

**DRAFT**  
**Buffalo County Minutes**

**Committee/Board:** Land Conservation Committee

**Date of Meeting:** Thursday, November 7, 2019

**Electronic and Hardcopy Filing Date:** Friday, November 8, 2019

The regular meeting of the Land Conservation Committee was called order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson Nettie Rosenow. Roll call showed that Don Black, David Linse, and Don Hillert were present for all or part of the meeting. Others present for all or part of the meeting: Carrie Olson and Derek Husmoen.

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Hillert made a motion to approve the September 19, 2019 minutes as presented, seconded by Black. Motion carried.

**Public Comments regarding posted agenda items:** None

**USDA- NRCS/FSA Report:** Derek Husmoen, NRCS Soil Conservationist reported for NRCS. Annual contract review and annual payments are being made. Recent cover crop checks indicate approximately 1500 acres of cover crops under contract, with an additional 560 acres under CSP program. Derek reported that conservation construction projects are wrapping up for the season. No signup dates have been announced yet due to the Farm Bill rules being drafted, but he was hopeful they would know more shortly and begin reviewing applications.

**Conservation Technician Position Update:** Olson explained that the county received over 25 applicants and interviews had been held. The new Conservation Technician, Kristin Foehringer, has a strong soils background will be starting next week.

**Farmland Preservation Program Report:** Olson shared a report showing the county landowners that are now certified to claim farmland preservation tax credits under the new Farmland Preservation ANR-40 Zoning program. The \$7.50 per acre state income tax credit program is available to those landowners in one of the nine Towns with ANR-40 zoning districts. Five landowners are currently certified covering a total of over 1,500 acres. Landowners that are certified as eligible are not required to sign up for a long-term agreement. Discussion was held on methods to increase awareness and participation of the voluntary program.

**Conservation Cost Share Projects:** The November Cost-Share Report was shared. A conservation dam flood repair project was completed on Leroy Pronschinske property. Two dams were restored. Conservation cost share contract approvals and contractor invoices were presented for new grade stabilization dams on the following properties: Robert Tuxen, Loren Wolfe, Tom Quarberg, and Dirk Derse. The State share for all projects is \$20,572.44. All landowner proof of payments for cost-sharing have been received.

Motion by Hillert, seconded by Linse to approve and pay for the Cost Share Projects as presented. Motion carried.

**County Conservationists Report:** Ms. Olson inquired about the Land Conservation Committee's involvement in Conservationist's performance review and a discussion was held on a possible change in oversight committee structure.

**Chairperson Report** No report.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 5th at 3:00 p.m.

**Public Comments Not Relating to the Agenda** None given.

**The meeting was adjourned** at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carrie Olson  
County Conservationist