin, LeRoy Peterson, Melvin Pittman, (Don Nellessen Excused)

LCD/NRCS STAFF MEMBERS: Debra Larson, Mark Biel, Tim Popple, David Sander

Bill Gilles moved to approve the minutes from the December 10th LCC meeting. J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor. Bill Gilles moved to approve the minutes from the December 17th LCC meeting. Delbert Hamilton seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members reviewed December vouchers.

Jerry Kosin moved to approve the December Financial Report as presented, Bill Gilles seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members reviewed cost share requests as presented. They included Contour Stripcropping for Bruce Albarado; Waterway for Lisa Anderson; No Till for Timothy Bates; Grade Stabilization Structure for Roger Claflin; Contour Strip Cropping for Doane Derricks (Raymond Dettling Farm); Waterway and Grade Stabilization Structure for Jerry S. Nelson; No Till for Matthew Rohl; and No Till for Bradley Sauressig. Delbert Hamilton moved to approve the cost share requests as presented. Mel Pittman seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

David Sander indicated that he and Tim Popple would be attending the AgLime Conference in Madison, WI, Larry Gruber is attending AutoCAD training in Eau Claire, and Tim Popple is attending Storm Water Management Practices training.

David Sander reviewed a Farmland Preservation application submitted by Vernon and Marion Schoeder, The Schoeder farm is located in El Paso Township, Sections 14 and 23. David Sander reported that Jon Krauss has reviewed the Schoeder's conservation plan and found them to be in

compliance. Bill Gilles moved to approve the application, Jerry Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

David Sander reviewed the SWRM Staffing and Support Reimbursement Request for June 1 through December 31, 2004. He indicated DATCP provides grant monies for staff support. Total staffing dollars of \$91,124 has been granted to Pierce County for 2004. Melvin Pittman moved to request for reimbursement for 2004 Staffing and Support. Bill Gilles seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Tim Popple provided background on the development of Cedar Valley 2 Preliminary Plat. David Sander sought counsel from Corporation Counsel, Brad Lawrence, who interpreted that since Cedar Valley 2 was initiated before Ordinance 04-10 was in effect, fees would not be collected. Tim Popple reported site conditions to be flat and sandy. Tim Popple indicated that a scenic easement was placed on a large lot. Tim reported twelve lots are sited for Cedar Valley 2. Tim Popple recommended this plat be eligible for preliminary plat based on recommendations provided. Bill Gilles moved to approve the recommendations as presented, Mel Pittman seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Tim Popple reported that the 19 points of consideration to the Storm Water, Sediment, and Erosion Control Ordinance that the committee reviewed on December 17th have been incorporated into the ordinance. Since then, the Land Conservation Department has met with the Land Management Department to determine how the ordinance will fit in with current ordinances. The ordinance will be tied to the Land Management ordinance in Chapters 237, 239, 240, and 241. While the Land Management ordinances do not include ag production, it does address steep slopes, non-metallic mining and major Certified Site Maps (3 or 4 lots in a five-year period).

Another meeting will be scheduled with Land Management to discuss Maintenance Agreement and Financial Guarantee. The next step is to provide the ordinance to Corporation Counsel for review. Tim Popple reported that changes may be made to the draft ordinance up until the second reading of the Pierce County Board of Supervisors. Tim Popple reported that meetings with town boards would continue for the purpose of discussing the draft Storm Water, Sediment, and Erosion Control Ordinance.

Bill Gilles moved to forward the Storm Water, Sediment, and Erosion Control Ordinance to Corporation Counsel for review. Melvin Pittman seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Under the Director's Report, David Sander referred to the draft of the Storm Water, Sediment and Erosion Control Ordinance. In order to have the ordinance in place prior to construction season, the public hearing will need to be held in mid-February with county board readings in March and April. Melvin Pittman recommended that committee member concerns or comments be addressed at the February Land Conservation Committee meeting prior to the public hearing.

David Sander reported technicians are busy surveying for 2005 construction season. Surveys of both grade stabilization structures have been completed for Nugget Lake. David Sander will provide

additional information on the effectiveness of the structures. David Sander reported that the construction of the structures was a request made by Scott Schoepp, Nugget Lake Park Superintendent. David indicated that the two structures lie NW and NE of the channel. He reported the ideal location for the NW structure is in the floodplain and that the NE structure will flood the neighbor's property. Bill Gilles questioned if there are other sites whereby the structures could be located. Melvin Pittman requested that a map delineating the site location of the proposed structures be provided as a visual aid for next month's meeting.

David Sander indicated that a lot of work has been completed to build structures in the upper reaches of the watershed. Delbert Hamilton has re-questioned how much sedimentation has occurred since the construction of the structure. David Sander indicated that he is working on getting a sediment loading analysis. LeRoy Peterson reported that a lot less sedimentation has occurred in recent years as compared to years ago due to conservation work completed in the watershed. David Sander reported that CRP lands have minimized sedimentation, but once the land is returned to production, sedimentation will increase. Mel Pittman indicated that perhaps the committee could provide incentive payments to neighboring landowners to maintain land in CROP. Mark Biel reported that specific monies were designated to protect the Nugget Lake watershed in the early 90's. He also reported that EQIP provided additional monies to protect the watershed with the priority area in the late 90's. These two programs were successful in implementing numerous conservation practices in the Nugget Lake Watershed—thus significantly reducing potential sediment from upland sites and decreasing peak stream flow, reducing bank erosion. And furthermore, the CSP program has provided additional funding just last year. Mark Biel reported that it would be wise for landowners to continue to enroll neighboring acreage in CRP. Mark Biel reported that the major contributor to sedimentation is erosion from the stream channels. David Sander reported that it costs 6.80 per cubic yard to move sediment.

David Sander reported that Ron Anderson, County Board Chairman/AC, requested that department heads provide a monthly summary of activities for County Board members. Melvin Pittman noted that when the County Board Chairman requests departmental reports from board members--few are brought forward.

David Sander announced the next Midwest Value Added Agriculture Conference is scheduled for January 25 – 27th.

David Sander reported on CDBG for Milk Volume Production: Jay Richardson and John Skogen. He indicated that John Skogen's conservation plan is intact and meets T; and that the nutrient management plan, written for the 2004 crop season is nitrogen-based. David Sander indicated Skogen's crop advisor has been contacted and informed that phosphorous-based plan is required because Skogen is tied to the EQIP program which will require him to comply with the July 2002 590 standard.

He indicated that Jay Richardson's conservation plan is intact and meets T; and that the nutrient management plan, written for the 2004 crop season is nitrogen-based and written to address 600 cows, not 900. David Sander reported that a WDPEs permit became effective January 1, 2003. (DNR is

requesting that the Manure Management Plan must limit phosphorus loading from fields or watersheds draining to surface waters identified as Outstanding Resource Waters, Exceptional Resource Waters and/or 303d Water listed as impaired because of nutrients. David Sander reported there are two 590 nutrient management standards on the books. The first is the 1990 590 standard which is basically nitrogen-based with a phosphorous component. The second is the 2002 590 standard which incorporates a more stringent phosphorous component. Bill Gilles reported that legislators have worked to promote the Dairyland State without addressing the natural resources. He also reported that this is a state program with state dollars that are being loaned to producers for milk volume production. He questioned if these loans are wise use at the state level. Bill Gilles indicated that the DNR does not have the staff to review these projects and that neighbors are probably the best eyes of the community. Bill Gilles noted that nutrient management plans must reflect the 2005 growing season and must include 900 cows for Jay Richardson. Bill Gilles indicated that landowners should be proactive versus combative.

Bill Gilles requested if the state could issue the check directly. Melvin Pittman indicated that it would be difficult to enforce stringent guidelines of phosphorous. Tim Popple noted that he has reviewed Jay Richardson's Nutrient Management Plan and noted that Jay has adequate area to spread manure and that his plan can remain in compliance. His recommendation would be to plan for 2005. Mark Biel indicated that the revised cattle number concerns will be addressed with the 2005 590 plan. Mark Biel indicated that once he receives a copy of Richardson's 2005 nutrient management plan, he would share with the Land Conservation Department. Melvin Pittman noted if dairy farmers become strapped, they will look for areas to cut costs and the nutrient management plan may be compromised. LeRoy Peterson questioned what the next step is for these applicants. David Sander indicated that the next step is the second reading in January at the county board meeting.

Mark Biel provided an NRCS report. Mark Biel introduced Derrick Johnson, new NRCS Soil Conservationist in the Ellsworth Field Office. Derrick Johnson received his undergraduate degree from Alcorn State in agronomy and his Masters degree from UW-Madison in soils. Derrick Johnson is replacing Brian Resch on the Pierce County Staff. He reported that approved 2004 EQIP contracts that were funded have all been mailed out to the landowners. Mark Biel reported the availability of a new EQIP phosphorous practice (592) for producers to develop an on farm feed management phosphorous budget. He reported that phosphorous budgets pay \$5 per animal unit for up to 3 years. This is an incentive payment to manage phosphorous levels to minimize the overfeeding of their nutrients. Mark Biel reported that a consultant would typically be hired to provide assistance to the landowner. The goal is for the farmer to balance the phosphorous levels on the farm. The practice will not be limited to the dairy farm, but will be offered to the beef industry as well.

Mark Biel also reported that additional funds have come to the State of Wisconsin for EQIP in addition to the initial allocation. Mark Biel reported that Pierce County received an additional \$20,000. So total allocation for 2005 will be for \$120,000. Mark Biel reported that the limiting factor is staff available to implement the requested conservation practices. Mark Biel stated the Pierce County EQIP application backlog is over one million and significantly higher EQIP dollars could be brought into the county if additional staff were available. Mel Pittman requested if larger projects would help to spend the funds. Mark Biel also reported that an open sign up period for applications for EQIP would be advertised in the

paper with a set ending date. Applicants will be ranked after close of sign up period. Mark Biel reported that over one million dollars worth of practices remain on the waiting list. He reported that an official sign up date must be announced, however signups may be taken throughout the year.

All but one CSP contracts have been mailed out to participants. He noted the contracts are lengthy.

Mark Biel provided a copy of a survey from the Conservation Technology Information Center which depicts a national trend of farmers choosing conservation in the United States. He pointed out that there is more conservation in agriculture than ever before. And that more American farmers are choosing environmentally responsible management, protecting the land and improving the efficiency of their operations while adding to their bottom line. He noted the 2004 National Crop Residue Management Survey released in November confirms that 41 percent of all cropland is under a conservation tillage system. He also noted “The Survey not only provides a snapshot of tillage usage for a year, it also tracks trends in adoption of conservation tillage over time.” Mark Biel reviewed the trends of Conservation Tillage Adoption in the US from 1994 to 2004 as well as no-till Adoption in the US from 1994 to 2004. He also noted the no till states as well as the number of acres of no till by crop.

