



***Wisconsin Association  
of  
Land Conservation Employees***

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**WALCE Board Meeting Minutes - APPROVED  
Thursday, October 16, 2008  
Waupaca WI**

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**1. Meeting called to order 9:35 am by Vice-President Greg Baneck**

Present were Steve Oberle, Steve Bradley, Ed Hernandez, Diane Hansen, Butch Lobermeier, Mary Jo Gingras, Keith Marquardt, Derek Kavanaugh, Dave Ferris, Greg Baneck, Kurt Calkins, Julian Zelazny, Coreen Fallat, Richard Castelnovo,

**2. Motion to approve minutes from July 16<sup>th</sup> 2008 as printed. Gingras/ Hernandez. Carried, all in favor.**

**3. President's Report. Allocation Plan has been an item of interest to many counties. Calkins has received many comments since its release. The late timing of the release of the Preliminary Allocation from DATCP creates difficulties for dealing with the 2009 allocation. WALCE comments on the plan will be handled through the Administrative Committee and WALCE Board Discussion. The Administrative Committee needs to lead more discussions on the Allocation Plan issues. WALCE should utilize the Thursday Note to communicate issues. Reported on the Governor's Report on the Global Task Force Report. Report identifies many issues that we deal with daily.**

**4. Treasurer's Report. Hernandez presented an oral report. Digital copies will be available upon request, and will be emailed to WALCE Board Members. Future reports will be mailed with agenda. Operating Budget balance is \$35,242.38 (July balance - \$37,000). Expended funds were paid to WLWCA and for Website Maintenance. No scholarship activity. To date, \$966 of the \$3000 annual budget for scholarships has been spent. This year's Professional Improvement Conference (Green Bay) is estimated at \$10,000. Motion to accept treasurer's report as presented. Bradley/Gingras. Carried, all in favor.**

**5. No expense vouchers were presented.**

**6. Administrative Committee Report** – Johnson was absent, no report presented. Administrative Committee requested comments on the Preliminary Allocation Plan. WALCE's 2004 position on the allocation is Tier 1 & 2 should be fully funded prior to Tier 3 allocations.

**7. Professional Improvement Committee (PIC) Report** – Pohle absent, report presented by Marquardt. PIC is requesting oral agency reports to be presented at the Annual Business Meeting at the WALCE Conference. Conference planning is proceeding well. Thursday will include exhibitors at this year's Conference. 2010 Conference will be in Lacrosse, March 3-5<sup>th</sup>. Request moving County Conservationist meeting earlier into the fall to assist with breakout session selection for the Conference (mid-September).

**8. Technical Committee (TC) Meeting Report** – Lobermeier led a fall technical tour (lake restoration projects), approximately 20 people attended. Doug Denk (Lincoln County) needs a replacement on the Technical Committee. Motion to approve Brian Goepfert (Juneau County) to replace Corey Schuelke (Waupaca County). Baneck/Marquardt. Motion carried, all in favor.

**9. 2009 Preliminary Allocation Report.** Castelnovo presented an oral report on the Preliminary Allocation Plan. Preliminary allocation amounts were held until all cuts were finalized. **Current Allocation Plan is failing, due to reduction of funding. A lot has changed in the past 5 years since the 2004 WALCE Position on the Allocation Plan was set.** The Working Lands Initiative is a state priority and there was concern that DATCP funds may be diverted in the future if this program is implemented. **The additional \$130,000 allocated to 13 counties (\$10,000 per), were funded by monies that traditionally go to WLWCA and the Tribes. No funds were taken from other counties.** State Priorities will be funded. WALCE can be at the table to discuss what state priorities will be funded. **The County LCC had a net gain. WALCE can be part of the state priority selection process by DATCP. The Conservation Coalition needs to push Legislature for earmarked funds for staff. Additional funding requests will need to have a source of funds identified. (Castelnovo).**

Concerns were expressed over the University's use and accountability for funds received from DATCP.

WALCE needs to be at the table when preliminary allocations are being discussed at DATCP (Lobermeier).

Letter opposing the current Allocation Plan will come from the Administrative committee.

**10. Annual Employee Awards** - Letters of support should be added to the nomination packets (letters from Lake Organizations, Cooperators, etc). A need for a scoring system was discussed. Discussed publicly recognizing all of the nominees.

11. Still seeking a replacement for the Western Area Representative.
12. Agency Reports
  - 12a. WLWCA *Report* will be presented at the County Conservationist Meeting.
  - 12b. *DATCP Report* – written report presented.
  - 12c. *DNR Report* – no report was presented.
  - 12d. *NRCS Report* – written report was distributed.
13. All WALCE Board Members need to be included in the discussions on funding and other statewide issues is critical for WALCE board members to make informed decisions. Motion to add WALCE Board members to County Conservation email distribution list. Baneck/Gingras. Motion carried, all in favor.
14. Next meeting date was not set.
15. Meeting Adjourned at 11:35pm. Motion by Hernandez/Baneck. Carried. All in favor.