

**EAU CLAIRE COUNTY
LAND STEWARDSHIP SUB-COMMITTEE**

**MEETING MINUTES - WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2016
AGRICULTURAL & RESOURCE CENTER – ALTOONA, WI**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Stelljes, Doug Burrows, Bruce Willett, Dave Carlson, Monica Lewis, Rick Koziel
MEMBERS EXCUSED: Randy Tews
STAFF PRESENT: Kelly Jacobs (P&D - Land Conservation Division)
OTHERS PRESENT: Public

1. Call to Order

Chair Stelljes called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm.

2. Approve Minutes

Motion by Willett to approve the minutes from April 20, 2016 and May 3, 2016. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Land Stewardship Subcommittee Membership Nomination

The Stewardship Subcommittee met with two separate individuals regarding their interest in serving as a member the Subcommittee to replace the seat currently held by Randy Tews. The subcommittee will make an official recommendation at their next meeting.

4. Finalize the White Paper on Long Term Land Stewardship in Eau Claire County

This is still in progress and will be moved discussed further at the next meeting.

5. Cooperative Agreement for Fitz Property

Burrows reported on his phone conversation with representatives from the Trust and will be meeting to discuss this possibility further. So far people seem to be encouraged by the cooperative agreement idea.

6. Land Acquisition Proposals for Consideration

Property JF: Discussed Carlson's visits to the property and members reviewed documents related to the property. The owner, who has owned it since September, has had offers for parts of the property, but not for the whole piece. Landowner is interested in the appraisal and would be happy to attend. Owner had originally intended to put a cabin on the property. We are moving ahead with the appraisal the week after memorial day. Funding could come from State Stewardship money along with gas line funds received by the County. We could build another fundraising event around this acquisition as well.

Property RS: Easement option is still on the table and landowner has rented to ag producer for 2016 growing season. Possible private party sale coming late 2016/early 2017? Perhaps we could go through the process to modify the County Forest boundary to include the Bridge Creek corridor?

7. Set Next Meeting Date

Discussion that we should send notices out to anyone interested and add them to the distribution list for agenda/minutes. These are public meetings and we would welcome attendance by anyone that is interested. Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at Noon..

8. Adjourn

Chair Stelljes adjourned the meeting at 2:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Jacobs
Subcommittee Clerk