PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 18.94 Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Land Conservation Subcommittee** was held on Monday, February 25, 2019 in Room 200, Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut St., Green Bay, WI

Present: Supervisors Dave Kaster, Bernie Erickson, Steve Deslauriers, Alex Tran
Citizen Rep Stan Kaczmarek
Excused: Supervisor Norbert Dantinne
Also Present: County Executive Troy Streckenbach, Director of Administration Chad Weininger, County Conservationist Mike Mushinski, Assistant County Conservationist Jon Bechle, Public Works Director Paul Fontecchio, Director of Port & Resource Recovery Dean Haen, and other interested parties.

I. **Call Meeting to Order.**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Kaster at 6:00 p.m.

II. **Approve/Modify Agenda.**

Motion made by Stan Kaczmarek, seconded by Supervisor Tran to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

III. **Approve/Modify Minutes of January 28, 2019.**

Motion made by Supervisor Deslauriers, seconded by Stan Kaczmarek to approve with the correction of a misspelled last name. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Comments from the Public – None.

Land Conservation Department

1. Open Positions Report.

County Conservationist Mike Mushinski noted that they've had for a while, the Agronomist position, and they are still searching for funding for that to be filled.

Motion made by Supervisor Erickson, seconded by Supervisor Tran to receive and place on file. Vote Taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Director's Report.
   a. Wildlife Damage Program Update.

Assistant County Conservationist Jon Bechle gave a handout that is attached to these minutes that he spoke to in order explain this point for the past year respectively. There were 13 participants and of those participants, 5 of them filed claims. The first table on this handout is the breakdown of each claim. In this table it gives the assessed damage and the eligible damage claims. Bechle noted that each claim has a $500 deductible. After that $500 deductible the next $5,000 is covered at 100% and then any remaining damage after $5,000 is covered at 80%, all the way up to the maximum of $10,000. The last claim in this table maxed out that $10,000 and following the table across it gives the acres appraised, the acres damaged, deer damage and so on. He highlighted that 2 of these claims had deer damage, 1 had turkey damage, and all 5 had goose damage, in some capacity. The bottom line in this chart gives the totals and, clearly, the highest amount of damage in Brown County came from geese. Bechle reminded everyone of the wet fall and a lot of fields had plenty of water in them and a combination of the water in the fields and standing soybeans drew these birds in. Due to the standing water in the fields, the farmers couldn't harvest their fields and the migrants coming through here at that time of year ended up doing the bulk of the damage.

Supervisor Erickson noted that he went out in front of Bay Port High School and the County or State had supplied a deer fence. He wished to know if that deer fence belongs to the farmer, or if it comes back to them.

Bechle informed him that the fence would stay with the farmer. In this particular situation the farmer had pumpkins, he can either plant something else with the fence there or he could even move it to the fields.

Erickson asked whether farmers get shooting permits for geese.

Bechle said that they can get them but the heaviest damage occurs in the fall when hunting season for geese is not in session. They don't issue shooting permits during the hunting season for geese.

Erickson wanted to know if they require the landowners to allow hunting.

Bechle said they do, if they are going to get a claim. He said there are a few farmers as well that put fences up in the spring and summer to keep out young geese who do a lot of damage based on how much they eat, the fact that they eat anything green and things of that nature.

Kaczmarek commented that he knew who the farmer was out by Bay Port. He had pumpkins this past year and he put that fence up specifically to get the deer out.

Bechle stated that the next table shows a breakdown by crops and he talked about the question from last month regarding the shooting permits so there is an outline of that on the handout as well. Deer is the most popular permit, with 5 being issued in the County for damage purposes and 29 deer were harvested off of those. There was 1 turkey permit also but none were harvested off of it.

The next item on the handout was the Brown County Farm property which was enrolled in the City of Green Bay and the City gets a shooting permit for this. These hunters harvested 5 deer off of this property in 2018.

The last item on the handout is the Brown County Deer Advisory Council (CDAC) and the next meeting for this will be held on Tuesday, March 19th at 7pm at Barkhausen. There will be a follow up meeting in April as well but this is not finalized in terms of date and time yet. This council sets deer quotas and other specifics for the 2019 deer season. That information is added on the DNR website, so that would be the best way to track this council if interested in it. Can track any council in the state in terms of how they are advancing on the website if you search CDAC.

Motion made by Supervisor Erickson, seconded by Stan Kaczmarek to receive and place on file. Vote Taken. <u>MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</u>

b. Manure Runoff Event Oversight.

