

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Forestry/Agriculture/Wildlife Committee Meeting Minutes
March 16th, 2023
Wood County River Block/Online

Attendees: Brent Tessmer (Taylor); Bill Clendenning (Wood); Amy Thorstenson (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jacob Fluor (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Al Drabek (Marathon); Denise Hilgart (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Rick Nitz (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Brooke Sperberg (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Nicole Rayome (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Bob Walker (Member-at-Large); Amanda Burzynski (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jenn Chakravorty (Golden Sands RC&D Staff).

CALL TO ORDER: Tessmer called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Drabek, which was seconded by Clendenning, to approve the minutes from the January 2023 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: Sperberg presented a draft resolution laying out Golden Sands RC&D's position on the pending U.S. Farm Bill. Committee members offered several suggestions to the wording of the resolution. A new draft will be developed and presented at the May meeting.

PROJECT UPDATES:

Central Wisconsin Invasives Partnership (CWIP)/Northeast Wisconsin Invasives Partnership (NEWIP): Fluor reported on administrative, communications, and follow-up work on projects involving both partnerships. Preparation for spring field work is under way and potential grant opportunities are being evaluated.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Cooperative Agreements: Rayome and Nitz discussed their respective recent and upcoming activities. Chakravorty introduced herself to the committee and briefly described her future responsibilities.

Tree Shelters: Burzynski reported that the promotional postcard mailing was completed, emails were sent to previous customers, and promotion on the website has been put in place in preparation for the 2023 season.

Stevens Point Area Neighborhood Gardens (SPANG): Burzynski reported that invitations were sent out to last year's participants in the program.

NACD Technical Assistance Project/Managed Grazing: Sperberg reported that work is underway on 2023 projects. A backlog in getting grazing plans approved is being seen, and there is a need for a more timely and efficient certification process for Technical Service Providers. Events are being planned for 2023 and a brochure has been developed.

NEW PROJECTS: Burzynski reviewed the Grassworks SOGL Regenerative Agriculture Project, which involves a contract with Grassworks to hire a part-time Regenerative Agriculture Specialist. A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Walker, to recommend full board approval of the project. Motion carried.

MEMBER REPORTS: None

OTHER BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Clendenning, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Walker
Recording Secretary