

Appendix A:

Updates from Land & Water Conservation Department

(June 2023)

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DEPARTMENT

Green County Land & Water Conservation Department

The Green County Land and Water Conservation Department was identified as the lead organization for the following recommendations. Recommendation numbers correspond with the numbers within the Livestock Facility Study Group Report & Recommendations document.

COMMUNITY MAPPING & MONITORING (page 25)

MONITORING (page 25)

Sept. 2018 3. *Coordinate well water test results, which are required to be taken every 15 months, to establish water quality trend data.*

- Rationale: This can be used to make decisions to reduce groundwater contamination.
- Note: The Green County Land and Water Conservation Department, Green County Health Department, and Green County UW-Extension were all identified as lead stakeholders for this recommendation.

Aug 2018 4. *Increase surface water monitoring near potential impaired waterways.*

- Rationale: This can be used to monitor and make decisions to reduce and prevent surface water runoff.

TESTING (page 26)

Aug 2018 6. *DNR or county offices have the right to obtain a manure or effluent slurry sample from any livestock facility or private septic system to use as they see fit to track down pollution sources.*

- Rationale: Would allow trace-back to sources of contaminated wells using DNA technology.

Sept 2018 7. *Green County Board and Green County Land and Water Conservation Department request to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to consider for all e. coli positive samples an investigation using microbial source tracking testing if offsite livestock contamination seems plausible.*

- Rationale: Initiate an investigation and allow trace-back to sources of contaminated wells using DNA technology.
- Note: The Green County Land and Water Conservation Department and the Green County Board were both identified as lead stakeholders for this recommendation.

BEST PRACTICES & OUTREACH (page 27)

OUTREACH (page 27)

Aug 2018 1. *Notify neighbors of off farm spills or spills impacting surface water as soon as possible but within 24 hours.*

- Rationale: Disclosure to area landowners of spills that may lead to private water supplies.

Sept 2018 4. *Increase education and outreach to landowners regarding the Wisconsin Manure Runoff Prediction website.*

- Rationale: Increase awareness of weather-related impacts on surface water runoff.
- Note: The Green County Land and Water Conservation Department and Green County UW-Extension were both identified as lead stakeholders for this recommendation.

Aug 2018 6. *Inform haulers and farmers of requirement that all land applicators have, at a minimum, one set of spreading restriction maps and written instructions present for land application sites where manure is actively being applied.*

- Rationale: Ensure proper application of manure and nutrients.

BEST PRACTICES (page 28)

Aug 2018 7. *Request NRCS to provide incentives for composting, separating, and treating manure.*

- Rationale: Reduce runoff and odor from manure applications.

RULES & REGULATIONS (page 29)

SETBACKS (page 30)

Aug 2018 5. *Revise county code to modify setback distance to 250 feet for manure storage from private wells and 1,000 feet for public wells.*

- Rationale: Reduce potential for surface water and groundwater contamination and odor concerns.

Sept 2018 6. *Revise county code to increase property line setbacks for feedlots over 1,000 animal units.*

- Rationale: Large farms over 1,000 animal units should have a greater setback to reduce odor and potential for ground and surface water contamination in neighboring wells.
- Note: Both the Green County Land and Water Conservation Department and the Green County Land Use and Zoning Department were identified as lead stakeholders for this recommendation. On further discussion, it seems the Green County Land & Water Conservation Department would be the predominate stakeholder to take the lead on this action.

Aug 2018 7. *Review and establish proper setbacks for land spreading manure.*

- Rationale: Reduce surface water runoff and odor concerns.

PERMITTING & FEES (page 30)

Sept 2018 8. *Only a certain amount of well capacity permitted per square mile to relieve the "straw effect."*

- Rationale: Reduce the amount of water taken from one specific area.
- Note: Both the Green County Land and Water Conservation Department and the Green County Land Use and Zoning Department were identified as lead stakeholders for this recommendation.

July 2018 9. *New manure storage permittee applicants must ensure that sufficient funds will be available for pollution clean-up, nuisance abatement, and proper closure of the manure storage if it is abandoned or otherwise ceases to operate as planned and permitted.*

- Rationale: Livestock owners should be responsible for cleanup and proper closure to eliminate contamination of surface water.