Linda Paul was not present to provide an FSA Report.

The next LCC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 2nd, at 8:30 a.m. The Public Hearing for the Storm Water, Sediment and Erosion Control Ordinance is scheduled for Thursday, February 17th at 7:30 p.m. at the Lower Level Meeting Room in the Pierce County Office Building.

Jerry Kosin made a motion to adjourn, Bill Gilles seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

PIERCE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, February 2, 2005

8:30 a.m. Pierce County Office Building

Ellsworth, WI 54011

Members Present: Bill Gilles, Delbert Hamilton, Jerry Kosin, Don Nellessen, LeRoy Peterson, Melvin Pittman

LCD/NRCS Staff Members: Debra Larson, T Popple, David Sander

Others Present: Louie Campbell Town of River Falls, Jim Esler of Cady's Lane CSM, and Kevin Oium, Engineer of Cedar Corp, Gary Zielske DNR Forester

B Gilles moved to approve January LCC meeting minutes, J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members reviewed vouchers for January.

Committee members reviewed the January Financial Report. J Kosin moved to approve the January Financial Report. B Gilles seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members reviewed cost share requests for Samuel Milliren for No-Til on Tract 3134 and Jason Camp for Grade Stabilization Structure on Tract 2696. Committee members questioned at what length of time practices installed are to be maintained. D Nellessen moved to approve cost share requests for Milliren and Camp; D Hamilton seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members reviewed training for staff members. D Sander reported that L Gruber is attending soils training. D Sander and L Gruber will be attending WALCE in Appleton in March of 2005. D Sander reported T Popple and he attended the Ag Lime Conference. D Sander indicated County Board Member, G Kerr, attended the conference as well, and had questioned why T Popple was present as well as who paid for the training since T Popple provides consultant work outside of the county. D Sander provided a copy of county policy--Conflict of Interest. He also provided a copy of T Popple's job description. He requested input from committee members. D Nellessen questioned if the training T Popple received is utilized in his position at Pierce County and he also questioned the opinion of

Corporation Counsel. L Peterson suggested that "both parties" contribute. B Gilles questioned the cost of maintaining CCA certification. T Popple reported certification requires planners to complete 40 continuing education credits biannually. T Popple reported that it costs approximately \$450 annually to maintain certification. J Kosin indicated the committee should determine if the department gains from T Popple's service. M Pittman questioned if plan review is part of T Popple's position description. M Pittman questioned if the county should pay for training if T Popple is receiving revenue as a CCA. T Popple indicated that he does but outside of Pierce County. T Popple indicated if the department wishes to use his area of expertise then he would request that the county reimburse him for the expense of maintaining his CCA certification. D Nellessen questioned if the training was useful to the county. D Sander provided a brochure of the training depicting the sessions that were held. D Nellessen suggested that Corporation Counsel "make the call". B Gilles requested how much time is spent on plan review. T Popple indicated that 2005 and 2008 are mandated years for plans and there could be a lot of work, or there could be limited work. L Peterson, again, indicated that "sharing the cost" would be beneficial for both parties. B Gilles questioned if NRCS staff would be required to obtain CCA certification. D Sander indicated that one person, Steve Pernsteiner, in the cluster (Dunn, Pierce and St. Croix Counties) group of NRCS has obtained CCA certification. Kosin made a motion to allow employees to attend CCA training on County time and the cost of registration would be the responsibility of the employee. B Gilles seconded. Motion carried with all in favor. D Sander indicated that he and T Popple will reimburse the county \$90 for the registration of the AG Lime Conference that was attended.

T Popple provided a staff report for Prairieview Highlands Inc., and Cady's Lane CSM (Jim Esler). D Sander indicated that developers and town chairs were sent a copy of the report as well as a copy of the meeting agenda. L Peterson requested who will be responsible for the ponds from structures that are built. D Sander indicated that Land Management would address this issue. D Sander indicated that the housing associations may be responsible or the responsibility may lie elsewhere. The attorney for Town of Oak Grove indicated to J Kosin that if there is a drainage easement, there must be a homeowner's association in place. L Peterson indicated that it is important that homeowners understand the impact these structures will have on the entire development. T Popple reported on the grass swale associated with Prairieview Highlands project and the easement on it, that it will require a homeowners association be in place to maintain that project. T Popple indicated that it is a 27-acre development with 8 lots and the fees for the review were paid. T Popple indicated that the application for Prairieview Highlands, Inc., is complete. J Kosin made the motion to forward the preliminary plat to Land Management with the condition that issues are addressed; B Gilles seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

T Popple discussed Cady's Lane CSM. He described the difference between a CSM and a subdivision. He indicated that 32 acres out of 160 total acres is being developed. There will be four lots developed. They are approximately 7 to 8 acre lots. The road meets erosion conditions of the ordinance. It is important to remember that the CSM is tied to the remaining acreage. L Peterson questioned if the road will be held to the correct standard. T Popple indicated that the road will meet town specifications and driveways will come off of the road. This CSM is based on prime ag soils—homes cannot be built on prime ag soils—they will be built on non-prime ag soils. T Popple recommended that the erosion control measures are to be in place prior to road construction and that 80% of the sediment is to be captured. D Nellessen posed a question regarding the 80% of the sediment to be contained. J Esler provided a layout

of the soils. He pointed out class 4 soils whereby home sites were located which necessitated long driveways. Esler also indicated there is an added expense of driveways that will eat up farm soils.. Esler reported that he appreciated working with D Sander and T Popple, but overlap of fees is considerable. D Nellessen questioned how many ponds are necessary. K Oium indicated two ponds are necessary. J Kosin questioned who would maintain the ponds. Esler indicated that the cost of the maintenance would be the responsibility of the homeowners. M Pittman questioned the likelihood of the remaining property to be developed. J Esler indicated that it is his intention to sell the land. But that he does not anticipate any major changes for five years. L Campbell addressed stormwater sediment and erosion control review. L Campbell thanked the department for the invitation. L Campbell also discussed the need to review the ordinance periodically as time progresses as the attitudes of the current population must be acknowledged. M Pittman moved to send the recommendations to Land Management. J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members reviewed a Farmland Preservation Agreement for Shirley Sitz Family Trust in the Town of Martel. B Gilles moved to approve the application, J Kosin seconded, motion carried with all in favor. M Pittman questioned the length of the contract. D Sander indicated that the contract is for 10 years. M Pittman questioned how conditions are met? D Sander indicated that owner or operator must meet conditions of the agreement.

Under the Director's Report, D Sander reported on the monthly activities of the Land Conservation Department. M Pittman questioned if many acres of cropland are planned? D Sander indicated that pre-planting season is a busy season for conservation planning. D Sander reported that comments made at the WLWCA Conference break out session by Jody Hahn have not gone unheard. Jody Hahn has apologized and hence resigned from the WLWCA committee. D Sander indicated that WLWCA does not have a representative from the West Central area serving on the board. D Sander invited committee members to a "New Siting Legislation" public hearing in Eau Claire on the 24th of March at the Chippewa Valley Technical College. D Sander will provide specific information regarding the meeting to committee members interested in attending. D Sander indicated that written comments would be accepted. D Sander referred to D Simonson's visit in October 2003 in regards to NR151 runoff rules. D Sander provided a fact sheet of NR151 runoff rules and ATCP 50 runoff rules, which Wisconsin DATCP is pushing. These rules have been in place in since October of 2002. D Sander indicated that at this point in time the LC department has taken a back seat approach and has encouraged voluntary participation. D Sander indicated that he has met with Cheryl Clemens Dragon of Fly Consulting to complete the LWRMP for \$9000. In order to get \$91,000 for staff and \$90,000 for cost share, NR151 and ATCP50 must be addressed in the plan. D Sander provided a copy of a plan written by Cheryl. D Sander indicated that voluntary participation should be a big part of the LWRMP. Other counties are looking to follow the mandatory regulation for landowners. D Sander stated that he would report on the numbers of projects completed by LCD and NRCS for 2004. D Sander indicated that the department, as a whole, has increased the number of agricultural practices installed. D Sander indicated if projects are "farmed out" to private firms, the service given would be substantially different than what the landowners are accustomed to. D Sander handed out Steve and Mary Brand's status review. The committee review the status reviewed and requested that the Brand's be invited to the next LCC meeting. D Sander updated the committee on the water access to Nugget Lake Park.

G Zielske provided a Forestry Report. He provided a 2005 Forestry Legislative Agenda, which addressed the right to practice forestry; forest product transportation; workers compensation; and forestry budget reductions. G Zielske provided a proclamation from the Office of the Governor announcing the Professional Logger Appreciation Day. G Zielske also provided a copy of Wisconsin Forest Health Highlights for committee members to review. G Zielske reported on the Co-sponsorship of LRB 0947—Right to Forest Act. He provided a letter written by Fred Souba, Chair, Wisconsin Council on Forestry to Governor Doyle. G Zielske also indicated he has bid openings for private sales scheduled for March 1st, 2005; the Woodland Conference will be held at the Coachman Supper Club in Baldwin on March 5th, 2005. G Zielske reported that applications to Managed Forest Law have decreased most likely due to legislative changes with the program.

D Hamilton provided an FSA report. He reported Loan Deficiency Payments for 2004 crop to be 1178 payments for \$1.84 million; 2005 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program Signup with 927 approved and an additional 213 enrolled but need rental agreements or other paperwork submitted. 2004 DCP payments of \$2,284 were paid out; Commodity Loans for 2004 Crop were \$2.85 million with 83 loans given; No MILC payments were made for the month of February; 2004 CRP payments of \$1.39 million were disbursed last October; and the 2003, 2004 Disaster Program is scheduled to start the end of March.

Mark Biel was not present to provide a NRCS report.

Future agenda items include Dragon Fly Consulting for the Land and Water Resource Management Plan and Steve and Mary Brand.

The next LCC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 1st, @ 8:30 a.m. in the Lower Level Meeting Room of the Pierce County Office Building.

B Gilles moved to adjourn, J Kosin seconded, motion carried with all in favor.

MINUTES
Joint LCC & Park Committee
Tuesday, March 15, 2005
9:00 a.m. County Board Room

Call to Order

Park Committee chairman Mel Pittman called meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Roll Call

Members present were Delbert Hamilton, Jeff Holst, Jerry Kosin, Don Nellesen, LeRoy Peterson, & Mel Pittman. Bill Gilles & Troy Gansluckner excused. Paul Barkla arriving at 9:14 a.m.

