

JOINT MEETING
LCC & Zoning Committee
Monday, August 21, 6:00 p.m.
Barron County Government Center – Room 2151
335 E. Monroe Ave., Barron, WI 54812

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Land Services Staffing: Barron County Lake & Invasive Species Specialist – discussion item
5. Adjournment.

Notice of Potential Quorum

Members of the Barron County Extension/Land Conservation Committee and the Zoning Committee will attend a joint meeting. No official action will be taken for either committee.

*****If you cannot make this meeting, PLEASE call the Land Services Department at 715-537-6375.**

ADA Statement for Agenda

Any person who has a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act and requires the meeting or materials at the meeting to be in an accessible format, must contact the County Clerk's office at 715-537-6200 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting so that arrangements may be made to accommodate your request.

cc: Cook, Rogers, Heinecke, Kusilek, Thompson, Gores, McRoberts, G. Nelson, Langman, Huth, Okey, County Clerk, County Administrator, Webmaster, Public postings

Department of Land Services
JOINT MEETING – LCC & Zoning Committees
July 20, 2015, 5:30 p.m.

Present: Don Horstman, Dale Heinecke, Louie Okey, Travis Turner, Jim Reul, Gary Nelson, Russ Rindsig (5:35), Jim Gores, Scott Sutherland, Jeff French, David Gifford, Tim Jergenson, Tyler Gruetzmacher, Rhonda Sukys.

Absent: Andrew Mommsen, Jerry McRoberts, Burnell Hanson.

Gifford called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. No public comment. He called for approval of the agenda. **Motion:** (Okey/Heinecke) to approve to agenda; carried 9-0.

Gifford and Sukys presented criteria for determining the farmland preservation areas in the County. Group questions and discussion followed.

Next meeting date will be determined by staff.

Motion: (Heinecke/Gores) to adjourn meeting 6:18 p.m.; carried 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Russell-Collins
Administrative Secretary, Land Services

Barron County Lake and Invasive Species Specialist (Barron County Land & Water Resource Management Plan 2020-2029)

Lakes and their health are vital to the social and economic well-being of the county.
As funding allows, Barron County will create a lakes and invasive species technician position.

We anticipate possible duties to be:

Assist Districts and Associations

Education events, technical assistance, monitoring projects

Assist and train volunteers in the following programs

AIS monitoring

Citizens Lake Monitoring Network Program

Clean Boats Clean Waters

Work with landowners on lakeshore issues

Assisting with grant application (DNR Healthy Lakes Program)

Site visits, designs, construction inspection

Rain Gardens

Native Plantings

Infiltration devices

Fishsticks

Assist Zoning with lakeshore sites

Mitigation designs and implementation

Impervious surface calculations

View corridor issues

Shaping and grading issues

Develop a Countywide Lakes Association

Develop a Lakes newsletter, website information program

Assist with invasive control efforts

particularly wetland and shoreland species like purple loosestrife, knotweed etc. and biocontrol measures.

Provide a rapid response to new discoveries of invasive species

Rationale

Lakes of Barron County

Named Lakes - 176 - 17,533 acres

Unnamed Lakes - 188 - 756 acres

- Valuation of lakeshore properties in the County

Total Valuation of Barron County	\$4,457,621,920
Lakeshore Total 5400 parcels w/improvements	\$1,241,068,570
Lakeshore - In a City or Village	\$184,422,300
Lakeshore - non City	\$1,056,646,270
All lakeshore Percent of the total	27.8%

- Annual valuation of permits through the Zoning Office on lakeshores

Year	# of permits	valuation
2021	246	\$20,071,645
2022	224	\$34,989,134
2023 (Jan - July)	134	\$14,143,326
	604	\$69,204,105

Currently, the Department of Land Services staff deals with issues related to lakes as time will allow since each staff member has dedicated responsibilities to fulfill. With the addition of a Lakes and Invasive Species position, the Department will have the ability to utilize a dedicated position on lake related issues in Barron County. The new position will allow Department staff to more effectively focus on their primary duties.

Tyler Gruetzmacher
Barron County Conservationist

Comments from lake leaders in the County

I agree the services will be utilized more if there isn't a cost. I have found that people want to volunteer their talents, they just need guidance, organization, or a little help.

Theresa Smiley - Staples Lake District

Good morning Tyler!

I cannot tell you how very pleased I would be to see the creation and staffing of this position! I believe there are several areas of benefit, including the following points.

As of right now, the Silver Lake Association (SLA) is dependent on piggy-backing with Washburn/Burnett Counties and Lisa Burns for our training, and actually all aspects, of our CBCW/AIS inspection program. As far as I know, Barron County has no equivalent position to fulfill this need. Each year when I refresh my training I wonder "why not?".