July 2018 10. *Revise manure storage ordinance permit fee to have a sliding fee schedule per animal unit, not one set fee for everyone.*

- Rationale: Current fees do not cover the current cost to the county and a sliding scale would be a more appropriate fee format.

OPERATIONS ORDINANCE (page 31)

July 2018 11. *Create CAFO operations ordinance.*

- Rationale: Would allow County to have more oversight and monitoring of CAFOs.

July 2018 12. *Require fall cover crops on fields following corn silage, including sweet corn silage, and soybeans.*

- Rationale: Research has shown this practice reduces soil erosion and unleashing of nutrients and runoff.

July 2018 13. *Establish best management practices for odor and noise and require windbreaks around barnyards and storage for new and modified structures.*

- Rationale: Reduce odor and noise issues caused by large livestock facilities.

MANURE STORAGE (page 32)

July 2018 14. *Require all new or modified manure storage structures to be double-lined (have a liner of clay plus something additional i.e. HDPE, concrete, etc).*

- Rationale: Reduce potential for groundwater contamination.

July 2018 15. *Increase manure storage for all farms building new or modifying existing manure storage structures for a minimum of 3 months and CAFOs to have a minimum of 1 year storage.*

- Rationale: To enable spreading at more optimal times. Eliminates hauling manure on high-risk days.

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT & APPLICATION (page 32)

June 2018 16. *Require all Green County livestock and crop operations to have an approved Nutrient Management Plan.*

- Rationale: County is currently at 17% of cropland acres in nutrient management plans. Nutrient management plans greatly benefit groundwater and surface water and prevent soil erosion.

June 2018 17. *Conduct more land application hauling audits/oversight in sensitive areas.*

- Rationale: Monitoring applications may improve surface and groundwater quality.

June 2018 18. *Restrict winter spreading. Encourage winter no-spread and frozen ground manure regulations that restrict January through March manure spreading to reduce nutrient runoff.*

- Rationale: Reduce nutrient runoff and groundwater contamination.

June 2018 19. *Do not incorporate or inject manure greater than 4 inches below the soil surface.*

- Rationale: Would help reduce leaching of nitrate into groundwater and keep nutrients in the plant root zone.

June 2018 20. *On soils with less than 12" to bedrock, no manure applications of liquid manure is allowed. Liquid manure is defined as having less than 12% solids content. Avoid mechanical application of manure on these soils and use other available acres, OR, if avoidance is not possible, implement at least two of the following mitigation practices:*

- a. No liquid manure applications;*
- b. No fall manure applications;*
- c. Apply only solid manure in spring;*
- d. Limit solid manure application rate to 20 tons/acre/year;*
- e. Apply within 10 days or less from planting date or apply on a growing crop/cover crop treatment;*
- f. Manure treatment.*

- Rationale: Would help reduce leaching of nitrate into groundwater and encourage better use of nutrients for plant growth.

June 2018 21. *Incorporate manure management prohibitions into Green County's storage ordinance.*

- Rationale: Reduces potential for surface and groundwater contamination.

ENFORCEMENT & MONITORING (Page 34)

June 2018 23. *If self-monitoring of manure storage has not been done properly, the county should have the right to force the violator to hire county personnel for a fee.*

- Rationale: Ensure accountability for current self-reporting regulations when needed.

IMPLEMENTATION & STAFFING (page 34)

June 2018 24. *Increase staff in the Green County Land & Water Conservation Department beyond what is already planned.*

- Rationale: Additional staff needed to assist with implementation.

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, June 7, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Jeff Williams, Kristi Leonard, Erica Roth, Ken Hodgson, Dudley Timm, Chris Newberry, Tonya Gratz, Tyler Newcomer, Brian Bucholtz, Teresa Zimmer, Jason Thomas, Todd Jenson, Jerry Guth, and members of the public.

The minutes of the May meeting were approved on a motion by Williams, second by Roth. Motion carried.

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$18,728.23. A motion was made by Hodgson, second by Leonard to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Zimmer informed the committee there are 157 signed MMP contracts. The program has been extended to June 8. Crop reporting has begun. Some CRP practices have been reopened for enrollment. Soil rental rates have decreased. They now range from \$82 - \$164/acre.

Thomas informed the committee there have been 15 EQIP payments made this month for \$61,000. There are six new EQIP contracts in the Spring Creek watershed for streambank and cover crops.