Others Present

Land Conservation Supervisor David Sander, Park Superintendent Scott Schoepp, NRCSDC Mark Biel, & Clerk J. Feuerhelm. Attendance list attached.

Minutes

Minutes for joint committee meeting on December 10, 2004 were approved by motion of J. Kosin/J. Holst. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.

Public Comment

Chairman M. Pittman called for public comment; none given.

**Nugget Lake Rec.
Water
Access/Dredging
Project**

D. Sander discussed options with what could be done with the dredge material. Discussion also held on the type of dredging that would be done. Two options discussed were for hydraulic & mechanical dredging. D. Sander indicated that through information he had obtained from other counties, mechanical dredging would be the most cost-effective method for Pierce County. The cost being approximately \$6.44/cubic yard. M. Pittman explained other alternatives that were more costly. Committee discussed other options as opposed to dredging. Motion by J. Holst/P. Barkla to proceed with a dredging project of the lake utilizing the mechanical method.

S. Schoepp asked if the plan would include removing 44,140 yards of dredge material as was proposed in the previous plan. Committee

discussed if this amount was sufficient & if material would be deposited on park property. D. Nellessen asked if all necessary DNR permits have been secured. S. Schoepp replied that the previous permits that were obtained have expired & the process would have to start over, but that the majority of the work has been done. A few changes to some maps & minor language changes would need to be done. Bob Baczynski from the DNR indicated that preliminary discussions have taken place & that the DNR anticipates moving forward with the plan. S. Schoepp added that there is a grant available to cover 1/3rd of the costs for the project.

Chairman M. Pittman called for the vote. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.

Consultant for Dredging Project

S. Schoepp explained that Ayres & Associates have done the majority of the work for the previous plan. That the contract with them has expired & the committees now have to determine how much of the project could be done with county resources &/or to use a professional service to draft & design a plan. D. Sander indicated that his department has qualified personnel to do some of the designing but that staff is quite limited. M. Pittman suggested that do to the time frame for completing the project & the limited resources of the Land Conservation Dept. that the committees consider using a professional consulting firm with guidance from the LC & Park departments. P. Barkla asked if there were any alternatives to Ayres. S. Schoepp responded by stating that this company has performed approximately 75% of the work already & choosing another vendor would mean starting over from the beginning. Motion by J. Holst/J. Kosin to approve Ayres & Associates as the consulting firm for the project with direction from the Land Conservation Dept. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.

Horseback Riding within the Park

D. Brunner addressed the committees with regard to having a horse trail within the park. He gave details on research he had done on the subject & offered some suggestions. He thought that there were some grants that may be available for this type of project. J. Holst stated that he thought the idea had merit but that there were a number of issues that would need to be researched & addressed first. S. Schoepp indicated that he thought this type of project could be done but was probably a bit premature at this point. He explained concerns he had with regard to a parking area, toilet facilities & access for park personnel to inspect the trail. He indicated he would attempt to visit the Eau Galle trail to get an idea of how a trail should be created as well as cost estimates on a parking lot & other amenities. Motion by P. Barkla/D. Nellessen to research the possibility of a horse trail within the park & present findings at the July Park Committee meeting. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.

**2 Sediment Dams
near Nugget Park**

D. Sander explained that the cost for the dam on the Northwest side of the park would be approximately \$17,000.00. The cost for the dam on the Northeast side of the park would be approximately \$20,000.00. Adding that preliminary estimates were that the structures would have approximately 25 years of storage helping to reduce the sediment deposits into the lake. S. Schoepp asked if the structures could be built any larger allowing for more storage capacity. D. Sander replied that if they were built any larger there are dam safety requirements that have to be met pursuant to DNR regulations. J. Holst asked where the funds for the project were to come from. D. Sander replied from general revenue previously budgeted for. Motion by D. Nellessen/J. Holst to approve the construction of the dam on the Northwest side. Motion carried by voice vote with 5 in favor & 1 (L. Peterson) opposed.

**Future Agenda
Items**

-Dredging project.

Set Next Meeting

To be announced at a future date depending on progress of dredging project.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m. by motion of J. Holst/J. Kosin. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.

MINUTES
P.C. Land Conservation Committee
Tuesday, March 15, 2005
8:30 a.m., EOC Room Courthouse

- Call to Order** Chairman LeRoy Peterson called meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.
- Roll Call** Members present were Jerry Kosin, Delbert Hamilton, Don Nellessen, LeRoy Peterson, & Mel Pittman. Bill Gilles present via phone.
- Others Present** Land Conservation Supervisor David Sander, NRCSDC Mark Biel, Jay Richardson, Ralph Schommer, & Clerk J. Feuerhelm.
- Public Comment** M. Pittman stated that the power point presentation by David Sander with regard to the County's need for erosion control measures was very good. He voiced concerns over the committee not being informed of activities going on within the department. Among them were some members were not informed of Tim Poppel's resignation, the interview process taking place on February 28th to refill the position of Conservation Engineer Tech. (Jim Christenson), & the DNR's response to individuals dumping manure in Plum Creek. He felt that these items were important & the committee should be made aware of them when they arise. Lastly that notification of such matters is given in the future.
- R. Schommer stated that according to an article in the paper he didn't feel the situation was properly resolved.
- Professional Services Contract** D. Sander explained contract submitted by Dragonfly Consulting for writing the Land & Water Resource Management Plan. He indicated that the contract has been reviewed & approved by the Corporation Counsel's office. Motion by M. Pittman/D. Nellessen to approve contract. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.
- Refill Position of Kinnickinnic Watershed Tech.** L. Peterson indicated that Larry Gruber has moved to the Conservation Engineer Technician position vacated by retiring Jim Christenson, now leaving this position vacant. D. Sander stated that there is funding for this position via a staffing grant through the state Department of Agriculture, Trade, & Consumer Protection. Adding that the Kinnickinnic Priority Watershed sunsets December 31, 2009. Motion by J. Kosin/M. Pittman to approve the filling of this position. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.
- Refill Position of Conservation Engineering** L. Peterson stated that he felt the position should not be filled until it is determined which department the position would work under. D. Sander explained that a person had been chosen through the hiring board but has been in a state of hold until further direction is given from the committee. Motion by D.

Tech.Nellessen/D. Hamilton that the position not be filled until a determination is made on the erosion control plan & the proper department for the position is decided upon. R. Schommer stated that he felt the technician is needed now as the construction season is already beginning. D. Sander explained that this position was approved by the county board to be funded through the fee structure of user fees on land developers. L. Peterson indicated that he had spoken with Personnel Coordinator Sandy Langer & her recommendation was to decide which department the position would work under before filling the position. D. Sander stated that the fee structure is already in place & fees have been & are currently being collected. J. Richardson stated that he felt Land Management should be in charge of development & Land Conservation should be in charge of agricultural land. R. Schommer felt that the current situation was merely a stalling tactic. M. Pittman stated that it would be most prudent if the decision on what department the position will work under was made first because this individual will be tasked with other duties relating to the office in which it is placed. J. Kosin expressed that he didn't see a problem with hiring an individual now if the person was told prior to starting that a change in departments might be eminent in the near future. M. Pittman requested a roll call vote. Motion carried by roll call vote with 4 in favor (M. Pittman, D. Nellessen, D. Hamilton, L. Peterson) and 2 opposed (J. Kosin, B. Gilles).

Other BusinessDiscussion on future agenda items. Committee requested the erosion control ordinance be placed on next agenda. M. Pittman asked if the committee would be determining at that time which department the position would be placed under. D. Sander stated that he didn't believe so. Explaining that the Land Management Committee voted to forward it to this committee. Land Conservation would have to decide if they want the position, if not then the matter goes back to Land Management & they would have to decide if they want the position. Depending on the outcome of that, the issue could go to the county board. D. Nellessen clarified that as a member of the Land Management Committee he voted to send the item back to this committee for accounting reasons not because of the ordinance itself.

Future Agenda-Discuss/take action on Storm Water Sediment Erosion Control ordinance.
Items

-DATCAP 2006 grant application.

-Office personnel issues (possible closed session item).

Set Next Meeting Next meeting set for April 6, 2005, 8:30 a.m. in County Board Room.

AdjournmentMeeting adjourned at 8:59 a.m. by motion of M. Pittman/J. Kosin. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted By: Jamie R. Feuerhelm, Pierce County Clerk

P.C. Land Conservation Committee
Tuesday, April 6, 2005
8:30 a.m., County Boardroom

Call to Order	Chairman LeRoy Peterson called meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
Roll Call	Members present were Bill Gilles, Jerry Kosin, Delbert Hamilton, Don Nellessen, LeRoy Peterson, & Mel Pittman.
Others Present	Land Conservation Director David Sander, NRCSDC Mark Biel, Ron Anderson, Jeff Holst, Rich Purdy, D. Hines, K. Schilling, Paul Barkla & Clerk J. Feuerhelm. Also members of the public so noted on attendance sheet.
Public Comment	None
Minutes	<p>Minutes of March 1st reviewed for approval. M. Biel stated that it had come to his attention that some of his comments had been changed in the aforementioned minutes. He indicated that he highlighted the changes that were made & the corrections that he thought was necessary. He presented changes to the committee & stated he would like to have the minutes revised to reflect those changes. Motion by B. Gilles/M. Pittman to defer action on March 1st minutes for one month & have the changes sent out to committee members for review. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.</p> <p>Minutes of March 15th reviewed for approval. Motion by M. Pittman/J. Kosin to approve. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.</p>
March Vouchers	D. Sander explained that there were some changes to what was sent out to members a week ago. He listed the changes & asked the committee to include them with other vouchers presented.
March Financial Report	D. Sanders explained current position of department budget. Motion by J. Kosin/B. Gilles to approve report. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.
Cost Share Requests	<p>D. Sander presented the requests for cost-sharing projects. (List attached)</p> <p>Motion by D. Nellessen/B. Gilles to approve cost sharing requests. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.</p>

Training D. Sander reported that Larry Gruber attended a technician meeting April 5, 2005, a County Conservationist meeting is coming up in Waupaca on the 28th & 29th, & possibly a West Central Area meeting some time around May 20th.

Twin Peaks D. Sanders stated a staff report was sent out previously. Motion by B. Gilles/J. Kosin to approve & **Estate** send to Land Management with the existing staff recommendations. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.

Farmland Pres. Agreement D. Sander explained that the application was for property in the Town of Union for a 10-year agreement – agreement. Motion by M. Pittman/D. Hamilton to approve application. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.

