

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Forestry/Agriculture/Wildlife Committee Meeting Minutes
March 21st, 2024
Hancock Agricultural Research Station/Online

Attendees: Brent Tessmer (Taylor); Bill Clendenning (Wood); Jacob Fluor (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Nicole Rayome (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Amy Thorstenson (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Kevin Munkwitz (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Bob Walker (Member-at-Large); Maria LeFevre-Knusta (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Ben Babcock (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Adam Skadsen (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Erin Richards (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Brooke Patrick (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jennifer Glad (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Gary Beastron (Member-at-Large); Al Drabek (Marathon); Amanda Gurklis (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jodi Schappe (Adams); Asher Maliepaard (Golden Sands RC&D Staff).

CALL TO ORDER: Tessmer called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Drabek, to approve the minutes from the January 2024 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PROJECT UPDATES:

Cooperative Forestry:

Fluor reported on a demonstration forestry event, that was held in Marathon County, and focused on maple sap production. Meetings with the DNR and other partner agencies are upcoming and plans are being developed for field events in 2024.

Central Wisconsin Invasives Partnership (CWIP): Fluor reported on the development of small grant proposals and preparation for 2024 field work. The annual steering committee meeting will be held April 9th.

Northeast Wisconsin Invasives Partnership (NEWIP): Fluor reported that a new coordinator for NEWIP was hired. Field work planning is underway.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Cooperative Agreements: Several Golden Sands RC&D co-employment staff offered updates on their respective work, including working with landowners on mapping cost-sharing applications, promoting urban agriculture, and planning future events for producers.

Tree Shelters: Munkwitz reported that a promotional postcard was mailed and that preparations are in place for the 2024 season.

Stevens Point Area Neighborhood Gardens (SPANG): Richards, the newly hired coordinator, reported on planning and site improvements for the 2024 season.

NACD Technical Assistance Project/Managed Grazing: Patrick reported on plans for the 2024 season, which include the development of managed grazing plans, follow-ups with participating producers, and educational opportunities including workshops and pasture walks.

Waupaca County Conservation Field Day (WCCFD): Gurklis reported that the 2024 event is planned for September 27th with a rain date of October 4th.

Water Appreciation Day Event: Gurklis reported that the 2024 event is planned for May 17th with a rain date of May 24th.

NEW PROJECTS: None

MEMBER REPORTS: None

OTHER BUSINESS: Glad asked committee members to consider splitting the current Forestry/Ag/Wildlife committee into separate committees; one for Agriculture and the other for Forestry/Wildlife. No action was taken on the concept.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Drabek, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Walker
Recording Secretary