



Washington County

Planning and Parks Department

Land and Water Conservation Division

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

Public Agency Center - Room 3005

Minutes
3/16/2010

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. by Mr. Gonnering, Washington County Board Supervisor. It was noted that the news media was contacted and the affidavit was posted in the County Clerk's office. Those present included the following:

Citizen Advisory Committee Members (CAC)

Member	Affiliation
<i>Joseph Gonnering, Chair of Citizen Advisory Committee</i>	<i>Washington County Board Supervisor & Town of Trenton Plan Commission</i>
<i>Ross Bishop, Vice-Chair of Citizen Advisory Committee</i>	<i>Washington County Farm Bureau & Resident of the Town of Jackson & Washington County Farmer</i>
<i>George Muth (Mr. Muth had a meeting conflict and arrived late.)</i>	<i>Washington County Farm Bureau & Washington County Farmer & Resident of the Town of Farmington</i>
<i>Brian Russart</i>	<i>Milwaukee County Parks/UW-Extension, Resident of Village of Slinger</i>
<i>William Ripp, PE</i>	<i>City of Hartford Engineer</i>
<i>Shawn Graff</i>	<i>Ozaukee Washington Land Trust, Executive Director & Resident of Village of Slinger</i>
<i>Roger Walsh</i>	<i>Big Cedar Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District & Town of West Bend Resident</i>
<i>Karl Glunz</i>	<i>Friess Lake Advancement Association & Resident of the Village of Richfield</i>
Other Agencies/County Staff	
<i>Sharon Gayan</i>	<i>Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources</i>
<i>Gary Korb</i>	<i>Southeast Regional Planning Commission – University of Wisconsin Extension</i>
<i>Wendy Fiala, Soil Conservationist</i>	<i>USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service</i>
<i>Deb Sielski, Deputy Administrator</i>	<i>Washington County Planning & Parks Department</i>
<i>Jill Hapner, PhD</i>	<i>Washington County Land & Water Conservation Division (LWCD)</i>
<i>Scott M. Schmidt, PE., R.L.S.,</i>	<i>Washington County LWCD</i>
<i>Paul Sebo, Senior Technician</i>	<i>Washington County LWCD</i>
<i>Stephanie Hofmann, CCA, Project Technician</i>	<i>Washington County LWCD</i>
<i>Paul Backhaus, CCA, Project Technician</i>	<i>Washington County LWCD</i>
<i>Fay Fitts, Administrative Secretary</i>	<i>Washington County LWCD</i>

Approve Minutes 02/16/10

Mr. Walsh motioned to approve the minutes dated 02/16/10; seconded by Mr. Bishop. Motion carried.

Review updates and edits Chapter 1

Dr. Hapner reported that edits and additions to Chapter 1 were identified as tracked changes. She noted that there were some minor changes to the text.

Dr. Hapner had asked Justin Shell, DATCP representative, to provide some good examples of other Land & Water Resource Management Plans for comparison. He had indicated that the Washington County Land & Water Resource Management Plan was “right at the top of a really good example” noting that the plan just needed to include Comprehensive Plan information and other recommendations from WDNR and County staff as well as CAC members.

Review updates and edits Chapter 2

Ms. Sielski introduced herself to the members and presented changes to Chapter’s 2 and 3. Sections were added to include additional information on the following: Population and Housing Projections; Historic Urban Growth, Land Use Trends; Existing Land Use (2006) and Planned Land Use (2035); Utilities- Private On-Site Wastewater Treatment and Water Supply System.

Mr. Russart recommended including racial and ethnic demographic information under the Chapter 2.

Ms. Sielski indicated that at the bottom of Map 5 a reference made to Table 79 will be deleted and will be referred to as Table 9 in the final document.

