

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Forestry/Agriculture/Wildlife Committee Meeting Minutes
March 18th, 2021
Online via Zoom

Attendees: Cherrie Nolden (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Al Barden (Member-at-Large); Joshua Benes (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Bill Clendenning (Wood); Brent Tessmer (Taylor); Denise Hilgart (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Hannah Butkiewicz (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Asa Plonsky (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Rachel Bouressa (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Bob Walker (Member-at-Large).

CALL TO ORDER: Tessmer called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion from Barden, seconded by Walker, to approve the minutes from the January 2021 meeting was passed.

PROJECT UPDATES:

Cooperating For Woods and Wildlife/Demonstration Forests: Butkiewicz reported about participation in a Woods & Wildlife virtual event in February. She is working with landowners on potential habitat development projects for Karner Blue butterflies. Butkiewicz is continuing to encourage landowners to participate in existing cooperatives and programs. She is hopeful that in-person events can be held later this year, but that will depend on Covid-19 progress and limitations.

Central Wisconsin Invasives Partnership (CWIP)/Northeast Wisconsin Invasives Partnership (NEWIP): Plonsky reported progress and activities affecting both groups, including: the completion of an annual report for CWIP, signing on of new members to the partnerships, the completion of reports required for grant funding, preparation for a variety of field events that will be held at later dates, the completion of various administrative tasks for NEWIP, and participation in local events.

NRCS Cooperative Agreements: Butkiewicz reported that hiring is in progress for positions at local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offices.

Bluebird And Bat Houses: No updates.

Tree Shelters: Butkiewicz reported that several orders from landowners have been processed. She noted that Golden Sands will be evaluating the economic advantages versus the administrative costs for this program at the end of the season.

Waupaca County Conservation Field Day (WCCFD): Butkiewicz reported that options are still being evaluated to determine if this year's event will be in-person or virtual.

NACD Technical Assistance Project/Managed Grazing: Bouressa and Nolden reported that they are working on new and existing managed grazing plans and that they are starting to plan upcoming pasture walks, including one set for June 12.

Little Plover River Appreciation Field Day: Butkiewicz said that this event will not be held in 2021, but that Golden Sands hopes to hold it in 2022.

NEW PROJECTS: None

MEMBER REPORTS: None

OTHER BUSINESS: Plonsky led a discussion about the appointment of a steering committee fiscal agent representative for NEWIP. Motion by Clendenning, second Walker, to appoint Hannah Butkiewicz to that role. Motion carried. Plonsky noted that we should also appoint a person to replace Josh Benes as the steering committee fiscal agent representative for CWIP. Motion by Clendenning, second Walker, to appoint Hannah Butkiewicz to that role. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Clendenning, second by Walker, to adjourn at 10:35 am. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Walker
Temporary Recording Secretary