County Conservationist Mike Mushinski started off by noting that this is on here for discussion purposes and this is really a point about how divisions for ordinance are going to come through. In the past, in Brown County when there is a runoff event the DNR has given systems to landowners to contain these events, they don't do this anymore. The DNR provides no assistance to anyone, including landowners, to contain these events or prevent manure from entering waters of the State and so forth. Without this assistance Brown County is going to have to take this 100% on as its responsibility. During these events, the quicker they can get out there is better due to the necessity to mobilize a lot of people and the County is going to have to have the ability to do that knowing that the DNR is stepping away. In the ordinance right now they have $250 as a maximum penalty but the key definition is waters of the State and if manure reaches that, then that's when the penalty kicks in. In surrounding counties, Manitowoc and Kewaunee, as examples for penalties reaching surface water or groundwater is up to $5,000. With this, there will be an increase in staff time. In the past year they had one that they spent 40-50 hours on. When you have hundreds of thousands of gallons of manure spread out along many acres it takes a lot of time, creating dams and pumping and doing things of that nature making sure the manure doesn't reach the waters. One of the big changes to the ordinance after

working with Corp Counsel in the next few months is a great increase in the penalty for manure reaching waters of the State. That penalty will be comparable to the other counties around us as well.

Erickson noted that every month they have the Agronomist position open. It sounds like there is going to be more staff time devoted to this. In the past number of years no staff have been added. He wondered if there a possibility that there could be a combination of an Agronomist position and somebody that would handle this specifically. He thought that, if this is possible, it may offer a cost savings.

Mushinski reiterated that there would definitely be more time devoted. Time is critical to them. They need to be on site as soon as possible when they get a call regarding this manure. Addressing that runoff is going to be a big change in the future ordinance when that comes forward. State statutes and the technical standards have changed in the DNR regarding this issue. He highlighted that unfortunately this past year was bad.

Kaczmarek stated that he would be shocked if there was not runoff this spring after the amount of snow that fell in the County.

Vice Chair Kaster asked if the DNR used to assess fines when they used to offer assistance.

Mushinski noted that at times that was the case. He thought that the enforcement has really backed off recently.

Kaster wondered what their criteria was.

Mushinski said that it was waters of the State, so manure has to reach surface or ground water. State statutes are pretty detailed regarding what that is. There's not an issue when it is properly spread on the field but when there is runoff it is hard to contain.

Kaczmarek asked about the event last December in terms of how much manpower was used on this incident in Greenleaf. He also wondered if it varies per event.

Mushinski responded around 40-50 hours. He said they could have spent more also. It all depends on the volumes, the sink itself, the moisture, precipitation, among other things as well. So, it is very variable in terms of time needed to spend.

Motion made by Supervisor Erickson, seconded by Supervisor Delauriers to receive and place on file. Vote Taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other

3. Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law.

None.

4. Adjourn.

Motion made by Stan Kaczmarek, seconded by Supervisor Tran to adjourn at 6:19pm. Vote Taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Cayden S. Lasecki

Administrative Assistant

2018 Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP) Update

*2018 WDACP Claims

13 Participants 5 Claims Filed

Assessed Damage	Eligible Claims	Status	Acres Appraised	Acres Damaged	Deer Damage	Deer Acres	Bear Damage	Bear Acres	Turkey Damage	Turkey Acres	Goose Damage	Goose Acres	Elk Damage	Elk Acres
$2,353.01	$1,853.01	PENDING	30	4.7	$0	0	$0	0	$0	0	$2,353.01	4.7	$0	0
$4,047.73	$3,547.73	PENDING	59.8	23	$0	0	$0	0	$0	0	$4,047.73	23	$0	0
$6,613.62	$5,890.9	PENDING	102.6	41.5	$1,239.72	8.5	$0	0	$0	0	$5,373.9	33	$0	0
$11,079.78	$9,463.83	PENDING	163.2	60.5	$1,233.41	3.25	$0	0	$479.17	1.25	$9,367.2	56	$0	0
$17,199.56	$10,000	PENDING	126.5	53	$0	0	$0	0	$0	0	$17,199.56	53	$0	0
$41,293.7	$30,755.47		482.1	182.7	$2,473.13	11.75	$0	0	$479.17	1.25	$38,341.4	169.7	$0	0

Crop	No. of Claims	Assessed Damage	Appraised Acres	Damaged Acres	Loss on Yield
Alfalfa	4	$10,380	138.4	63.5	62.25
Corn Grain	1	$1,712.58	51	4.5	512.75
Small Grains	4	$13,021.29	163.8	79.5	2,993.4
Soybeans	3	$16,179.83	128.9	35.2	1,926.17
Total		$41,293.7	482.1	182.7	5,494.57

*2018 WDACP Shooting Permits

Deer – 5 permits; 29 deer harvested

Turkey – 1 permit; 0 turkeys harvested

*2018 City of Green Bay Deer Management Program

5 Deer harvested on Brown County Farm property sites

*Brown County Deer Advisory Council (CDAC)

Deer Population Objective for 2018-2020 is Decrease

Next CDAC meeting is Tuesday, March 19th at 7:00 PM at Barkhausen

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