Review updates and edits Chapter 3

Ms. Sielski indicated that the Agricultural section from Chapter 2 was moved to Chapter 3. Ms. Sielski reviewed the major revisions to the chapter noting the new sections including Soil Associations, Existing Farmland, Number and Size of Farms, Nonmetallic Mining Resources, Potential Sources of Sand, Gravel, Clay and Peat, Aquatic Sites and Invasive Species (this section will be added and reviewed at the next meeting). Ms. Sielski noted that additional watershed information from Chapter 4 may be included in Chapter 3. In addition, Table 16: Natural Areas in Washington County: 2005 will be updated to include 2007 ownership information.

Mr. Russart questioned if under Table 11 – Orchards, Nurseries and Specialty Crops if this information includes small community vegetable gardens. Ms. Sielski indicated that would include lands used for orchards, nurseries, sod farms, and specialty crops such as mint, ginseng and berry fields.

Mr. Russart questioned if the number shown in Table 11 indicates acres. Ms. Sielski indicated yes, that Table 11 will include column headings to reflect the numbers shown as being acres.

Mr. Russart questioned the staff regarding the agriculture livestock component which statistics indicate that number has decreased, wondering if the pastured land is now going into row crops. Mr. Sebo replied yes, noting that at the next meeting, information will be presented regarding the Washington County Transect Survey which was conducted in 2009 indicating statistics on row crops throughout the County.

Review updates and edits Chapter 6

Dr. Hapner noted the significant changes occurring in Chapter 6.

Mr. Bishop noted that the Nutrient Management workshops which are provided through the LWCD staff are very beneficial for the farmers, noting the benefits as being 1) educational; 2) cost savings (in regards to less

fertilizer expense and application rates needed); and 3) lower or no consulting fees once the farmer is self-certified.

Review ranking and prioritization of plan objectives in Chapter 7

The CAC members had previously submitted their individual ranking of each of the workplan objectives and Dr. Hapner tabulated the results. It was agreed by committee consensus that members would vote on each of the workplan objectives to decide on whether to assign a ranking as being high, medium, low or to delete an objective.

Development Issues & Planned Actions

1. Preserve and restore stream corridor, wetland and floodplain areas.

Mr. Gonnering noted that we are not making any more wetlands, and we are losing wetlands, we need to preserve the wetlands for water quality, noting pristine lakes are hard to find –that said, he felt it should be ranked high. Mr. Graff motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Walsh seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Graff motioned to include CAC Comments as shown be included as additional language in the objective; seconded by Mr. Bishop. Motion carried.

2. Protect and maintain woodlands, environmental corridors, exceptional water resources, and unique geological areas; protect threatened and endangered species.

Discussion ensued regarding comments noted and it was decided that maps are being made to the public. Mr. Ripp motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Graff seconded. Motion carried.

3. Encourage development that can be served by established urban infrastructure and services.

Mr. Muth motioned to rank the objective as medium priority; Motion failed for lack of second.

Mr. Ripp motioned to rank the objective as high priority; seconded by Mr. Graff. Discussion ensued. Mr. Sebo commented that these objectives were created 10 years ago, noting that since the Comprehensive plan is now adopted, he felt that this should be deleted, noting that the Comprehensive plan takes precedence. Mr. Korb noted that this objective makes it readily achievable to preserve farmland. Ms. Sielski noted that possible language could be changed to *Encourage development as established by current comprehensive plans* (further defining the objective by the recommendations adopted by County Board). Mr. Ripp felt it should remain as is, stating that rural developments are very expensive, noting they are much more expensive than a city development. Motion carried.

4. Increase the use of conservation-minded development practices.

Mr. Walsh motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Graff seconded. Motion carried.

5. Promote uniform adoption of wetland regulations.

Discussion ensued with regards to public complaints or occurrences of filling of wetlands, staff noted that the WDNR is contacted immediately upon being notified. Mr. Ripp noted that consistency across the board of providing the public the same message is essential. It was noted that the DNR and Army Corp of Engineers have jurisdiction over wetlands. It was also noted that some wetlands have been privately restored and those wetlands can revert back to farmland but cannot be platted for a subdivision – noting that conservation subdivisions can be built around them. Mr. Ripp motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Graff seconded. Motion carried.

