

WCCA EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

January 30-31, 2025, Fairfield
Inn and Suites 7100 Stone
Ridge Dr.
Weston, WI 544766

Thursday, January 30, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

President Meuer called the meeting to order at 10:00 am

Roundtable introductions took place: appearing in person are Jessie Lindeman, Kenneth Thiele, Austin Dyb, Chris Meuer, Adam, Dan Bowers (on behalf of Chris Mrdutt), Daniel LeFebvre. Appearing virtually includes Tyler Betry and Scott Godfrey.

There are no changes or additions to the agenda. Thiele/Dyb make the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Thiele/Lindeman make a motion to approve the meeting minutes for October 23rd, 2024, executive board meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Schaffer gives treasurer's report: End of year balances are \$13,563.26 in checking, \$1,585.76 in scholarship, and \$18,362.74 in the money market. There are \$5,330.00 in undeposited funds from membership fees and leadership invoices. Lindeman/LeFebvre make motion to approve treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Discussion/Action Item

Schaffer reports on Fall 2024 survey results. Membership majority likes two conferences, and the overall location of the fall conference was well liked.

Discuss potential topics for upcoming conferences – Discussion was had. Topics to be presented on included Daniel's Law, County budget short falls and creating a budget, surveys and public road relationship, platted road reservations and enforcing setbacks to nonexistent roads, Farmland preservation rules, solar round table, CLUE, and executive board breakdown.

Discussion: WCCA 60 Year Celebration-WCCA turns 60 years old in 2029 and the logo is renewed in 2027. A logo competition will be started at Spring Conference for membership to submit a logo design and be voted on. Discussion on how logos should be submitted.

Discussion/Action: Current membership dues, conference fees and district door prize spending. – Discussion had on current fee amounts. Door prizes will be purchased by the activity committee rather than district reps. Discussion and action will continue with the proposed budget.

Discussion/Action: Creation of Microsoft 365 account(s) and Amazon account for the organization. – Discussion on creating an Amazon Account which would allow for the purchase of office supplies such as conference folders and envelopes with our tax-exempt status and eliminates the reimbursement process for executive members. Thiele/LeFebvre make a motion to authorize the secretary/treasurer to create an Amazon Business Account and for it be reviewed annually. Motion carried. Discussion on the creation and subscription of Microsoft 365 account at \$130.00 for an annual subscription for up to six users. This would allow presentations to be more readily available as well as support documents for executive board positions and can be easily transferred to the next person in that position. Thiele/Lindeman make a motion to authorize the creation of the 365 account and to review on an annual basis. The creation of accounts are to be approved at the discretion of the president. Motion Carried.

Discussion: Review current methods of distributing information to members-Google groups remains the best way for membership communication. Allows access to state agencies and our membership to share information. A reminder of the courtesy of using google groups shall be sent to the membership.

Discussion: [LRB 0775 & 1244](#) – Discussion had on wind and solar operations.

(Break) Lunch break at 11:58. Resume at: 1:00 pm

Education and Outreach (Updates and Discussion)

WCCA sponsored DSPS 2-day training for 2025. – Discussion had on the opportunity to sponsor lunch for this training. Executive board feels money should be spent on different training options rather than lunch.

Funding for future training sessions? -Discussion had on different training opportunities that WCCA can offer or help with. Soil training in localized parts of the state was discussed such as the west side and the east side. Wetland training, floodplain, and non-metallic mining training were discussed. Sponsoring training by other state agencies on the Wednesday before the Fall Conference was discussed.

Leadership 2.0 Training and future sessions – Schaffer reports that are 19 participants signed up. Discussion had on the time of year and timeline for training such as a 1.0 and 2.0 on a three-year cycle. February is a good month to have the training. Godfrey reports that presenters are willing to do this training.

Committee Assignments and Appointments for 2025 -Update of the committee list and discussion on how to better fill representation on standing and ad hoc committees with the executive board. Motion by Thiele/Dyb to present administrative committee for dissolution at the Spring Conference Business Meeting. Motion carried.

WCCA Executive Board 2025 tentative meeting dates and locations. – Discussion had on future locations and times for the meetings. The spring meeting will be Wednesday night of the Spring Conference March 19th at 7:00 pm. Summer meeting is tentatively scheduled June 27th at 10:00 am in Stevens Point. Late summer will only be determined if there is a need for that meeting and Fall will be at Fall Conference.

WCCA 2025 Operating Budget – Budget was discussed line by line for all accounts and proposed for 2025. Thiele/Dyb make motion to present proposed budget to the next business meeting for approval. Motion carried.

2024 Audit – Meuer reviewed the financials for 2024. Since Godfrey is absent the final review of 2024 financials will take place at the Spring Conference.

Adjourn for the day at 3:28 pm.

Friday, January 31, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Meeting started at 9:00 am

In person attendance: Robin Schaffer, Chris Meuer, Daniel LeFebvre, Austin Dyb, Brett Scherer, Kenneth Thiele, Adam Adank, Jessie Lindeman, Dan Bowers

Virtually joined: Scott Godfrey, Collin Driscoll, Ted Tuchalski, Lynn Markham, Tyler Betry, Sue Vanden Langenberg, Matt Janzen

State Agency and Affiliated Organization Reports

Wisconsin Counties Association – Collin Driscoll updated executive board on management budget for federal spending and grants. These effect things such as EPA, transportation and counties. A new memo will be coming out soon to detail more of what will be halted in the federally spending and grant program. Because it is the beginning of the year things are off to a slow start for legislation. Research on POWTS systems is still currently being done. Thiele adds to the discussion of anything new about the fowl regulation legislation LRB030 and that WCCA is currently keeping an eye on this for any changes.