Gratz informed the committee the transect survey was done this week. She has been conducting FPP status reviews. There will be an "In Her Boots" workshop on June 21, at the Emily Harris farm, focusing on machinery and tools.

Newberry informed the committee he has been training WAV members. He has been dealing with some well issues.

Newcomer informed the committee he has been doing compliance checks and attending training.

Jenson invited the committee members to LCC training in Mt. Horeb on June 26. This event is hosted by Wisconsin Land and Water and DATCP.

The committee reviewed recommendations #16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, and 24 from the Green County Livestock Facility Study Group Report and Recommendations. Please refer to that document, pages 32 – 34 for a full description of those recommendations.

Item 16: Possibly require in county code and enforce with penalties. Would apply to any mechanical spreading of manure or fertilizer. Is there a previously set state code that we can adopt?

Item 17: There are not enough hours or staff to watch everyone. Farmer education is needed for this recommendation.

Item 18: This is more stringent than a nutrient management plan. January through March may not have frozen ground. Delete "restrict winter spreading."

Item 19: Remove this recommendation.

Item 20: CAFO's are already required to do this. 90% of farmers will not be affected by this. Keep this recommendation.

Item 21: Keep this recommendation.

Item 23: This recommendation is already covered under current county code.

Item 24: Table this recommendation right now. Wait and see how many recommendations are passed to see if more staff is needed.

There was nothing in committee concerns.

There were some comments from the public dealing with NMP's and cover crops being needed, regulation and enforcement, and getting the word out to landowners on rules that are required of farmers.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, July 12, 2018, beginning at 9:30 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Leonard, second by Roth to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, July 12, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Jeff Williams, Kristi Leonard, Erica Roth, Ken Hodgson, Dudley Timm, Tonya Gratz, Tyler Newcomer, Brian Bucholtz, Teresa Zimmer, Jason Thomas, Todd Jenson, Adam Wiegel, Jerry Guth, and members of the public.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved on a motion by Leonard, second by Roth. Motion carried.

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$6949.18. A motion was made by Hodgson, second by Williams to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Jenson asked who wished to attend the Southern Area Tour in Dodge County on August 1. Roth, Leonard, Timm and his wife, and Williams and his wife will attend.

The NRCS Local Workgroup meeting will be August 9 at the Brooklyn Community Building, beginning at 10:00 AM.

Gratz gave a report on the 2018 transect survey results and showed the difference of crops grown in 2007 and today.

Leonard and Roth gave a report on the LCC training they recently attended. They also passed out LCC Supervisors handbooks.

Zimmer informed the committee that crop certification will continue until July 16. MPP rates for May are \$1.22/cwt. The deadline to sign up for this program was June 22. ARC/PLC deadline is August 1.

Thomas informed the committee they have signed six contracts this month and have \$400,000 for the 2018 Spring Creek watershed currently contracted. They have done four EQIP payments in June for \$17,000. Local Workgroup is August 9. The 2019 EQIP signup deadline is October 19.

Gratz informed the committee there will be a Farmers of the Sugar River field day on August 21. She has been working on CREP reenrolls.

Newcomer informed the committee he has been working on cover crop and streambank plans in the Spring Creek watershed. He has also done a number of forestry plans.

Gratz gave a soil health demonstration. She had committee members taste the ends of corn roots to understand that plants give off sugars to the microbes in the soil. She passed out underwear to the committee members to bury in various spots on their farms. This project is called soil your undies. They are to then dig them up and bring them in to the October committee meeting.

The committee reviewed recommendations #9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 from the Green County Livestock Facility Study Group Report and Recommendations. Please refer to that document, pages 31 - 32 for a full description of those recommendations.

Item 9: Bucholtz is monitoring a case that is ongoing in the state. Committee would like to adopt this recommendation. Will it prohibit the 200 cow dairies from getting storage for financial concerns?

Item 10: Agree with this recommendation. It should be an amount per animal unit. For cows charge \$10/head. Equating that charge to animal units, would be \$7.14/animal unit.

Item 11: CAFOs are required to do an annual checklist already through the DNR. Check with Richard Castelnovo of DATCP to get his checklist. Can we require small farms to do this as well?

Item 12: Change the word require to strongly recommend.

Item 13: Agree with this recommendation, change require windbreaks to recommend.

Item 14: Jenson reviewed this with DATCP and NRCS state engineers. With the new change to the 313 (manure storage) standard the double liner is basically met. They recommended not to adopt this recommendation.