6. Preserve sufficient farmland to support a viable agricultural community, future food production needs and environmentally safe application of human and animal wastes.

Mr. Walsh motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Graff seconded. Motion carried.

7. Reduce overland water flow and increase infiltration from developed land.

Mr. Glunz motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Bishop seconded. Motion carried.

8. *Improve intergovernmental cooperation within urban, rural, and county areas.*

Mr. Walsh motioned to rank the objective as medium priority; seconded by Mr. Graff. Discussion ensued regarding mediation, cooperation and coordination of comprehensive plans with the local governments. Mr. Graff motioned to amend the language to reflect: *Continue to encourage intergovernmental cooperation...*; seconded by Mr. Ripp on the amendment. Motion carried. Vote taken for the objective being ranked as medium priority. Motion carried.

9. *Promote identification, control and management of invasive plant and animal species.*

Mr. Walsh motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Graff seconded. Discussion ensued on whether assistance is received from other agencies. Mr. Schmidt noted that he will be assisting in mapping of invasive species when on specific sites. Motion carried.

10. *Explore opportunities to participate in the State Working Lands Initiative including but not limited to Preservation of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) program and Agricultural Enterprise Zones. (Combined with #11)*

11. *Cooperate with local land trusts to seek federal and state grants to purchase easements and seek donated easements on high quality agricultural land identified in the Washington County LESA analysis.*

Discussion ensued regarding #'s 10 and 11 as being new objectives to be included as the potential opportunity to apply for future grant funding.

Mr. Ripp motioned to make both #10 and #11 as being medium priorities; seconded by Mr. Graff. Mr. Sebo commented that he felt both items would be better placed under the planned actions and outcomes under objective #6. Mr. Graff agreed. Mr. Ripp withdrew his motion. Mr. Graff motioned to include both #10 and #11 objectives under #6 planned outcomes; seconded by Mr. Glunz. Motion carried.

Fertilizer & Pesticide Issues & Planned Actions

1. *Assist farmers and private consultants with the development and implementation of nutrient management plans on cropland.*

Mr. Bishop felt it should be prioritized on the high side. Mr. Ripp questioned where sod farms fit in. Ms. Gayan noted that she will check to see who regulates them and will report back at the next meeting. Mr. Sebo commented that he did not know if they are regulated under NR151. Mr. Graff motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Muth seconded. Motion carried.

2. *Increase awareness of the proper use of fertilizer, pesticide and de-icers and promote natural landscaping (non-agricultural).*

Mr. Ripp noted that the City of Hartford tries to educate the public on fertilizers applications, noting that some businesses challenge the effort.

Mr. Bishop motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Graff seconded. Motion carried.

3. *Monitor quantities and locations of sludge and septic applications.*

Ms. Gayan explained in detail that the WDNR regulates and monitors the quantities of sludge and septic applications and where the materials are applied through annual reports and soil testing. Discussion ensued on whether the County should also monitor the sites, duplicating the work when the DNR has jurisdiction over land application sites which include: septage, CAFO and municipal industrial sites. Ms. Gayan addressed the committees concerns from the last meeting through an email presented. Mr. Sebo indicated that from the previous LWRM plan goal was to conduct heavy metal soil testing on specific fields, if funds were available. Dr. Hapner indicated that the Division would like to continue to be kept

informed regarding the outcome of the annual reports and maps received from the DNR on land spreading activity. Mr. Graff motioned to rank the objective as medium priority; Mr. Glunz seconded. Motion carried.

Stormwater Issues & Planned Actions

1. Expand the adoption and implementation of the county's erosion control and stormwater management ordinance or equivalent for new developments.

Mr. Graff motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Bishop seconded. Motion carried.