Herbert & Dorothy Metcalf

2006 Grant Application D. Sander explained that grant applications are due in the middle of April. The grants are for staffing DATCP/& cost sharing through Land & Water Resource Management Plan. Motion by D. Hamilton/B. Gilles DNR to approve grant applications. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.

Land & Water Resource Management Plan DATCP Representative Keith Foye gave review of plan. He indicated that chapter 92 of the Wisconsin Statutes gives Land Conservation committees a broad spectrum of authority. B. Gilles stated that this committee exists because of this chapter. He asked who is in charge of soil & water conservation, be it this committee or Land Management Dept. K. Foye replied by saying that in some ways this could be a dual role. Because chapter 59 of the Statues gives Land Management some authority in this manner it leaves the decision with county boards to decide how best to implement these practices. B. Gilles indicated that he contacted Rebecca Bowman, Executive Director of the WI Land & Water Conservation Assoc., who in turn contacted Pat Levenworth. Adding that her reply was very interesting in which she stated that it is definitely the job of the LCC to deal with the urban storm water ordinances or with any other urban conservation issues. Especially as counties are changing from being primarily agriculture to more urban areas. Land Conservation Committees are charged with all the conservation problems & would not be doing a complete job if they do not address urban issues. NRCS does not have that charge. K. Foye replied that he thought that chapter 92 of the Statutes gives LCC the license to make the decision on what the resource concerns are & who is best suited to deal with these issues.

Storm Water, Sediment & Erosion Control Ordinance R. Schommer stated that this ordinance needs to be put in place without any further delay. D. Hamilton asked who was going to enforce it. D. Nellessen stated that there are 182,146 acres of crop land & less than a half of a percent of that is development. Adding that he felt this ordinance should be in the Land Management Dept. because they deal with development 100% of the time. B. Gilles stated that subdivisions amount to about 6000 acres & the LCC is charged with the responsibility of erosion control. D. Nellessen asked why the county should spend 50-75% of their staffing time on erosion control ordinances on developments that amount to less than a half of a percent of the acreage the committee is responsible for. R. Purdy stated that he felt the percentage referred to was warping the issue, adding that development may be a half percent of the total acreage but that the development acreage is responsible for 90% of the erosion, giving an example of a development in the Town of River Falls.

Erosion Control He went on to say that farmers have a long history of stabilizing the land. The group that is causing

Ordinance Continuedthe erosion is these developments so that is where the focus will have to be in order to stop erosion. B. Gilles stated that he was told by Jim Devlin that the farm community is doing an excellent job but the developments are where the issues are. D. Nellessen stated that this Land Conservation Dept. has had a long history of helping farmers & he wanted to make sure it stays that way. Also that Land Management Dept. can handle the erosion control ordinance because they deal with it frequently. Motion by M. Pittman/D. Nellessen to forward ordinance to Land Management Dept. & the enforcement thereof. Motion by J. Kosin/B. Gilles to amend the motion that if any changes are made to the ordinance by Land Management that it be sent back to the LCC for review before adoption. Motion on the amendment carried by voice vote with 4 in favor (B. Gilles, D. Hamilton, J. Kosin, M. Pittman) & 2 opposed (D. Nellessen, L. Peterson). Original motion carried as amended by voice vote with all in favor.

Director'sD. Sander gave a brief department report. Activity in the office included surveying & design of about **Report**30 dams or structures, 3 rip-rap projects, 7 different waterways, cleaning up 5 CREP contracts, & several conservation farm plans. He also stated that on April 11th there would be a meeting with Corporation Counsel, Pierce County Sheriff, Bob Henrich from NRCS, & himself to take a look at the County's obligations for inspecting the Hammel structure. He invited any on the committee to attend. Meeting will be held at 8 a.m. in the Sheriff's meeting room.

K. Foye indicated that the Land & Water Board had met to review ten county conservation standards as they relate to farmland preservation program. Adding that the Statutes had been changed to add this back in 1997. Also that the board approved Pierce County's standards & that the county could now formally adopt & implement them.

NRCS ReportM. Biel distributed an announcement for the reopening of the conservation security program in watersheds & they are available to take new applications. He indicated that 2005 was funded nation wide for the conservation security program, 202 new watersheds were selected & at the last minute they put the 18 pioneer watersheds back into it. They have also been asked to update all old contracts to the new contract rules for 2005. Adding that he has sent out letters to all 54-contract holders in the eastern part of the County to explain updates & inform them of any changes. Continuing he indicated that the E-QUIP program has been put on the back burner because of the deadlines of CSP, they have a total of 30 new tracts that have now applied this year.

FSA ReportD. Sander indicated he received a draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) for data sharing from director Linda Paul & would include a report for the meeting next month.

Linda Paul not present D. Hamilton made report indicating that there were 1291 deficiency payments for 2004 in the amount of \$1.95 million; 2005 direct & counter/cyclical program 1388 approved, 178 need rental agreements, sign up to be completed by June 1, 2005; advanced DCP payments for 2005 in the amount of \$884,232; 2004 advanced counter/cyclical payments was \$110,000; commodity loans for 2004 crop year were \$3.2 million for 91 loans; no milk payment for month of April; 2004 CRP payments distributed last October were \$1.39 million.

RecessCommittee took short recess from 10:00 a.m. to 10:08 a.m.

Closed SessionMotion by M. Pittman/D. Nellessen to convene into closed session at 10:10 a.m., pursuant to Sec. 19.85(1)(f), WI STATS, for the purpose of considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations: consideration of personnel problems. Motion carried by roll call vote with all in favor.

Chairman L. Peterson excused at 1:00 p.m., vice-chair D. Nellessen now presiding.

Open SessionMotion by J. Kosin/D. Hamilton to return to open session at 1:49 p.m. Motion carried by roll call vote with all in favor. No further action taken.

Other BusinessD. Sander informed the committee that the booklets for the annual report are available from financial director Julie Brickner.

Future Agenda-Farmland Preservation Standards.
Items

Set NextNext meeting set for May 4, 2005, 8:30 a.m. in County Board Room.
Meeting

AdjournmentMeeting adjourned at 1:59 p.m. by motion of M. Pittman/B. Gilles. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.

MINUTES
P.C. Land Conservation Committee
Monday, April 18, 2005
8:30 a.m., County Boardroom

Call to Order Chairman LeRoy Peterson called meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Roll Call Members present were Bill Gilles, Jerry Kosin, Delbert Hamilton, Don Nellessen, LeRoy Peterson, & Mel Pittman.

Others Present Land Conservation Director David Sander, Land Management Administrator Andy Pichotta, Jeff Holst, Rich Purdy, and Clerk J. Feuerhelm. Other staff joined meeting at 9:23 a.m. NRCSDC Mark Biel, Pat Dodge, Larry Gruber, Jon Krauss, Debra Larson, & Steve Price. Also members of the public so noted on attendance sheet.

Public Comment Jay Richardson expressed his concerns that the county & federal agents within LCD work together in a seamless manner. Adding that it was only recently that he realized there was a difference between the two. He felt this was important to landowners as well as a helping attitude among the people who work in the office. Don Acker supported Mr. Richardson's comments. Adding that if there was a problem he didn't understand why because the office has worked so well together in the past.

A. Pichotta brought to the committee's attention Ordinance 04-10 that requires that erosion control plans be referred to the Land Conservation Dept. & Committee for review & approval. Adding that he understood that this committee was reassessing their role in that matter & that a short-term plan may need to be made to adhere to the ordinance until it could be revised. To change the ordinance would take a few months. L. Peterson indicated that the committee had given this matter some thought & that they considered hiring a private firm to implement & enforce the ordinance until it could be amended. M. Pittman suggested LCC meet with the Land Management Committee and work out a plan to address these issues. R. Purdy asked if the committee considered filling the position for erosion control currently in Land Conservation & drafting a memorandum of understanding with Land Management at the same time to move things along more quickly. L. Peterson stated that he spoke with Personnel Coordinator Sandy Langer & that they decided it would be better if the individual was hired in the department that they would work for to avoid having two supervisors for one position.

Direction of Land Conservation M. Pittman presented a short-term plan that he drafted to address the different issues within the department. He welcomed suggestions & input as he went through the plan. Plan submitted as attachments A & B to the minutes. J. Kosin asked how

Dept. detailed the weekly report should be. M. Pittman responded stating detailed enough to determine what has actually been accomplished but not necessarily an hourly report. D. Sander asked for clarification on some of the points made. Adding that some of the things that were being suggested are currently happening. B. Gilles stated that there is some mistrust in the office & that it would be beneficial to have an outside agency come in & address the issues at hand.

Discussion on the taking of minutes. L. Peterson stated he thought Deb Larson had done a good job in the past. Adding that the minutes contained more of the discussion taking place than was probably necessary. M. Pittman agreed stating that he thought they could be more abbreviated.

Other staffed joined meeting 9:23 a.m. M. Pittman summarized his suggestions once again with all staff present. B. Gilles stated that if there are problems or concerns that staff is having that they should make those known at the staff meetings & allow D. Sander an opportunity to handle them before coming to the committee with those concerns. M. Biel stated that communication had been made as to what has worked & what has not worked in the department in the past.

D. Nellessen excused from the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

L. Peterson asked D. Larson if she would be willing to take minutes for the LCC meetings. D. Larson responded stated that she could be available to do them but would like some guidance as to what & how much information to include in them. L. Peterson stated that he would like to see the minutes more abbreviated & asked that they be recorded.

D. Larson asked for direction with regard to how to determine priority when she performs tasks for both the county & federal agents. M. Pittman indicated that the committee realizes that there is an overlap with regard to this issue. He cautioned against giving more attention to one entity as opposed to the other, but to try & determine what issue is the most important at the time with regard to the people of the county. Adding that if questions or concerns arise regarding this issue that she bring it to Mr. Sander's & the committee's attention. M. Biel commented that in his experience the way the office has worked well in the past is to not address the issues or projects as pertaining to one entity or the other, but rather what is in the best interest of the landowners of the county.

L. Peterson asked for any other comments or concerns. None being offered, he stated that the committee would go ahead with the plan presented.

Future Agenda-Joint meeting with Land Management Committee.

Items

Set NextNext meeting previously set for May 4, 2005, 8:30 a.m. in County Board Room.

Meeting

AdjournmentMeeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m. by motion of M. Pittman/D. Hamilton. Motion carried by voice vote with all in favor.

**LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2005
COUNTY BOARD ROOM**

LCC Members Present: Bill Gilles (via polycom), Delbert Hamilton, Don Nellessen (7:45 a.m.), LeRoy Peterson, Melvin Pittman

LCD/NRCS Staff Members: Mark Biel, Debra Larson, David Sander

Others Present: Linda Paul, Rich Purdy

Chairman LeRoy Peterson called meeting to order at 7:10 a.m.

No public comment was brought forward.

Minutes of March 1st were reviewed for approval. M Pittman moved to approve the second draft of the March 1st minutes, B Gilles seconded. Motion carried with all in favor. Minutes of April 6th were reviewed for approval. B Gilles moved to approve the April 6th minutes, D Hamilton seconded, Motion carried with all in favor.

Vouchers for April were reviewed for approval. M Pittman moved to delay approval of J Skogen's bill until all documentation for the project had been submitted, D Hamilton seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

The Financial Report for April was reviewed by committee members. M Pittman moved to approve the report, B Gilles seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Cost share requests for April were reviewed for approval. Cost share requests included

Bruce Albarado, No-Till 40 Ac; Chet Buksa, Waterway; Guy Hartung, No Till 40 Ac; Dale Holcomb, Waterway D.R.; James Krings, Well Abandonment; Gary Lecheler, Grade Stabilization Structure; and Carol Sukowatey Trust, Well Abandonment. B Gilles moved to approve cost share requests as presented, D Hamilton seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander reported on training for April. M Biel and D Larson attended ToolKit Training in Altoona in

April; D Sander attended the County Conservationist Meeting in Waupaca and L Gruber will be attending an engineering technicians meeting at some future date.

Committee members reviewed the 2005 Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Contract. M Pittman moved to approve the contract, B Gilles seconded. Motion carried with all in favor. (See Attached)

L Paul presented a Data Sharing Agreement between WI FSA and Pierce County Land Conservation Department regarding sharing Common Land Unit (CLU) GIS Data. The agreement outlined policies associated with the use of the data. L Paul noted that the CLU layer is intended to be used for USDA program services only. B Gilles moved to approve the Data Sharing Agreement between WI FSA and Pierce County Land Conservation Department, M Pittman seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

L Paul provided an FSA Report on The Loan Deficiency Program; 2005 Direct and Cyclical Program; Commodity Loans; MILC Program; CRP Program; Disaster Program; Livestock Assistance Program and ECP Program. L Paul noted that a computer will be installed on counter in FSA for Premise Identification for those who have livestock and wish to register their location. L Paul also noted that FSA is gearing up for crop reporting for 2005 and indicated that FSA is evaluating losses regarding winter kill of hay. (See Attached)

Committee members discussed contracting services for the review of erosion control plans. D Sander noted that the review of erosion control plans continues to be the responsibility of the Land Conservation Department until a change of ordinance designates responsibility elsewhere. M Pittman noted that he would approve the contracting of services for the purpose of reviewing erosion control plans if the LCC is involved in the decision-making process. D Sander provided a Draft "Request for Qualifications" "Land Conservation Department seeks Qualified Firm or Individual to Conduct Stormwater, Sediment, and Erosion Control Plan Review and Monitor Implementation". M Pittman motioned to proceed to solicit bids with the ability to use three contracting firms to avoid conflict of interest and that corporation counsel approve the motion and recommendation. D Nellessen seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander indicated discussion of legislative issues would be in conjunction with agenda item Pierce County Soil and Water Conservation Standards for the Farmland Preservation Program. D Sander reported that the LWCB approved Pierce County's soil and water conservation standards for the farmland preservation program at their meeting on Tuesday, April 5, 2005 and that the LWCB recommended that counties issue a press release or use other methods to publicize the updated standards. M Pittman moved to move forward by scheduling a public hearing. D Nellessen seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander provided a Director's Report. He reported a 2005 Summer Conservation Tour sponsored by West Central Land & Water Conservation Association and Barron County LCC and SWCD is scheduled for Thursday, June 16th, 2005 at the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College in Rice Lake, WI. He also provided copies of correspondence between Dennis C Hammel and Pierce County Corporation Counsel regarding the access of Plum Creek Structure #19 for annual inspection. LCC members agreed to utilize the services of the Sheriff's Department at the time of inspection. D Sander noted "Rain as a Resource

Conference; Community Building and Stormwater Management” is scheduled for Thursday, August 4, 2005 at the University of River Falls. D Sander reported the 2005 Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association’s Annual Convention is coming to the Plaza Hotel in Eau Claire. D Sander noted Corporation Counsel reviewed the “Bid Solicitation” form for use during the contractor bidding process.

M Biel provided a NRCS Report. M Biel noted that J Custer, soil conservationist, of St. Croix NRCS office will be in Pierce County on Tuesdays and Thursdays, assisting with workload. He noted that J Custer is currently completing CRP field checks. M Biel also noted that summer student intern, Doug Sippl, will be detailed to Pierce County from the area office. M Biel reported there is approximately two weeks left for landowners to sign up for the CSP program. He noted that CSP 2004 contracts were updated with 05 rules. M Biel noted only one more farm visit for EQIP was remaining before applications would be ranked and funding allocated. M Biel handed out a Cooperator Agreement and Consent to Release of Information between the Pierce County Land Conservation Committee and the Natural Resources Conservation Service for the committee to review. M Biel also reported that NRCS will play a prominent role in a major White House conference being scheduled for August in Washington. The conference will address conservation at a national level. M Biel reported that there has only been four such conferences in the country’s history.

Future agenda items include a Farmland Preservation Public Hearing on Monday, June 20th at 7:00 p.m. in the County Board Room; and Contracting for Subdivision Review.

D Hamilton moved to adjourn, M Pittman seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

MINUTES
Pierce County Land Conservation Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 30, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairperson LeRoy Peterson. Members present were LeRoy Peterson, Don Nellessen, Mel Pittman, Bill Gilles, Jerry Kosin and Delbert Hamilton. Also in attendance were Ron Anderson, Jeff Holst, Dale Hines, Land Conservation Director David Sander, Attorney John Higley, Corporation Counsel Brad Lawrence, and Attorney Bob Schreiber.

Motion by Don Nellessen to convene into closed session pursuant to §19.85(1)(c) Wis. Stats. for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation date of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility: Employee performance matter. Motion was seconded by Delbert Hamilton. Roll call vote unanimously approved.

Motion by Don Nellessen to return to open session. Motion was seconded by Jerry Kosin. Roll call vote unanimously approved.

Motion by Mel Pittman to:

1. Have the Land Conservation Committee, Land Conservation Department and other invitees (NRCS staff) participate in a self-evaluation process, to be facilitated by County Board Supervisor Rod Rommel, with Mr. Rommel to be contacted by either a member of the Land Conservation Committee or Acting Administrative Coordinator Ron Anderson;
2. Have the Land Conservation Committee, Land Conservation Department and other invitees (NRCS staff) engage in a Team-Building activity to be facilitated by non-county personnel, similar to that recently conducted by the Human Services Board and members of the Human Services Department;
3. Have a meeting between:
 - a group consisting of the Land Conservation Committee, the Pierce County Board Chairperson, County Board Vice-Chairperson, the Land Conservation Director, and NRCS District Conservationist, AND
 - a group consisting of the upper-level representatives of the various state and

federal agencies having local contact and roles with the Land Conservation Department, including but not limited to, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association (WLWCA), and the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

to determine the roles, expectations and responsibilities of the various agency or entity with respect to the Land Conservation Department, and to subsequently communicate those roles, expectations and responsibilities to the Land Conservation Committee and Land Conservation Department staff;

4. Have Land Conservation Department staff and other invitees attend the next Land Conservation Committee meeting (July 6, 2005) to advise the staff and invitees of the reasoning behind the specifics of the three items above, as well as the expectations of the Committee with regard to staff, and to provide general direction of the Land Conservation Department.

Motion was seconded by Bill Gilles. Motion carried.

Motion by Bill Gilles to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Mel Pittman. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Brad Lawrence

**LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 2005
COUNTY BOARD ROOM**

LCC Members Present: Bill Gilles, Delbert Hamilton, Jerry Kosit, Don Nellessen, LeRoy Peterson, Melvin Pittman

LCD/NRCS Staff Members: Mark Biel, Pat Dodge, Dennis Fritz, Larry Gruber, Jon Krauss, Debra Larson, David Sander, Steve Price

Others Agency Members Present: Chad Alberg, USDA APHIS, Linda Paul, FSA; Gary Zielske, DNR

Public Present: Don Acker, Jay Richardson, Jeff VonHoltum

L Peterson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

L Peterson welcomed comments from the public. No public comments were received.

LCC members reviewed May 10, 2005 and June 30, 2005 meeting minutes. M Pittman moved to approve May 10th meeting minutes, B Gilles seconded. No further discussion by LCC members. Motion carried with all in favor. M Pittman requested that June 30th meeting minutes be amended to include NRCS Staff as other invitees in # 1 and #2, to include the Land Conservation Committee in #3; to remove and in the last sentence of 3A; to remove "and" from last sentence in #3; and to remove Land Conservation Committee minutes header on page 2.

L Peterson moved to open the public hearing for the purpose of adopting the Pierce County Soil and Water Conservation Standards for the Farmland Preservation Program. J Krauss provided an update of the conservation standards for committee members. He reported that the standards were rewritten pursuant to ATCP 50.04 and NR151 02-08. He noted that conformance to these standards will apply to new contracts. J Krauss also noted that landowners in exclusive ag zoning would need to comply with these standards, as well. L Peterson called for public comments. No public comments were offered. L Peterson moved to close the Public Hearing. J Kosit made the motion to adopt the Pierce County Soil and Water Conservation Standards for the Farmland Preservation Program. D Nellessen seconded. No further discussion by committee members. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members discussed the direction of the Land Conservation Department. B Gilles reviewed points 1- 4 of the June 30th Land Conservation Committee Meeting. B Gilles noted Supervisor Rod

Rommel will conduct a self-evaluation to determine everyone's roles in the department. B Gilles noted it is the conservation department will engage in a Team Building activity to rebuild bridges. B Gilles stated a meeting will be scheduled with upper-level representatives of various state and federal agencies having local contact and roles with the Land Conservation Department to understand the roles and responsibilities of each agency. And finally, B Gilles reported the Land Conservation staff and NRCS staff were invited to attend the Land Conservation Committee meeting to inform staff of the "plan". Staff members and the public offered comments per the committee's request.

Committee members reviewed the financial reports for May and June. J Kosin moved to approve both financial reports. B Gilles seconded. No further discussion by committee members. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members reviewed vouchers for the month of June.