Item 15: Agree with one year minimum storage for a CAFO. Change new or modified manure storage structures from 3 months, up to 6 months. Do we have the authority to do this?

There was nothing in committee concerns.

In public comments, it was asked if a representative from DATCP would come to a committee meeting and talk about what other counties are doing. It was asked of what is the process for adopting the livestock study group recommendations. It was requested to keep the word require in the recommendations, instead of replacing it with encourage.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 2, 2018, beginning at 9:30 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Timm, second by Hodgson to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM.

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, August 2, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Jeff Williams, Erica Roth, Ken Hodgson, Dudley Timm, Tonya Gratz, Tyler Newcomer, Brian Bucholtz, Jason Thomas, Cody Didier, Todd Jenson, and Harry Pulliam.

The minutes of the July meeting were approved on a motion by Williams, second by Hodgson. Motion carried.

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$4670.56. A motion was made by Hodgson, second by Roth to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Newcomer gave a report on the SAA tour in Dodge County. They viewed a rock quarry, wind farm, Jung seed, and watched a rainfall simulator.

Thomas informed the committee the Local Workgroup meeting will be August 9, at the Brooklyn Community Center, beginning at 10:00AM. This meeting is to set priorities for EQIP.

Gratz informed the committee she has been working on CREP renewals. She has been working with the producer led watershed in applying for grant money. They have two field days set: August 21 at Jerry Daniels and August 30 at Tim Feller.

Newcomer informed the committee he has been helping with EQIP applicants and paperwork for cost-sharing of managed forest plans and cover crops.

Didier informed the committee he is now covering Green, Lafayette, and the west one-half of Dane Counties as the DNR Forester on non-managed forest law work.

Newcomer showed the committee waterhemp and palmer amaranth weed species, which are extremely difficult to control.

The committee reviewed recommendations #4, 6, 1, 6, 7, 5, and 7 from the Green County Livestock Facility Study Group Report and Recommendations. Please refer to that document, pages 25, 26, 27, 28, and 30 for a full description of those recommendations.

Item 4: DNR, WAV, and LWCD already do this. How do we increase monitoring and where would the extra funding come from? Keep this recommendation.

Item 6: The DNR does this already, so we don't need the county doing it as well.

Item 1: This recommendation is needed, but may need to be reworded somewhat. Possibly anyone affected or downstream well owners. An operational spill plan should be posted.

Item 6: This recommendation is needed. This is a requirement no matter what size of farm.

Item 7: NRCS already does this. Recommendation rejected.

Item 5: Leave the setbacks in line with the NRCS standards.

Item 7: Education is needed on this. Follow a nutrient management plan.

In committee concerns, questions were asked of some of the bigger dairies in the county.

In public comments, the Emerald Sky Dairy in St. Croix County, fine was discussed. There needs to be a baseline on water quality, especially in the areas that Pinnacle will be spreading manure on.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 6, 2018, beginning at 9:30 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Hodgson, second by Timm to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 AM.

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, September 6, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Jeff Williams, Erica Roth, Kristi Leonard, Dudley Timm, Tonya Gratz, Tyler Newcomer, Chris Newberry, Jason Thomas, Teresa Zimmer, Todd Jenson, and members of the public.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved on a motion by Roth, second by Williams. Motion carried.

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$5320.35. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Roth to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Zimmer informed the committee that fall certification is underway for hay and grasses until November 15. The MPP payment is \$1.29/cwt for July. There have been 737 payments issued. The Market Facilitation Program is underway.

Thomas informed the committee that five EQIP projects were paid out this month.

Gratz informed the committee she is working on CRP reenrolls. Monroe Parkside, Monticello, and New Glarus will participate in youth conservation day on October 5. She is working on a grant for Farmers of the Sugar River.

Newberry informed the committee he has sent out well letters to those that need to be properly abandoned. There is an issue with one of the well drillers not getting paperwork turned in timely. He has been performing stream monitoring. On September 19, there will be a Pecatonica Pride field day at Steve and Kelly Hermanson's farm.

Newcomer informed the committee he has been field checking cover crops. He has been changing the seeding rates in some of the plans that have been written.