2. Ensure the long-term function and maintenance of stormwater facilities.

Mr. Ripp motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Graff seconded. Motion carried.

3. Increase the use of regional stormwater practices (RSP's).

Mr. Ripp motioned to rank the objective as medium priority; Mr. Graff seconded. Discussion ensued to revise the motion to *delete the word increase and replace with encourage* – language to read, *Encourage the use of regional....* Mr. Ripp revised the motion on the floor to include the new language as noted above; revision was seconded by Mr. Graff. Motion carried.

4. Assist municipalities with the adoption of the developed urban areas performance standards.

Mr. Ripp noted that the task is a lot of work. The committee sought the opinion of the staff. Mr. Sebo noted that years ago the Division received a NR216 grant to educate the MS4 municipalities in the County (City of Hartford, Village of Germantown, City of West Bend), noting that the new census results may include more municipalities to the category. Mr. Schmidt suggested it be classified as medium, because there are other state regulations in place. Mr. Glunz motioned to rank the objective as medium priority; Mr. Walsh seconded. Motion carried.

5. Seek grants that would allow the County to implement Best Management Practices (BMP) demonstration projects on County owned lands and facilities.

Discussion ensued regarding the objective to be included as the potential opportunity to apply for future grant funding. Mr. Korb noted that Washington County could apply for coastal grants in conjunction with Ozaukee County as a cooperating partner for Great Lakes restoration grants. The committee agreed by consensus to include this new objective under #4.

6. What about surface water quality (i.e. work with any existing lake associations) to improve the water quality and wildlife habitat resources of the County's lakes.

Mr. Russart stated that he included this objective because he didn't know if the staff was involved with Lake Associations. Mr. Sebo noted that approximately 6 regional stormwater basins have been designed around the area. Mr. Walsh noted that the Division is currently working on an additional design. The staff suggested that it fits as a regional stormwater objective planned action and outcome under #3 on Page 100 of the current plan. Mr. Russart withdrew the proposed objective. Mr. Walsh noted that *Lake Districts* should also be included in the language. The committee agreed by consensus to move this under #3 and add the language Lake Districts in planned actions.

Animal Waste Issues & Planned Actions

1. Continue application of the County's Manure Storage Ordinance (Chapter 16).

Mr. Bishop motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Muth seconded. Motion carried.

2. Ensure that all livestock operations have: No overflowing manure storage facilities; No unconfined manure stacks within Water Quality Management Areas (WQMA's); No direct runoff from feedlots or stored manure to water resource; No animals in streams where degradation of the streambank has or will likely occur.

Mr. Walsh motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Bishop seconded. Motion carried.

3. *Assist with the planning and development of livestock expansions.*

Mr. Muth motioned to rank the objective as high priority, stating that he felt the LWCD staff as being a valuable asset to the farming community assisting with farm planning and development of livestock expansions; seconded by Mr. Graff. Motion carried.

4. *Promote manure spreading BMP's that prevent runoff to water resources.*

Discussion ensued regarding spreading on land trust easements in municipalities and donors questioning who has the jurisdiction. It was recommended to move the language into #2 and reword the text to incorporate Best Management Practices. The committee agreed by consensus. Mr. Bishop commented that it would be nice to get every farmer to sit down at a mandatory informational meeting (one on one) with LWCD staff to discuss and inform producers of the regulations (where and when to spread manure especially on critical acres). Mr. Sebo noted that the staff developed a GIS layer available on the website to show nutrient management spreading areas and critical areas are identified.

Groundwater Issues & Planned Actions

1. *Ensure a safe drinking water supply.*

Mr. Ripp motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Bishop seconded. Dr. Hapner stated that the Division has improved methods to well water testing. Motion carried.

