

Informational Meeting and Public Hearing
Chippewa County Land and Water Resource Management Plan
June 3, 2009

Item #1 – Convene Land Conservation Committee Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, L. Willkom, at 7:35 p.m. LCC members present were J. Brost, D. Boettcher, C. Cronquist, E. Rineck, and L. Willkom.

Members absent were M. Goettl and S. Lane.

Other County Board members present were L. McIlquham.

Agency staff present were D. Masterpole and J.T. Jensen (LCD).

Advisory Committee members present were: B. Hayhoe, Sr., (realtors/developers), G. Sikorski (Farm Bureau), R. Smith (private nonprofit conservation orgs.), and D. Zerr (UWEX).

Others present were: A. Bowe and C. Halbleib.

The Chair thanked members of the citizen's advisory group for their participation in the planning process, and for attending the informational meeting and hearing.

Those present introduced themselves.

Item #2 – Overview of Plan Structure and Content; Address Questions.

D. Masterpole presented an overview of the meeting agenda.

The overview explained:

1. The purpose of the public informational meeting and hearing.
2. The planning process used to develop the Chippewa County Land and Water Resource Management Plan, (2009).
3. This informational meeting is one of a series of public meetings that have been held to present the contributing elements of the Chippewa County Land and Water Resource Management Plan, (2009). On 3/18/08 and 4/8/09, public meetings were held to introduce and solicit comments on the core resource management issues, natural resource management objectives, and program goals and objectives.

This particular informational session (6/3/09) was scheduled to again review the core content of the plan, and to present further information and detail regarding how the plan will be implemented.

4. The full public hearing draft of the plan has been forwarded to state and federal agencies for review, and has been publically noticed and posted on the internet. A public hearing on the full public hearing draft will be convened at the end of the informational meeting.

D. Masterpole presented a Power Point report (on file). The report summarizes the content of Section 5.2 of the Chippewa County Land and Water Resource Management Plan, (2009), titled “5.2 Land and Water Issues of Priority Concern”. The abbreviated issues of concern are as follows:

Issue 1 – Climate Change

Issue 2 – Bio Energy Production

Issue 3 – More Intensive Ag Production

Issue 4 – Unmanaged Urban Development

Issue 5 – More Non-Metallic Mining

Issue 6 – Loss of Ecological Diversity

Issue 7 – More Intensive Use of Public Lands

J.T. Jensen presented a Power Point report (on file). The report summarizes the content of Section 5.4 of the Chippewa County Land and Water Resource Management Plan, (2009), titled: “5.4 Program Goals and Objectives”. The program goals and objectives, outlined in this section, describe how the County will pursue the issues of concern (as outlined in Sec. 5.2), and the natural resource management objectives (as outlined in Sec. 5.3). The program goals are as follows:

Energy Conservation & Waste Reduction

Goal 1 – Develop and advance county initiatives that conserve energy, reduce waste, and serve as a catalyst for broader community efforts to conserve energy, limit carbon emissions, and increase renewable energy production.

Land Conservation & Sustainability

Goal 2 – Develop and administer conservation programs that preserve the land, support sustainable production, provide biodiversity, and protect the natural ecology.

Water Conservation

Goal 3 – Develop, support, and implement water conservation programs to maintain current aquifer volumes and to protect the county’s drinking water supply.

Runoff Pollution Control

Goal 4 – Develop and administer nonpoint source water pollution control programs to pursue state and local water quality objectives.

Planning & Environmental Regulation

Goal 5 – Facilitate community-based land use planning. Develop and administer local ordinances to augment voluntary conservation efforts.

J.T. Jensen presented a table titled: Schedule of Activities to Implement LWRM Plan, (Draft 6/2/09). The table outlines the activities that will be implemented to advance each program goal and objective. The table also highlights the activities that have been planned as a priority for implementation in the years 2010-2012.

There was general discussion. Discussion focused on:

1. The program goals and objectives and the specific activities that have been planned as a priority for implementation in the next 3-5 years.
2. Subdivision and development techniques that can be used to cluster development and preserve farmland in rural areas.
3. Actions that can be taken by the county and local municipalities to control runoff from public operations and infrastructure.

The Chair closed the informational meeting at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Item #3 – Convene Public Hearing and Receive Public Comment.

The Chair convened the public hearing at approximately 9:05 p.m.

The Chair informed those present that the public hearing record would remain open to accept written comments until June 10, 2009, at 4:30 p.m.

No public testimony was submitted or recorded.

The meeting and public hearing was adjourned at approximately 9:20 p.m.