

Menominee Town/County

Land Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday January 11, 2024 – 8:30 a.m.

Courthouse Board Room, W3269 Courthouse Lane, Keshena

1. *Call to order. Roll call.* Denise Gilane calls meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Heather Pyatskowitz, Ruth Winter and Denise Gilane are present. Also present, Jeremy Johnson, Alex Forster, and Abby Vogt. Ben Warrington is absent.
2. *Approval of meeting minutes from November 9th, 2023.* Heather motions to approve minutes, second by Ruth. All in favor, motion passes.
3. *Timberland Invasives Partnership update.* Abby gives a year-end update for 2023. A total of 112.35 acres were controlled, 34.55 of those acres were controlled in Menominee County. Control areas in Menominee County were done at the island, roadsides, beach clubs, along with the LSR phragmites sites. Abby along with the help of Alex have done control work for various invasive species on all the roads around Legend Lake. Work was also done with property owners for invasive species they may have had. Three workshops were done in 2023 along with the outreach event at the Legend Lake Fair, four articles in the Smoke Signals, and new pamphlets were made and handed out at different outreach/education events this year. Looking into 2024 the annual meeting is February 22nd at the Legend Lake Lodge. For those who would like to attend please contact Abby. Abby is hoping to receive funding through a new GLRI grant for \$93k to help fund control, mapping, and education. More grants including the WMA grant will be applied for in 2024. Continuing control work in Menominee County and on LSR sites will also be done in 2024.
4. *2023 Land and Water Plan review.* Jeremy explains every year a list of local identified priorities is made for DATCP for the state grant. An annual work plan is made to determine if the priorities were met. 2023 priorities were met with an exception of a few that were partially completed. Including Purple Loosestrife work done with WAMSCO, this project will continue this year with hopes to distribute more beetles to more areas in Menominee and Shawano Counties. A biological assessment of Long Lake Conservancy was partially completed. Lastly a pollinator plot was not done in the road right-of-way, but a seeding was done with native pollinator plants at a town conservancy after invasive control was complete. Priorities were generally met for the year.

5. *2024 planning and priority objectives.* Jeremy mentions the 2024 priority objectives are similar to 2023. Many of the annual recurring priorities are still there, but there are some minor changes. Numbers were adjusted to accommodate the fewer numbers of permits as they are going back to the normal pre-pandemic numbers. Heather motions to approve the 2024 planning and priority objectives, second by Ruth. All in favor, motion passes, 2024 planning and priority objectives approved.
6. *Memorandum of Agreement with USDA-NRCS.* Jeremy received this from the deputy state conservationist for NRCS. NRCS wants this in place for all counties since NRCS deals with aquaculture in many counties. There hasn't been NRCS in Menominee County in several years, but this memorandum of agreement is for if we need to work with them we will. Jeremy is looking for approval to sign the memorandum of agreement with USDA-NRCS. No legal council is needed for this document. Heather makes a motion to approve the memorandum of agreement with USDA-NRCS for Jeremy to sign, second by Ruth. All in favor, motion passes.
7. *Other items for discussion.* Heather asks Alex to send Chris information on Soil Tester Exam. Jeremy mentions building and sanitary permits have started to be submitted. No other items were discussed.
8. *Next meeting date and agenda items.* Next meeting will be March 14th 2024 at 8:30 a.m. at the County Courthouse Boardroom, unless something pressing comes up.
9. *Adjournment.* Meeting adjourned 9:00 a.m.