2. *Protect/preserve groundwater recharge areas, springs and other discharge points that feed cold water streams.*

Discussion ensued to make #5 a subset of #2, (method to implement), noting that this component when incorporated into plans is valuable language, especially when applying for stewardship grants and working with conservation partners/agencies. Mr. Graff recommended ranking the objective #2 as high priority to include the following #5 language as a way to implement objective #2. Mr. Sebo noted that there are very few cold water streams in the county, and suggested striking reference to cold water streams. Mr. Graff motioned the objective to be ranked as high, to include #5's language as being an implementation and will become a subset of #2, deleting language as referenced to that feed cold water streams; and include reference of lakes and streams under planned actions; #2 reads as follows: *Protect/preserve groundwater recharge areas, springs and other discharge points.* Mr. Walsh seconded. Motion carried.

3. *Promote adequate maintenance of private sewerage treatment systems.*

Mr. Ripp noted that if the comments as provided were done, it would solve a lot of the problems. Mr. Glunz motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Ripp seconded. Motion carried.

4. *Identify practices and educate homeowners on conservation measures they can use to decrease water consumption within household.*

Mr. Glunz motioned to rank the objective as medium priority; Mr. Ripp seconded. Motion carried.

Soil Sustainability/Sedimentation Issues & Planned Actions

1. *Achieve an erosion rate at or below "T" for cropland fields.*

Mr. Russart motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Graff seconded. Motion carried.

2. *Increase the establishment and maintenance of vegetated buffer strips along lakes and streams.*

Mr. Glunz motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Walsh seconded. Mr. Bishop stated that he is not in favor of a 20 ft buffer with no state funding, the buffer reduces the amount of land that can be farmed, and in some instances the erosion from the fields are well below "T". Mr. Muth agreed with Mr. Bishop. Mr. Gonnering stated the 20 ft. buffer was established by the state. Mr. Bishop asked if the

vegetated buffer could be harvested. Mr. Sebo stated yes, it could be harvested, noting that he would like to see a pilot buffer program established in the County. Mr. Korb stated that from a regional standpoint water quality plans are recommending 75 ft buffers along key or sensitive waterways. Motion carried.

3. *Reduce Establish and maintain permanent grass in concentrated flow channels where runoff would otherwise cause erosion or sediment delivery to surface waters.*

Mr. Walsh motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Graff seconded. Motion carried.

4. *Reduce soil loss to 1/3 T from all fields within Water Quality Management Areas (WQMA).*

Mr. Sebo noted that this objective was developed when the NR151 performance standards were being drafted, as a way to obtain a buffer. The standard now reflects a 20 ft. buffer. Through GIS queries this objective could perceivably be achievable. Mr. Russart motioned to delete this objective; seconded by Mr. Bishop. Motion carried.

5. *Promote agricultural BMP's that improve soil health.*

Mr. Muth motioned to rank the objective as high priority, noting that BMP's are important for soil health and erosion; Mr. Graff seconded. Motion carried.

Nonmetallic Mining Issues & Planned Actions

1. *Monitor sites for compliance.*

Mr. Schmidt noted that the County has 13 permitted sites that he reviews annually for compliance. Mr. Walsh motioned to rank the objective as medium priority; Mr. Muth seconded. Motion carried.

Waste Management Issues & Planned Actions

1. *Provide easy and cost effective ways for county residents to dispose of unused hazardous waste to protect county resources through Clean Sweep.*

Mr. Ripp motioned to rank the objective as high priority; Mr. Graff seconded. Mr. Gonnering stated that he felt the hazardous waste event is needed. Motion carried.

2. *Increase awareness on the hazards of dioxins and other toxins/carcinogens emitted by open burning.*

Mr. Ripp motioned to rank the objective as medium priority; Mr. Glunz seconded. Motion carried.

Discuss next meeting dates

The committee agreed on the next meeting dates of April 7th and April 21st starting at 5:00 pm.

Public Comments

None.

Adjournment

Moved by Mr. Ripp, seconded by Mr. Walsh to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fay Fitts
Recording Secretary