

Menominee Town/County

Land Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday November 9th, 2023 8:30 a.m.

Courthouse Board Room, W3269 Courthouse Lane, Keshena

1. *Call to Order, Roll Call.* Denise Gilane calls meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Heather Pyatskowitz, Ruth Winter, and Denise Gilane are present. Ben Warrington is absent. Also present, Jeremy Johnson, Abby Vogt, and Alex Forster. Shanda Hubertus arrived to the meeting at a later time.
2. *Approval of meeting minutes from September 14th, 2023.* Heather motions to approve minutes, second by Ruth. All in favor, motion passes.
3. *Aquatic Invasive Species update.* Alex gives an update on AIS activities since the last meeting. With the mass rearing cage for raising beetles for purple loosestrife next year Shawano County and Menominee County hope to have enough beetles for the multiple release locations found this fall. We are also hoping to involve the community more with volunteers to help dig plants and collect beetles. This will help educate the public more. Alex is also working on hosting an Exotic Pet Surrender event with J&R Aquatic Animal Rescue in Menominee County. Heather from ESD would like to partner up and host it in their building. An update for this event will be given once we have a date set with J&R.
4. *Resolution 2023-07-Support of Surface Water Grant.* Jeremy explains this is the grant Alex works under through the DNR that does not require matching dollars. Staff hours and goals given for the year must be met for the program. It is recommended to be approved by the board so the resolution can be brought to County Board. Ruth motions to send Resolution 2023-07 to County Board for approval, second by Heather. All in favor, motion passes.
5. *TIP Update.* Abby gives an update on TIP activities since last meeting. Control work at the island on Legend lake was done with Jeremy and Alex for honeysuckle and buckthorn. A grant was submitted to help fund more control work and education in our area. This winter planning for next year will be done along with more education and outreach.

6. *Cost-share projects update.* Jeremy gives an update on cost-share projects. Jeremy, Abby, Alex, and Steve Savage planted 110 ft. for the buffer in front of the Legend Lake Lodge for the 5th cost-share project of the year. Overall all cost-share projects are completed for the year. Payment and state reimbursements have been submitted, by sometime in December we expect reimbursement of the remaining funds. There is already a cost-share project application for 2024.
7. *WAMSCO digital education grant.* Shanda from WAMSCO informed the board of the digital education grant. This grant will help with updating their website. From information to interactive games this new website will be for all ages. Educators will be able to directly use this website in their classrooms and this will reach more of the community. A requirement of applying for this grant is to present the grant to each counties land conservation council before taking it to Lumberjack RC&D. The Menominee Land Conservation council approves and are on board with this project.
8. *Other items for discussion.* Jeremy was sent an update by Carl Trembl the LaMotte Lake association president. The update talked about the presence of zebra mussels have seemed to decline and are starting to naturalize within the lake. Eurasian Watermilfoil is still a problem on LaMotte whereas on Moshawquit it no longer seems to be a problem.
9. *Next meeting date and agenda items.* A meeting date and addenda items will be determined at a later date.
10. *Adjournment.* Meeting is adjourned at 9:14 a.m.