

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Forestry/Agriculture/Wildlife Committee Meeting Minutes
January 18th, 2024
Wood County River Block/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); Amanda Gurklis (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Ben Babcock (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Adam Skadsen (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Morgan Jansen (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Brooke Patrick (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Trent Quade (Golden Sands RC&D Staff).

CALL TO ORDER: Tessmer called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Walker, to approve the minutes from the November 2023 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PROJECT UPDATES:

Cooperative Forestry:

Fluor and Quade reported about meetings with partners in preparation for work in 2024.

Central Wisconsin Invasives Partnership (CWIP): Fluor reported on the wrap-up of 2023 projects and planning for field work in 2024.

Northeast Wisconsin Invasives Partnership (NEWIP): Quade reported on a website update, planning for 2024 projects, and the development of proposals for new funding in 2024. NEWIP is also seeking potential demonstration forest sites in two counties.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Cooperative Agreements: Several Golden Sands RC&D co-employment staff offered updates on their respective work, including various communication outreach initiatives, participation in the Wisconsin Women in Agriculture Conference, training, working with landowners on mapping cost-sharing applications, and other services.

Tree Shelters: Gurklis reported that a promotional postcard will be mailed soon, and that the first tree shelter order for 2024 was received.

Stevens Point Area Neighborhood Gardens (SPANG): Thorstenson and Munkwitz reported that applications for the new coordinator position are being reviewed.

NACD Technical Assistance Project/Managed Grazing: Thorstenson and Patrick reported that wrap-up of the 2023 season was completed and plans are being worked on for 2024. Educational opportunities, including pasture walks, are being planned.

NEW PROJECTS: Thorstenson presented two projects.

- The Monarch & Pollinator Habitat Collaboration involves a wide range of partners. The project goal is to restore and enhance a total of 1,000 acres of habitat for monarchs, as well as other threatened and endangered species.
- The NACD TA 2024 project is for the continuation of previous NACD Technical Assistance projects in Golden Sands RC&D's service area.

A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Clendenning, to recommend full board approval of both projects. Motion carried.

MEMBER REPORTS: None

OTHER BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Walker, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Walker
Recording Secretary