Committee members reviewed cost share requests for May and June. M Pittman moved to approve the cost share requests. B Gilles seconded. D Sander questioned should a lapse in meetings occur again if cost share requests could be approved in a timely manner. Motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander indicated he attended some supervisory training and that L Peterson, D Hamilton and J Kosin attended training in Barron County.

D Sander presented the first request regarding the 2005 Soil and Water Resource Management Staffing Grant Reimbursement to committee members. D Hamilton moved to approve the request. D Nellessen seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander reviewed a Farmland Preservation Agreement application for Roger L and Ilene D Claflin in the Town of Rock Elm. M Pittman moved to approve the application, J Kosin seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members discussed bidding procedures for conservation practices involving contractors and landowners. The Conservation Department facilitates the bidding process to aid the both the landowner and the contractor. Committee members and staff noted that since bids are not sealed bids, the low bidder is not necessarily awarded the project because landowners may select a contractor other than the low bidder provided the landowner pays 100% of the difference.

Committee members reviewed potential contracting services for the review and inspection of erosion control plans. Those responding to Request for Qualifications include: Bonestroo Rosene Anderlik & Associates of St. Paul MN; Ayres Associates of Eau Claire, WI; Irrigation Inc. of Hammond, WI; Cedar Corporation of Menomonie, WI; and Emmons & Oliver Resources of Oakdale, MN. B Gilles moved to sign the agreement with Ayres Associates to fulfill the need for contracting services for the review and inspection of erosion control plans and to select a "backup" contractor within one month. J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander informed committee members of recent legislative action taken at the state level.

Under the Director's Report, D Sander: introduced Dennis Fritz, Kinnickinnic Watershed Technician; indicated Corporation Counsel's Office is in review of construction plans for Nugget Lake Park Grade Stabilization Structure; provided an update on Structure 19 at Plum Creek; noted he would be on scheduled leave August 1 – 5th; announced the Fall Speaking Contest and Business Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 26th at the Ramada Inn in Eau Claire; reported due to saturated soil conditions, construction is slow; and requested input from committee members regarding the 2006 department budget.

L Paul reported on the Loan Deficiency Payments for 2004 crop year; the 2005 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program Signup; 2005 Advance DCP payments; 2004 Advance Counter-Cyclical Payments; Commodity Loans for 2004 Crop; June MILC payment rate; 2004 CRP payments disbursed October of 2004. L Paul also noted applications are still being accepted for the 2003/2004 Disaster Program; a Livestock Assistance Program signup is ongoing for grazing losses in 2003; FSA will be hosting an open house on July 20, 2005 to invite persons from Clifton, River Falls, Martell, Gilman and Spring Lake to be nominees for the County Committee since D Hamilton has served the maximum number of consecutive years as a county committee member and FSA/NRCS will be reviewing CRP rental rates for Pierce County.

M Biel reported on NRCS activities. He reported thus far, for the 2005 construction season 28 waterways of up to 3.4 miles have been constructed; 2 rock jobs have been completed; 2 wells have been abandoned; 1 dam has been built; 1 stream crossing has been installed; and 1 manure storage facility has been abandoned. M Biel reported all 2004 CSP contract holders have been interviewed and payments of approximately \$350,000 will be mailed out late July and 13--2005 CSP applications have been sent to the national office for approval. M Biel reported \$120,000 has been allocated to fund 12 new EQIP contracts scheduled for implementation in 2006. M Biel reported 13 Tracts were selected for compliance review. He noted Dan Sitz and Doug Sippl have completed residue checks and status reviews. M Biel also reported approximately 30 new CRP contracts will be developed and will be completed by mid July. Mark informed committee members NRCS is celebrating a 70-year anniversary.

G Zielske provided a Forestry Report. He noted Governor Doyle accepted certification of Sustainable Management of Private Forestlands in Wisconsin's Managed Forest Law which represents completion of Governor's "Grow Wisconsin" Forest Certification Initiative. G Zielske announced state auditors are recommending pending certification for land enrolled in the Managed Forest Law Program under the American Tree Farm System (AFTS) Group Forest Certification program. G Zielske also reported the project area of the Forest Legacy Program has been expanded to include the very eastern townships of Pierce County. G Zielske noted approximately 50 people attended the farm field day at the Howard and Edna Christensen Tree Farm.

C Alberg provided a report of abatement and claims to date of 10 enrollees covering a variety of resources and species. C Alberg also presented a permanent fence request for Michael O' Malley in the Town of River Falls for approval. D Nellessen moved to approve the request. Bill second. No further discussion by committee members. Motion carried with all in favor. D Nellessen amended his motion to include the amendment of the budget, if necessary. B Gilles seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried with all in favor.

The next LCC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 9th at 8:30 a.m. in the County Board Room.

M Pittman moved to adjourn the meeting. Delbert seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Pierce County Land Conservation Committee Meeting
Monday, July 25, 2005
10:30 a.m. County Board Room

LCC Members: Bill Gilles, Delbert Hamilton, Jerry Kosin, LeRoy Peterson, Mel Pittman

LCD Staff: Dennis Fritz, Larry Gruber, Jon Krauss, Debra Larson, David Sander

NRCS Staff: Mark Biel, Pat Dodge, Steve Price

Facilitator: Rod Rommel

Chairman L Peterson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

LCC Members, LCD Staff and NRCS Staff entered into a discussion of the LCC/Staff self-evaluation, led by Rod Rommel.

M Pittman moved to adjourn. D Hamilton seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

PIERCE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, August 9, 2005

8:30 a.m. Pierce County Office Building

Ellsworth, WI 54011

Members Present: Bill Gilles, Delbert Hamilton, Jerry Kosin, Don Nellessen (excused), LeRoy Peterson, Mel Pittman **LCD/NRCS Staff Members:** Debra Larson, David Sander

Others Present: Mark Biel, Linda Paul, Curt Kephart

Chairman LeRoy Peterson called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

No public comment was brought forward on any issue.

J Kosin moved to approve the LCC Meeting Minutes for July 06, 2005 and July 25, 2005. B Gilles seconded, motion carried with all in favor.

J Kosin moved to approve the July Financial Report, B Gilles seconded, motion carried with all in favor.

Cost share requests for grade stabilization structure for Bredahl; Nutrient Management for Bob Fenske; Well Abandonment for Robert Hartung; No Till for Roger Hofacker; Pit Abandonment for David Koehler; and Critical Area Treatment for Daral Morrow were reviewed. B Gilles moved to approve the cost share requests. D Hamilton seconded; motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander reviewed vouchers for July with committee members.

D Sander noted the majority of the LCD/NRCS staff attended RUSLE Training in either Chippewa County, Dunn County or St. Croix County. D Sander reported an anaerobic digester tour is scheduled for Monday, August 22nd, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at Emerald Dairy in St Croix County.

Committee members reviewed Evergreen Irrigation Inc. as the second choice for review and inspection of erosion control plans. D Sander noted that Evergreen Irrigation Inc., indicated that DJ Fedderly Management Consultant, LLC at \$100 per hour, and BDM Consulting Engineers, PLC, at \$75 per hour are the professional engineers who would be utilized throughout any projects assigned by LCD. M Pittman moved to approve Evergreen Irrigation Inc as the secondary firm to review and inspect erosion control plans, and that Corporation Counsel drafts a contract as such. B Gilles seconded; motion carried with J Kosin opposed.

D Sander reviewed the Capital Improvement Plan with LCC members. J Kosin moved to approve the Capital Improvement Plan, B Gilles seconded; motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander reviewed the Program Work Sheet and Five-Year Plan with LCC members. B Gilles moved to approve the Program Work Sheet and Five-Year Plan. D Hamilton seconded; motion carried with all in favor.

LCC members reviewed a draft copy of the 2006 budget for the Land Conservation Department. D Sander noted the final budget must be reviewed and approved by the LCC in September's meeting to meet the September 16th deadline. No action was necessary at this time.

D Sander discussed repair and maintenance of the PL 566 Structure #1 at Bay City. It was noted that the structure site is owned by three landowners. LCC members recommended landowners are invited to a LCC meeting to discuss structure repair and maintenance. M Pittman moved to set up repair work on the PL 566 structure for 2006. J Kosin seconded; motion carried with all in favor.

LCC members discussed the Land Conservation Committee/Staff self-evaluation. J Kosin made the motion for B Gilles to forward contact information for teambuilding with JFK Associates so L Peterson could set up a meeting date. B Gilles seconded; motion carried with all in favor. M Pittman made a motion to set up a meeting with Rod Rommel to continue self-evaluation for committee members, D Sander, and M Biel. B Gilles seconded; motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander discussed legislative issues with LCC members. D Sander noted he would continue to research possibilities for availability of grant money to support soft practices.

Under the Director's Report, D Sander reported D Koehler met the deadline to sign up for cost share assistance for pit abandonment. He noted a meeting would be set up with DATCP, DNR and LCD to review if the October 31st deadline is manageable for Mr. Koehler. D Sander reported that CCC structures built from 1935 to 1942 are in need of maintenance. He indicated the structures are functioning at present, but the structures should be maintained and the channel should be vegetated. He also noted that the county should consider zoning these areas to prevent development. D Sander reported meeting dates and times for writing the LWRMP has been outlined. The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 25th. D Sander reported that 15 grade stabilization structures have been constructed thus far.

Linda Paul provided a FSA report on program payments for the Loan Deficiency Program; the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program; Commodity Loans, MILC and CRP. She noted FSA is still taking applications through September 9th for the 2003/2004 Disaster program and for the Livestock Assistance Program for grazing losses in 2003. Linda noted Washington DC has extended the time for County Committee nominees to file their papers until August 15th. L Paul informed LCC members that Mark Biel, Greg Andrews, Gary Zielske, David Sander and she would be meeting to provide input for the soil

rental rates for CRP in Pierce County for future CRP signups. L Paul also reported that non-payroll and travel budgets have been cut back from original allocations.

M Biel provided a NRCS report. He indicated 48 of the 54, 2004 CSP contracts have been paid out. Over \$400,000 in payments will be made for the 2004 contracts. All 13 CSP contract applications for 2005 have been tentatively approved. M Biel reported a total of 67 CSP contracts cover only 25 % of the county. M Biel noted Pierce County ranks #1 in Wisconsin with these 67 contracts. This is a tribute to the historically strong conservation program in Pierce County.

Future agenda items include the 2006 budget and teambuilding with JFK Associates.

The next meeting date is scheduled for Wednesday, September 7th, 8:30 a.m. at the County Board Room.

J Kosin moved to adjourn, B Gilles seconded; motion carried with all in favor. Meeting adjourned 11:05 a.m.