Newcomer and Gratz demonstrated a corn plant with tar spot. This disease shows a concern on standability, but are not sure on yield. It likes cool temperatures, with high humidity. There were 27 participants at the combine cleaning clinic. Palmer and waterhemp were discussed at length at the field day.

The committee discussed a multi discharge variance agreement with Grande. After much discussion and questions, a motion was made by Timm, second by Williams to table this item until next month. Motion carried.

Jenson went through the 2019 budget with the committee. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Roth to approve the budget and send it on to the Finance Committee. Motion carried.

The committee reviewed recommendations #3, 7, 4, 6, and 8 from the Green County Livestock Facility Study Group Report and Recommendations. Please refer to that document, pages 25, 26, 27, and 30 for a full description of those recommendations.

Item 3: Possibly map poor well reports to decide where to focus conservation work. Do not require testing every 15 months. More outreach and awareness is needed to have land and property owners to test their wells.

Item 7: At whose expense is this recommendation? The committee doesn't disagree with the recommendation, but it would be up to the individual with the problem to pay for the testing.

Item 4: This recommendation is OK.

Item 6: Table this recommendation until the Zoning Committee acts on it.

Item 8: This recommendation would include all wells in Green County, including cities, villages, and center pivots. This is a good idea, but what is the well threshold?

In committee concerns, a question was asked of why Pinnacle Dairy has not yet seeded the backslopes of the manure pits.

In public comments, a question was asked of what are the water levels at Pinnacle Dairy? Well testing in New Glarus township were discussed along with a review of the recommendations of the Livestock Facility Study Group Report.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, October 4, 2018, beginning at 9:30 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Timm, second by Williams to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, October 4, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Jeff Williams, Erica Roth, Kristi Leonard, Ken Hodgson, Dudley Timm, Tonya Gratz, Tyler Newcomer, Chris Newberry, Jason Thomas, Teresa Zimmer, Adam Wiegel, Todd Jenson, and members of the public.

The minutes of the September meeting were approved on a motion by Leonard, second by Roth. Motion carried.

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$26,002.81. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Hodgson to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Wiegel gave an update on how the Zoning and Land Use Committee is dealing with the recommendations from the Livestock Facility Study group.

Zimmer gave an update to the committee. MPP for August is 57 cents. Their office has done over 1000 payments for ARC/PLC. Fall crop certification has a November 15 deadline. There may be an extension due to the wet weather. Laura Vosberg announced she will be retiring in December.

Thomas gave an update to the committee. There currently is no farm bill. They are working under a continuing resolution until December 7. The deadline for 2019 funding is November 16. They also currently have a storm relief and honey bee sign-up.

Gratz gave an update to the committee. She is working on nutrient management contracts. There is still \$2500 to be spent this year for the Farmers of the Sugar River. There will be a cover crop field day October 11. Youth conservation day is tomorrow at Honey Creek Park. Students from Monticello, New Glarus, and Monroe Parkside will be attending. She has sent out 23 letters for manure pit inspections.

Newberry gave an update to the committee. He has sent out 48 well letters. Six of those have applied for cost-sharing. He is working on designs and permits.

Newcomer gave an update to the committee. He has been checking on cover crops. He shared pictures of aerially applied cover crops.

Jenson went through his updated engineering job approval with the committee.

The committee members each brought in the underwear they had buried in various field conditions and compared them for biological wear.

Five quotes for a new department website were presented to the committee. A motion was made by Roth, second by Timm to approve the quote from FusionFly, LLC. Motion carried.

Jenson handed out the responses to the recommendations from the Livestock Facility Study group in four different categories. The committee will review the documents before next month's meeting and then go through them together.

Jenson discussed the multi discharge variance agreement with Grande. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Williams, not to participate in the program. Motion carried.

In committee concerns, an update on Pinnacle was given. Williams asked if the county could limit the number of cows on a farm.

In public comments, the question was asked of what Green County can do to not have more CAFOs and what the well log reports at Pinnacle are.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, November 8, 2018, beginning at 9:30 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Williams, second by Roth to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM.

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, November 8, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Jeff Williams, Erica Roth, Kristi Leonard, Ken Hodgson, Dudley Timm, Tonya Gratz, Tyler Newcomer, Chris Newberry, Jason Thomas, Teresa Zimmer, Adam Wiegel, Dave Tarrell, Todd Jenson, and members of the public.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved on a motion by Hodgson, second by Leonard. Motion carried.

