

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Forestry/Agriculture/Wildlife Committee Meeting Minutes
July 18th, 2024
Wood County River Block/Online

Attendees: Brent Tessmer (Taylor); Bill Clendenning (Wood); Jacob Fluor (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Kevin Munkwitz (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Bob Walker (Member-at-Large); Denise Hilgart (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); Al Drabek (Marathon); Asher Maliepaard (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Kristin McAdow (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Claire Harwood (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Brady Albers (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Gary Beastrom (Member-at-Large); Amberle Schwartz (Portage); Rick Nitz (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Thor Gustafson (Golden Sands RC&D).

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 Walker, which was seconded by Clendenning, to approve the minutes from the May 2024 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR: A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Beastrom, for a unanimous ballot for Brent Tesmer as committee chair.

PROJECT UPDATES:

Cooperative Forestry: Fluor and Harwood reported on the meeting. A demonstration forest field day will be held in Monroe County next week. Other events are being considered/planned. Brochures for all of the demonstration forests have been updated. A demonstration forest MOU has been drafted.

Central Wisconsin Invasives Partnership (CWIP): Fluor reported that field work and reporting is being done. A work project that was carried out by volunteers was done on a private parcel, and additional projects are being considered.

Northeast Wisconsin Invasives Partnership (NEWIP): Harwood reported on work through social media and public events. Control work is under way at various sites. Additional projects are being sought. A meeting for NEWIP and CWIP partners is being planned for October 8th.

Tree Shelters: Munkwitz reported that sales are slowing down, as they usually do during mid-season.

Urban Conservation: Urban Conservation: Nitz reported that project work is underway.

Stevens Point Area Neighborhood Gardens (SPANG): Richards reported on work with partners and improvements being made at a local site.

NACD Technical Assistance Project/Managed Grazing: Several staff offered updates on their respective work, including working with landowners on mapping cost-sharing applications, grazing plans and follow-up, and outreach events coming up in the next few months.

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

Water Appreciation Day Event: Glad reported that an event was held May 17th.

Habitat for Karner Blue Butterfly, Poweshiek Skipperling, & Other Pollinators: Glad reported that field work is underway.

Central Wisconsin Windshed: Glad reported that field work is underway for the 2024 season.

NEW PROJECTS: Glad presented a NRCS Co-employment Collaboration project, a \$1.8 million agreement with the NRCS, starting October 1st. A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Walker, to recommend approval of the project by the full board. Motion carried.

MEMBER REPORTS: None.

OTHER BUSINESS: Committee members continued earlier discussion about splitting the current Forestry/Ag/Wildlife committee meetings into separate committees, one for Agriculture and the other for Forestry/Wildlife. A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Walker, to recommend approval of the split by the full board; with one committee focusing on Agriculture and the other on Forestry & Wildlife. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Beastro, which was seconded by Clendenning, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Walker
Recording Secretary