PIERCE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

8:30 a.m. Pierce County Board Room

Ellsworth, WI 54011

Members Present: Delbert Hamilton, Jerry Kosin, Don Nellessen, LeRoy Peterson, Mel Pittman

LCD/NRCS Staff Members: Mark Biel, Debra Larson, David Sander

Others Present: Chad Alberg, Greg Adams, Curt Kephart Linda Paul, Dean Steines, Gary Zielske

Chairman LeRoy Peterson called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m

Under public comment, Mel Pittman commented in regards to the citizens work group meetings and technical work group meetings scheduled in regards to the Land and Water Resource Management Plan. He noted that it is important that the Land Conservation Committee be involved, however, committee members had no input as to the dates the meetings were scheduled. Mel reported that he cannot make three out of the four meetings. He noted that it would be beneficial if both work groups met on the same evening rather than two separate evenings. And if questions or concerns arise, they could be addressed rather than be addressed through a third party. M Pittman also stated that these meetings would be better attended at a different time of the year. M Pittman questioned if this is possible. D Sander reported that it would be pretty tough as far as the time schedule to get the plan out. D Sander reported this consultant has written eight or nine other plans and D Sander reported this is a typical format and set up in all other counties. D Sander also stated the reason the Citizen's Work Group meets before the Technical Work Group is so that the consultant can then compile the information and the Technical Work Group can act on those. As for other counties, D Sander noted, not all committee members go to the meetings. There are sometimes only one or two members that attend these meetings. In the essence of time, it is noteworthy that the time table fit in with the consultant for writing the plan. M Pittman noted that the plan is basically a "rewrite" of the plan of the former plan and that it shouldn't be that big of job for the consultant. D Sander noted that it is important that we meet the time table from a budget standpoint as well to ensure that the funds are not pushed back another year. D Sander also noted that this was a discussion item with committee members and committee members suggested that it be completed in one year versus two years. M Pittman reported that he recalled it being very important to have good citizen input and he questioned if that would be possible when trying to meet consultant's time table.

Committee members reviewed August 09, 2005 committee meeting minutes. M Pittman moved to

approve. J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members reviewed cost share requests for August 2005. D Nellessen moved to approve cost share requests, J Kosin seconded. LeRoy Peterson abstained due to conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Committee members reviewed vouchers for August 2005. M Pittman questioned if D Sander solicited bids for the tires. D Sander noted that bills under \$500 did not have to. D Sander explained intern wages were supported by matching funds from WLWCA. D Nellessen questioned expenditure of \$118.95 on line item 30. D Sander noted it was possibly supplies and expenses for erosion and control supplies when T Popple was on board. D Sander reported that he would research and report back to the committee.

D Sander informed committee members that several department employees attended the Digester Tour at Emerald Dairy, that Dennis Fritz attended Milkhouse Waste Training and that a training session for the new permitting procedures for Chapter 30 procedures involving DNR permitting will be scheduled on the 13th of September.

Committee members reviewed a Stormwater, Sediment, and Erosion Control Monitoring Contract drafted and signed by Ayres & Associates, Inc. Dean Steines and Greg Adams were present to entertain questions by committee members. J Kosin moved to approve the contracting services for the purpose of review and inspection of erosion control plans. M Pittman seconded. Motion carried with all in favor. D Steines noted that any dispute or problem will be addressed with Land Conservation Director. He noted if issues need to be brought before the LCC committee, arrangements will be made to do so.

Committee members reviewed the 2006 Land Conservation Department Budget. D Sander entertained questions from the committee. D Nellessen moved to approve the budget. J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor except for M Pittman opposition.

Committee members discussed the PL 566 structure at Bay City #1. M Pittman moved that a meeting be scheduled with current landowners in January 2006. J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor

Committee members discussed the Land Conservation Committee/Staff self-evaluation. C Kephart noted that he would like to meet with JFK Associates. C Kephart has agreed to assist in the evaluation. M Pittman noted that the Team Building exercise proposed would be more beneficial and of more importance and would be an action to get the department to move in the right direction as most of the issues lie there. He noted that committee members are invited to attend that activity. C Kephart recommended setting a time line to move forward.

D Sander provided a legislative update to committee members regarding NR 243. He noted that NR243 works hand-in-hand with NR151 and ATCP 50.

Under the Director's Report D Sander noted that practices continue to be implemented. He reported

that David Koehler, DATCP, UW Extension and LCD met to discuss the closing of the manure storage pit on the Koehler property. D Sander questioned what practices the committee would like to prioritize for county cost share dollars. D Sander indicated the City of River Falls has a head cut that is emptying into Mann Creek. He also reported that sealed bids were being accepted for the Nugget Lake structure through Friday, September 23rd at 4:00 p.m. Committee members agreed the project should be advertised in the Pierce County Herald. David also informed committee members that RC & D, Pam Herdrich is working on a grant which may house a staff person at Pierce County.

L Paul reported on FSA activities including Loan Deficiency Payments; Direct and Counter Cyclical Program Signup as well as 2005 advance DCP payments and 2004 Advance Counter-Cyclical Payments. She noted that the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program signup begins October 1, 2005 and that advance payments will not be made until December. L Paul also reported on the Commodity Loans 2004 crop payments; MILC payments for September and CRP payments will be disbursed early October. L Paul informed committee members that she has received many requests regarding Farm Stored Facility Loans, that FSA is in the process of spot checking the crop reporting acreages and the 2004 digital photos are on the shared drive for access by NRCS and LCD personnel. L Paul also noted that applications are being taken for the 2003/2004 Disaster Program and that the deadline for signup is September 9th. L Paul also stated a Livestock Assistance Program sign up is ongoing for grazing losses in 2003.

M Biel reported on NRCS activities. M Biel reported that Doug Sippl, summer intern returned to college. He noted that D Sippl's experience and training was an asset to the department. He noted, another intern ,Wendy Fiala, will be filling the vacancy. W Fiala will be in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She comes to Pierce County with experience in TOOLKIT. She transferred from Fox Valley Technical College to UW River Falls. M Biel reported receiving an additional \$40,000 in EQIP funds. He also noted four additional contracts were funded from the ranking list. He stated a total of \$150,000 of EQIP C/S funds have been contracted this year. He indicated new applications have been coming in and will be added to the ranking list. M Biel also reported the CSP Program currently has 67 contracts in Pierce County making it number one in the State of Wisconsin. M Biel reported that CSP only covers approximately one-quarter of the county. He reported 250 contracts could be accepted by the time CSP covers the entire county. He reported approximately four to five million dollars paid out in these 67 contracts. He also reported CSP as well as EQIP payments may be delayed as the national finance center is located in area hit by Katrina in New Orleans. M Biel informed committee members that 34 total waterways and dike removals; and 24 structures have been constructed to this date. He noted smaller projects such as rock rip rapping, crossings, etc. will continue.

Gary Zielske provided a forestry report. He reported he requested funds for honeysuckle control at Nugget Lake for \$15,000.00 and buck thorn control at Trenton Bluff Natural Area for \$5000.00. He noted Wisconsin Forest Landowner grants totaling \$7000.00 have been approved for Pierce County landowners, for cost sharing for forestry projects. He reported July 1 is the deadline for Managed Forest Law applications. He reported five applications were received last year and 15 have been filed for entry in 2007.

Chad Alberg provided a Wildlife Damage Report. C Alberg noted the bid for the permanent woven fence was awarded to Straight Line Fencing. C Alberg discussed the 2005 Wildlife Damage Budget amendment for venison processing. D Nellessen moved to approve the 2005 Wildlife Damage Budget for 2005. D Hamilton seconded. Motion carried with all in favor. C Alberg also reviewed the 2006 Wildlife Damage Budget. M Pittman moved to approve the budget. D Nellessen seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Future agenda items include the rock work at the south fork of the Kinni; CREP contract change; Wildlife Damage Program contract and meeting with JFK Associates.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 5th, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. in the County Board Room.

D Nellessen moved to adjourn. J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

PIERCE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

6:30 p.m. Pierce County EOC Conference Room

Ellsworth, WI 54011

Members Present: Delbert Hamilton, Jerry Kosin, Don Nellessen, LeRoy Peterson, Bill Gillis

Members Absent: Mel Pittman (Excused)

LCD/NRCS Staff Members: David Sander

Others Present: None

Chairman LeRoy Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

D Sander noted that six bids were received for the construction of a grade stabilization structure at Nugget Lake County Park.

D Sander explained that the project may be delayed for 30 days pending a DNR permit for the taking of a rare and endangered species (Snow Trillium). Some discussion by the committee about the time frame of which the construction needs to be completed with-in occurred.

L Peterson opened the bids and reviewed them with the committee:

Brooke Excavating	\$15,975.00
John Crownhart Bulldozing and Excavating	\$17,027.55
Fleishauer Cat & Backhoe Service Inc.	\$17,480.00
Elbe Enterprises	\$18,17.055
BS Construction	\$20,650.00
Holst Excavating, Inc.	\$34,076.00

B Gillis moved to conditionally approve the bid received from Brooke Excavating for

\$15,975.00 for the construction of a Grade Stabilization Structure in Nugget Lake County Park subject to the execution of a contract. J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

D Nellessen moved to alternatively, if for some reason the County could not come to terms with Brooke Excavating, conditionally approve the bid received from John Crownhart Bulldozing and Excavating for \$17,027.55, subject to the execution of a contract. And also, to alternatively, if for some reason the County could not come to terms with Brooke Excavating and John Crownhart Bulldozing and Excavating, conditionally approve the bid received from Fleishauer Cat & Backhoe Service Inc. for \$17,480.00, subject to the execution of a contract. B Gillis seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

B Gillis moved to adjourn. J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Pierce County Land Conservation Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 5, 2005
8:30 a.m. Pierce County Board Room
Ellsworth, WI 54011

Members Present: Bill Gilles, Delbert Hamilton, Jerry Kosin, Don Nellessen, LeRoy Peterson, Mel Pittman

LCD/NRCS Staff Members: Mark Biel, Dennis Fritz, Debra Larson, David Sander

Others Present: Kyle Kulow, Linda Paul, John Sours

Chairman L Peterson called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

No public comment was brought forward on any issue.

D Nellessen moved to approve September 7, 2005 meeting minutes. D Hamilton seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members reviewed the financial report for September. D Nellessen moved to approve the financial report, M Pittman seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members reviewed cost share requests for September. B Gilles moved to approve the cost share requests. D Hamilton seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Committee members reviewed vouchers for Septembers.