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$28,317.32. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Roth to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Tarrell gave an overview of the wildlife damage program. He presented the 2019 budget in the amount of \$3369.58. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Williams to approve the budget. Motion carried. Tarrell discussed the cooperative service agreement between Green County and USDA-APHIS. A motion was made by Williams, second by Timm to approve the cooperative service agreement. Motion carried.

Zimmer informed the committee the fall crop certification deadline is November 15. The November commodity loan interest is 3.625%. Their office has sent out over \$420,000 in payments for the market facilitation program. There is a COC election for area #1. Three candidates are running. Ballots are due December 3.

Thomas informed the committee EQIP applications are due November 16. There is a new farm bill on the horizon. They currently have 68 EQIP applications.

Gratz informed the committee she has been working on payments for Farmers of the Sugar River. She has also been doing surveys, designs, and manure pit inspections.

Newberry informed the committee he has been working on the tree program. He sent out 48 letters on well issues. He had not heard back from seven of them yet.

Newcomer informed the committee he has been working on cover crops and rotational grazing.

Gratz did a soil health demonstration with tilled and no-tilled soils. She added hydrogen peroxide to each to show how it would react to the carbon in the organic matter.

The committee reviewed recommendations from the Green County Livestock Facility Study group. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Timm not to approve:

- DNR or county offices have the right to obtain a manure or effluent slurry sample from any livestock facility or private septic system to use as they see fit to track down pollution sources.
- Request NRCS to provide incentives for composting, separating, and treating manure.

- Revise county code to modify setback distance to 250 feet for manure storage from private wells and 1000 feet for public wells.
- Require all new or modified manure storage structures to be double-lined (have a liner of clay plus something additional i.e. HDPE, concrete, etc.)
- Conduct more land application hauling audits/oversight in sensitive areas.
- Do not incorporate or inject manure greater than 4 inches below the soil surface.
- If self-monitoring of manure storage has not been done properly, the county should have the right to force the violator to hire county personnel for a fee.
- Green County Board and Green County Land and Water Conservation Department request to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to consider for all e. coli positive samples an investigation using microbial source tracking testing if offsite livestock contamination seems plausible.
- Notify neighbors of off farm spills or spills impacting surface water as soon as possible but within 24 hours. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Williams, second by Hodgson to approve:

- Increase surface water monitoring near potential impaired waterways.
- Increase education and outreach to landowners regarding the Wisconsin Manure Runoff Prediction website.
- Inform haulers and farmers of requirement that all land applicators have, at a minimum, one set of spreading restriction maps and written instructions present for land application sites where manure is actively being applied.
- Review and establish proper setbacks for land spreading manure.
- Strongly recommend fall cover crops on fields following corn silage, including sweet corn silage, and soybeans.
- Establish best management practices for odor and noise and recommend windbreaks around barnyards and storage for new and modified structures.
- Incorporate manure management prohibitions into Green County's storage ordinance.
- Restrict winter spreading. Encourage winter no-spread and frozen ground manure regulations that restrict January through March manure spreading to reduce nutrient runoff. Motion carried.

There was nothing in committee concerns.

In public comments it was discussed how public health is important.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2018, beginning at 9:30 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Williams, second by Timm to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM.

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, December 6, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Jeff Williams, Erica Roth, Ken Hodgson, Dudley Timm, Tony Strenz, Teresa Zimmer, Adam Wiegel, Todd Jensen, and Harry Pulliam.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved on a motion by Roth, second by Hodgson. Motion carried.

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$13,924.43. A motion was made by Hodgson, second by Roth to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Zimmer informed the committee there was no notice of a second payment for MFP. The December market assistant loan rate is 3.75%. Ballots will be opened today for the county committee election. Laura Vosberg is retiring on December 21.

Strenz informed the committee the Farm Bill has passed the Senate and House. November 16 ended the EQIP signup. They have 88 applications, with 37 of them being eligible for the first round of funding. There will be a second signup in February and a third in May.

The out of state conference request was removed from the agenda.

