

**DRAFT**  
**Buffalo County Minutes**

**Committee/Board:** Land Conservation Committee

**Date of Meeting:** Thursday, December 13, 2018

**Electronic and Hardcopy Filing Date:** Friday, December 14, 2018

The regular meeting of the Land Conservation Committee was called order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson Nettie Rosenow. Roll call showed that Don Black and Don Hillert were present for all or part of the meeting. David Linse was excused. Others present for all or part of the meeting: Carrie Olson.

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Hillert made a motion to approve the November 15, 2018 minutes as presented, seconded by Black. All in favor. Carried.

**Public Comments regarding posted agenda items:** None

**Agency Reports:** None

**Rose Valley Watershed Project:** Discussion was held on the Rose Valley Watershed project. Work planning documents were reviewed as well as identification of landowners in the watershed participating in the cropland conservation cost-share program set up by the Town of Belvidere. Funding opportunities and conservation practice need were discussed. No action.

**Soil and Water Resource Management (SWRM) Grants:** The 2019 Joint Allocation Plan was presented summarizing Buffalo County's state grant allocation amounts. Buffalo County was awarded annual funding from DATCP and DNR for reimbursement grants, including: Conservation staffing, Land and Water Plan allocation funding, Targeted Runoff Management grants, and Nutrient Management Farmer Education training grants. Grant categories and funding levels were discussed.

Olson shared a report showing the conservation practice cost-share projects selected for 2019. Ten new conservation projects were selected for 2019.

**Conservation Cost Share Projects:** The December Cost Share Project Report was presented. The county flood repair cost share program included 2 Grade Stabilization Dams cleaned-out for 2 landowners. Invoices for completed projects under the repair program were submitted for: Schams and Serum. The landowner portion paid at \$7760.00 and county share due is \$5538.75.

Conservation cost share contract approvals and contractor invoices were presented for the 2 CCC Dams on Clyde Gumbert property. The State share for the project is \$2,400.00. All landowner proof of payments for cost-sharing have been received.

Conservation CapX2020 bluff prairie restoration projects for Mississippi Valley Conservancy's Angel Bluff. Total project costs were \$19,098.00 with the county share of the project at \$3,000.00. Motion by Hillert, seconded by Black to approve and pay for the Cost Share Projects as presented. All in favor. Carried.

**Conservation Department Intern:**

The Land Conservation Department has proposed hiring a Land Conservation summer intern for data management and mapping conservation cost-share practices. Motion by Black seconded by Hillert to approve and forward to Human Resources Committee as presented. All in favor. Carried.

**County Conservationist Position Description:** Minor revisions were made to the position description to reflect current standards and job duties. Motion by Hillert seconded by Rosenow to approve and forward to Human Resources Committee as presented. All in favor. Carried.

**2019 Proposed Calendar:** The first Thursday of each month was selected as a meeting date in 2019 with a meeting time at 3:00 p.m.

**WI Land and Water Updates:** Annual dues invoices for 2019 were sent to each county from WI Land and Water. Rosenow inquired and was informed that the dues amount is included in the 2019 approved Land Conservation budget.

**County Conservationists Report:** The Buffalo County Farmland Preservation zoning ordinance was recently certified which will provide opportunity for landowners in 9 Townships to be eligible for farmland preservation tax credits. Zoning and Land Conservation will roll out the new tax credit program in early 2019.

**Chairperson Report** None

**Public Comments Not Relating to the Agenda** None given.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

**The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Carrie Olson  
County Conservationist