D Sander reported he will be attending a county conservationist meeting in Waupaca and D Fritz attended soils training. D Sander informed committee members the West Central Area Land & Water Conservation Association Fall Business meeting and Speaking Contest is scheduled for Wednesday, October 26, 2005 at the Plaza Hotel & Suites in Eau Claire and the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association's Annual Meeting is scheduled for December 7-9, 2005 also at the Plaza Hotel & Suites in Eau Claire.

Committee members discussed a Proposal for Staff and Organization Team Development submitted by Fred C Kusch of JFK Associates, Inc. of LaCrosse, WI. The fee for consultant services will be \$10,000

plus usual and customary expenses. Committee members discussed ways to trim the cost of services. D Sander informed committee members funds could possibly be pulled from educational supplies, prizes and awards and capital expense line items. C Kephart also noted additional funding may be available through administration. Committee members anticipated the first phase would involve a two-day session to interview with the entire staff, as well as committee members. Committee members questioned if it would be more economically feasible to provide over night accommodations for Mr. Kusch or to pay travel expenses. M Pittman questioned if last phase would be complete before county committee elections in the spring. L Peterson recommended a pause between the two phases so that the committee could determine if the service is effective. M Pittman requested that committee members turn in a list of dates they can not be available so that committee members would have an opportunity to be involved in the process. M Pittman moved to proceed with JFK Associates, Inc., giving D Sander, L Peterson and C Kephart the authority to make provisions necessary to move forward. B Gilles seconded. D Nellessen opposed. Motion carried.

Kyle Kulow, Project Manager for the Kinnickinnic Priority Watershed and John Sours, DNR Trout Habitat Crew Leader discussed the scope of a streambank restoration project on the South Fork of the Kinnickinnic in the Town of River Falls from Saddle Club Road to South Fork Road. The restoration project will include rock rip rapping of eroded banks, installation of grade control structures, artificial habitats and luncker structures as well as reshaping and stabilizing of stream banks. K Kulow reported the total cost of the project would be approximately \$250,000. He noted that many partners would be associated with this project including DNR Trout Habitat, Private Landowners, LCC of Pierce and St. Croix Counties, and Kinnickinnic Land Trust. He noted approximately \$25,000 to \$40,000, of ACRA funds, over a two-year period, would be needed from Pierce County to complete the project. D Nellessen moved to approve the South Fork Kinnickinnic Project. B Gilles seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander presented a CREP Contract Agreement Amendment before committee members. D Sander reported that since Pierce County has spent less than seven percent of CREP dollars allotted, the state would re-allocate 15% of total dollars allotted to Pierce County to other counties to participate in CREP. M Pittman moved to approve the CREP Contract Agreement Amendment. J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander presented the 2006 Wildlife Damage Cooperative Service Agreement with Pierce County, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and United States Department of Agriculture Animal Plant Health Inspection Service – Wildlife Services. D Hamilton moved to approve the agreement, B Gilles seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander provided a legislative update on NR 243 to committee members.

Under the Director's Report D Sander discussed Big River Estates, David Koehler manure pit abandonment, Soil survey field soil mapping is nearing completion, Nugget Lake grade stabilization structure project, structures completed for September and D Hammel hearing held before Judge Wing on

September 3rd.

Linda Paul provided a FSA report. L Paul reported on loan deficiency payments for 2005 crop year. L Paul noted that 1693 contracts were approved for the 2005 Direct and Counter Cyclical Program. The second half of 2205 DCP payments will be mailed out in October and the 2004 Counter Cyclical Payments will be mailed out this week. L Paul also noted that 200 signup started October 1, 2005, and that advance payments cannot be made until December 2005. She reported on Commodity Loans for 2004 crops and that 2005 CRP payments were sent out on October 4, 2005. She noted contracts expiring 2007 through 12010 would be eligible for re-enrollment and extension. L Paul informed LCC members that she has received many requests regarding Farm Stored Facility Loans as well as storage availability at local facilities and terminals. She noted distress loans are available and that no extension has been announced on the MILC program. L Paul reported on the 2003/2004 Disaster Program payment. She noted Livestock Assistance Payments have not been paid due to software issues. L Paul also reported that FSA office consolidations are in the works. FSA Tomorrow includes shutting of 13 office throughout the state which would resulting consolidation with another field office.

M Biel provided a NRCS Report. M Biel highlighted data he provided to the LWRMP Citizens and Technical Work Group Meetings. He noted that he addressed three of the seven resource concerns in a handout. M Biel also reported that EQIP program priorities include excessive other erosion, excessive sheet and rill erosion, sedimentation, nutrients and streambank/shoreline erosion and degradation. He reported that EQIP has focused on major issues in the county. M Biel will provide copies of handout to L Peterson and D Hamilton for local EQIP work group meeting scheduled for next month. M Biel reported Nutrient Management plans cover approximately 11,000 acres in the county and that while every year contracts are expiring, new contracts are being written. He reported CSP requires Nutrient Management Plans as well. M Biel reported that proposed EQIP program updates and changes for 2006 include comprehensive nutrient management plans which require livestock producers to develop a CNMP if they want to get 590 cost share dollars through EQIP. The reason being Wisconsin is being pushed at a national level to produce CNMP because of national goals. There are a number of land owner applicants waiting on the list. They will be offered the opportunity to take Nutrient Management off of their application or they will need to get a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan written for their farmstead. Cost share funding allots \$8.00 an acre to livestock producers and \$5.50 per acre for cash grain operators. Dairy/livestock producers have been separated from grain producers at this point. Another point is that a separate EQIP pool will be set up to fund only the CNP practice. Livestock producers will be picked off the list for a CNMP. A decision of percentage will need to be decided for practices such as grassed waterway, rotational grazing, erosion control dams, and misc. items can be separately pooled then at this point. M Biel noted that this will help with some of the back logged applicants and that funding may cover quite a ways down the list by doing so. B Gilles questioned what the impact of CNMP would have on his staff. M Biel reported service may be provided through private business technical service providers. Otherwise, he reported, it will fall back on the state, area and field office staff. M Biel reported a Request For Proposal (RFP) to provide additional clerical data entry staff at the field office level has been authorized. Pierce County is scheduled to share a staff person with Dunn County to help assist with office work and data entry. He reported this person should be in place by the first of the year.

Future agenda items include D Sander's performance evaluation scheduled for November. J Kosin requested that D Sander or L Peterson meet with Sandy prior to the evaluation so that evaluation papers are provided to committee members prior to the evaluation.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 2nd, at the County Board Room.

D Hamilton moved to adjourn. B Gilles seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

PIERCE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, December 13, 2005

8:30 p.m. Pierce County Board Room

Ellsworth, WI 54011

Members Present: Delbert Hamilton, Jerry Kosin, Don Nellessen, LeRoy Peterson, Melvin Pittman

Members Absent: Bill Gilles

LCD/NRCS Staff Members: Mark Biel, Jon Krauss, Debra Larson, David Sander

Others Present: Chad Alberg, Ron Anderson, Curt Kephart, Pat Lockyear

Under public comment, D Sander thanked D Hamilton for his years of service to the Land Conservation Department. David noted this is D Hamilton's final day after serving six years on the Land Conservation Committee. D Sander also noted that D Hamilton had committed a total of 28 years of service to Farm Service Agency.

M Pittman moved to approve the November 2, 2005 meeting minutes. J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

M Pittman moved to approve the November Financial Report, J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor. D Nellessen moved to approve the cost share requests for November, D Hamilton seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

D Sander reviewed vouchers for the month of November. He noted that the check for BS Construction for Riprap will be held until the rock is delivered.

Discuss training

D Sander, M Pittman, J Kosin and L Peterson reported on the WLWCA Annual Conference held in Eau Claire on December 7-9th. D Sander noted L Gruber and D Fritz plan to attend a tech meeting in Rice Lake on Wednesday, weather permitting. He also reported the MidWest Value Ag Conference is scheduled for January 27th & 28th in Eau Claire and the Ag Lime Conference is scheduled for January 17th through the 19th in Madison.

D Sander provided an Addendum to the Contract for Grade Stabilization Structure at Nugget Lake County Park for LCC review. D Hamilton moved to approve the addendum, M Pittman seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

D Nellessen made a motion to move forward with a public hearing for the Draft Land and Water Resource Management Plan. M Pittman seconded Motion carried. LCC members discussed revisions to the draft and recommended a special LCC meeting be held after the public hearing to make modifications. LCC members set a public hearing date for Monday, January 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the County Board Room.

Pat Lockyear of Family Means was present to discuss the Team Building Workshop as proposed by The Employee Assistance Program. M Pittman made a motion to move forward with team building as noted, D Nellessen seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Under legislative issues, D Sander noted that he has not heard the outcome of the public hearing held December 8th, to discuss the livestock siting rule. Also D Sander reviewed with the committee draft recommendations from the manure management task force.

Under the Director's Report, J Krauss provided an update on Steve Brand's progress towards compliance.

Director's Report

Jon Krauss provided a status review for Steve Brand. J Krauss noted Brand's progress towards compliance. J Krauss also itemized fields to be sown down for 2006. D Sander reported on progress at the David Koehler site. D Sander also indicated he is working with UW Extension and Solid Waste to mulch construction refuse to use for erosion control purposes. D Sander informed committee members that the Ayers Contract will terminate the end of December.

David has met with Sportsman's Clubs to partner with and work cooperatively on some sites. The first workshop will be in the multipurpose room which will include Land Conservation, UW Extension, Solid Waste and Building Inspectors.

Linda Paul was not present to provide an oral FSA Report. A written report was included in the committees' mailing.

M Biel provided an NRCS Report. He provided fact sheets on Comprehensive Livestock Farm Planning (CLFP). M Biel reported Pierce County has been allocated approximately \$200,000 of EQIP cost share funds, of which approximately \$60,000 for cost share assistance for CLFP's. M Biel noted EQIP applications received since March of over 100 new tracts of land will increase the applicant waiting list to approximately a two million dollar backlog.

C Alberg reviewed the Fence Contract for Michael O'Malley and provided photos of the completed work. D Nellessen moved to approve the contract, J Kosin seconded. Motion carried with all in favor. C Alberg also reported he will present a budget amendment for \$5,000 in January. He noted statewide venison donation program was down about 3,000 in 2005 although Pierce County donations were up to 140 deer. C Alberg noted he will continue to receive commodity prices from UW Extension Agent, Greg Andrews.

Future agenda items include Stormwater Sediment Erosion Control Contract, Wildlife Damage Budget Amendment and Bay City Structure #1,

The next meeting date is scheduled for Wednesday, January 4th at 8:30 a.m. at the County Board Room.

M Pittman moved to adjourn. D Nellessen seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.