A motion was made by Williams, second by Hodgson to act on the following Livestock Study Facility Group recommendations:

- Revise manure storage ordinance permit fee to have a sliding fee schedule per animal unit, not one set fee for everyone.
\$500 for 5000 cubic feet – 250,000 cubic feet
\$1000 for 250,001 – 500,000 cubic feet
\$2500 for 500,001 – 1,000,000 cubic feet
Anything higher - \$1 for each 500 cubic feet
Approved.
- On soils with less than 12" to bedrock or groundwater, no manure applications of liquid manure are allowed. Liquid manure is defined as having less than 12% solids content. Avoid mechanical application of manure on these soils and use other available acres, OR, if avoidance is not possible, implement at least two of the following mitigation practices:
 - a. No liquid manure applications;
 - b. No fall manure applications;
 - c. Apply only solid manure in spring;
 - d. Limit solid manure application rate to 20 tons/acre/year;
 - e. Apply within 10 days or less from planting date or apply on a growing crop/cover crop treatment;
 - f. Manure treatment.Approved.

- Coordinate well water test results, which are required to be taken every 15 months, to establish water quality trend data.
Let UW-EX be the lead on this recommendation.
- Only a certain amount of well capacity permitted per square mile to relieve the “straw effect.”
Not approved.
- New manure storage permittee applicants must ensure that sufficient funds will be available for pollution clean-up, nuisance abatement, and proper closure of the manure storage if it is abandoned or otherwise ceases to operate as planned and permitted.
- Not approved.
- Create CAFO operations ordinance.
Not approved. We already have this.
- Increase manure storage for all farms building new or modifying existing manure storage structures for a minimum of 3 months and CAFOs to have a minimum of one-year storage.
Not approved.
- Require all Green County livestock and crop operations to have an approved Nutrient Management Plan.
Not approved.
- Revise county code to increase property line setbacks for feedlots over 1,000 animal units.
Approved. Increase setback to 350 feet.
- Increase staff in the Green County Land & Water Conservation Department beyond what is already planned.
Not approved.
Motion carried.

In committee concerns, Roth asked what could be done with the cattle being kept along the Sugar River, near Attica.

In public comments, it was discussed of bonding for manure storage, incorporating ATCP51 into county code, nutrient management dollars, and questions on the possible wind turbines.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 3, 2019, beginning at 10:00 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Hodgson, second by Timm to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, March 7, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Erica Roth, Ken Hodgson, Jeff Williams, Dudley Timm, Victoria Solomon, Jeff Falk, Chris Newberry, Tonya Gratz, Tyler Newcomer, Jason Thomas, Todd Jenson, and members of the public.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved on a motion by Roth, second by Hodgson. Motion carried.

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$5907.08. A motion was made by Hodgson, second by Williams to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Jeff Falk requested of the committee to till the corn residue fields before seeding them to oats and alfalfa at the Pleasant View County Farm. The conservation plan says all fields are to be planted no-till. A motion was made by Timm, second by Williams to approve of the tillage. Motion carried.

Victoria Solomon and Kevin Masarik (via google hangout) presented a five-year project proposal to study groundwater quality trend data. This study would test well water samples from fifteen wells per township. A motion was made by Hodgson, second by Roth to support the project. Motion carried.

Jenson reviewed changes to the manure storage and animal feedlot ordinances. A motion was made by Hodgson, second by Williams to approve the changes and send them on to county board. Motion carried.

For the education demonstration, Roth, Newberry, and Solomon gave an overview of their presentation they do at schools for groundwater awareness week.

Jenson informed the committee that Dudley Timm has been reelected Chair of the Farm Service Agency Committee. Duane Bernet has applied for a livestock siting permit for a heifer and steer facility near the intersection of Cty. C and Cty. J. The DNR responded to the letter sent on the committee's behalf regarding the reissuance of a permit for Grande Cheese. The DNR stated they will not hold a public hearing on the matter. SouthWest Badger RC&D will be ceasing their business next Friday.

Thomas informed the committee he has about 50 EQIP applications ranked and ready to go, but there is no farm bill policy to proceed.

Newcomer informed the committee he has been working on cover crop and seasonal honey bee applications.

Newberry informed the committee he has been working on designs, cultural resources, and threatened and endangered.

There was nothing in committee concerns.

In public comments, the changes to the manure storage ordinance were well received. Would like to implement a tax in the county to go to extra staffing for the Land and Water Conservation office. Opposed the extra phosphorus that Grande is allowed to dump into the North Fork of the Juda Branch. Would like to see the county regulate land application from Bytec.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, April 4, beginning at 10:00 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Williams, second by Timm to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 AM.