WI Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection – Ted Tuchalski discusses ATPC 72 with executive board. This is currently being updated for the first time since the mid 80's. The new version of ATPC 72 is currently in the public hearing phase and feedback, public input will close in February. The public comment period has answered a few questions about hotel and lodging definitions.

Wisconsin Wetlands Association – Kyle Magyera and Jenny Hauser discussed WWA Policy on hydrologic restoration, natural flood management and Lake Superior Basin. The WWA Annual Conference will be held in La Crosse on February 26th and they are extending an invitation for a WCCA representative to participate in working group for stream and floodplain restoration permitting workshop. Discussion on floodplain restoration projects and regulatory barriers.

UW Extension - Center for Land Use Education – Lynn Markham discusses vacancy of the director position. It is currently posted, and the hopes are to have a new director starting July or August. The focus will be on land use and zoning. Upcoming workshops and training include training in Washburn County on March 4th and Zoning Board training in Wood County on February 19th and training in Vilas County. Leadership 2.0 training was discussed.

Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association – Tyler Betry provides updates. The upcoming conference is on March 5th through 7th in Green Bay and is well attended. Lots of conservation projects are federally funded so there is a bit of an uproar with the current climate of things in the government.

WI Dept of Natural Resources – Kay Lutze, Sue Vanden Langenberg, and Sarah Rafajko update on DNR news. There were new staff that joined in November helping to displace work more evenly. The shoreland team has about 2.35 full time staff to serve the State. Sue discusses the importance of having county staff send public hearing notices within the shoreland district to your DNR staff to provide commentary and affects on shoreland. County shoreland ordinance revisions are still underway and about a dozen counties updated in 2024. Discussion on the importance of legally defensible decisions made by the county were discussed. Discussion had on training opportunities and how hands on training is vital to county staff especially with the high staff turnover we are seeing.

WI Dept. of Safety and Professional Services – Matt Janzen updates on discussions being DSPS and DNR on MOU's and how the two state agencies are to work together. Hydrograph data and studying are still being done. Today is the deadline for audits and the number of sanitary permits seems to be higher than last year. POWTS chats are still every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 9 am. They are recorded to be reviewed later if needed. Upcoming training opportunities include WOWRA in the Dells, virtual training by DSPS, Frist Supply, Wieser, and County Updates. Discussion on partnering with UW Extension for field classes for soils in the Spring. Matt said he was approached by Wisconsin Public Radio Station and will be on air February 6th 12:30 to 1:00 pm for discussion on POWTS.

(Break) 10:33 on break -10 mins resume at 10:47

Committee and Project Reports

2025 Fall Conference Location Suggestions from 1st VP- Discussion had that Chula Vista is set for the Fall Conference. Other venues that were popular were Stoney Creek in La Crosse. Will need to see if membership likes Chula Vista to reach out about multiple year contracts if needed.

Program Coordinator 2025 Spring Conference- Discussion had on cutoff of February 25th and room rates for 2025, everything else is ready to go.

2025 Spring Conference -

- i. 1st VP Draft Agenda-Thiele discusses the draft agenda with the executive board. There is only one more spot to finalize for the Spring.
- ii. Activity Committee-Schaffer reports 50/50 raffle will be Thursday night. The committee is working on scholarship bucket raffles and door prizes.
- b. Awards/Scholarship Committee – Discussion on 2024 scholarships. Three one-thousand-dollar scholarships were paid out for 2024. Discussion had on when to send out 2025 scholarship applications.

Legislation and Education Committee Update/Report – Thiele and Dyb report that there are a few legislative pieces they are tracking solar and local government control and fowl legislation. The fowl legislation defines fowls as chickens and quail, no roosters and no ducks. This piece of legislation would allow four chickens on property. There is also a flag bill for government buildings that is of interest.

NR 115 Shoreland/Wetland Committee – Dan Bowers they have not met recently. Bowers is open to helping with any training that might need to be done.

NR 116 Committee – Kenneth Thiele reports no updates or changes.

Mining Committee – Terry Ochs reports nothing as not present. Discussion about appointing a new chair as Terry is the new director and has tried to hand over this role before to staff that have now changed employment.

Short Term Rental update, Conference Activity Committee, Administrative Code Committee, and Webpage/Decoder update reports no updates or are not present.

District Reports

Northwest – Schaffer reports meeting next week for elections and to see what 2025 will look like.

Western- no reports

Northeast – Lindeman reports there is a joint meeting with southeast every year at Kelly Lake. Next meeting is later this month. Roberta Wells will report on non-metallic mining.

Central-no reports

West Central – Adank reports they meet three times a year. Lots of new staff in the past couple of years have led to wanting to improve training and having speakers at district meetings. He reports that all meetings are well attended.

East Central –Lefebvre reports that they are seeing a need for increased soil training and are currently talking about the solar energy systems that are increasing popularity, and all counties are working on language to update ordinances to address them.

Southwest Thiele reports no meetings in a while.

Southeast - Scherer reports there was not a meeting for a long time, and they finally met last week. One of the biggest struggles is staff changes and budget cuts for positions. Discussion on cross training as a response to budget cuts. Reports that participation is lacking at the meetings.

President Meuer adjourned the meeting at 11:39 am.

Minutes prepared by Robin Schaffer
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