On a related theme, SLA has installed and maintains a watercraft decontamination station at Grant Park. As you know, this is one of the few practical tools lakes can employ to prevent introduction and spread of AIS (larval zebra mussels and spiny water fleas in particular). While the draft does not mention this topic directly, it certainly relates and perhaps should be specifically added. Wouldn't it be a tremendous benefit if all public access points to Barron County's lakes each had a decontamination station and someone at the County level to facilitate achieving this goal?!

An additional area of benefit relates to the shoreline buffer zone restoration, remediation, and enforcement. This is of particular concern for Silver Lake with its small watershed, consisting mostly of the immediate shoreline properties. As such, these properties constitute the majority of the potential run-off sites for the introduction of nutrients into Silver Lake, thus threatening water quality. In the last year or so alone, I have had to report two severe violations where landowners were grading in close proximity, or even down to, the shoreline. Of course, by the time a report has been made, damage has already occurred and nutrients are irreversibly introduced. And as far as I can see, any order for restoration does not seem to be monitored for timely completion. Another related issue common on Silver Lake are instances where the required buffer zone is either non-existent (e.g. mowing down to the lake across the entire lot), or does not include all the required area(s), (e.g. the buffer zone does not extend back the required 75 feet from the Ordinary High Water Level). While Silver Lake Association has repeatedly attempted to educate landowners on this requirement, and its importance to water quality, the practices continue and are expanding with no one to see to it that the requirements are adhered to. The importance of the buffer zone, particularly around Silver Lake, was highlighted in Aaron Cole's most recent report on the Silver Lake fishery (2017 edition, if I recall correctly). If there is no one ensuring regulations in this area are followed, it is arguably worse than having no regulations at all. Beyond this, when one landowner sees someone ignoring these regulations without prevention, correction, or consequence, it broadcasts the notion that, for example, mowing down to the water's edge, is perfectly acceptable.

Further, the public boat landing at Grant Park needs repair to the ramp itself, but we would also benefit in addressing the hard surface runoff that comes from the parking areas. Evaluation of increasing infiltration facilities for this runoff seems very much in order.

The other duties outlined in the draft position description are applicable to Silver Lake as well. My very strong view is that staffing of such a position will have tremendous benefit to Barron County's lakes and is long overdue.

If I can provide clarification or further input, I would be very glad to do so.

Sincerely,
Rob Fillmore President, Silver Lake Association

An interesting idea. As long as this new position would indeed be helpful to associations, management districts and landowners to get projects done - without slowing down the process with another level of bureaucracy, it could be a win-win for all. That has been my experience with your involvement in Sand Lake projects over the last nine years.)

I have copied the SLMD Board members to provide you their input, as well. If you like, I can add this topic to our August 12 agenda, and we can consider a resolution in support or opposition to this concept.

Tom Lindeen Sand Lake District

Thank you, Tyler. I'm behind on my emails. This looks like a good position to explore and could provide benefits to associations/districts and lakeshore owners. I have no suggestions for changes or additions to the outline you provided. In addition to the DNR Lake Protection grant, would there be any fees/costs for lake associations to participate in the county-wide program?

Thank you,

Mike Plante - Bear Lake Association

Tyler this endeavor is perfectly designed to meet the needs of all lake associations and districts in Barron County. Your outline of this position and its role in preserving and enhancing the quality of our lakes dovetails nicely with our Association's mission.

Thanks for your inquiry. We fully support this. Please let us know when this position is filled so we can strategize and work with this anticipated partner.

Michael Klutho Red Cedar Lakes Association

I know we have spoken about a position like this in the past. We should talk about our current Lake District Coordinator position that we employ for Rice Lake. I think many of the job duties overlap and could potentially coordinate.

Thank you,
Josh Estreen - Rice Lake District

Good morning Tyler,

The Sand Lake Management District board of directors unanimously supports your proposition. Another person with the expertise to help us with certain situations and projects would be welcome.

However, if we were required to obtain another level of approvals for Sand Lake projects, or if our landowners' taxes payable to the county were increased, our support would be substantially diminished.

Tom Lindeen, Chair
SLMD BOD

As President of the Beaver Dam Lake Management District, I support the concept of the position but I have to see how the financial aspects and job description of the position come together before I can go to the Board for a formal vote of support. I believe that Lake Associations with their limited ability to raise funds would benefit from having such a source to help with their lake management challenges. Having a "Barron County Lakes Organization" supported with this proposed position would help with being represented when lake issues, etc. are discussed in NW Wisconsin.

Tom Schroeder
President- BDLMD

For funding, the following grant opportunities will be explored:

AIS Grants -We currently receive \$14,000 annually from the LMPN DNR grant to deal with aquatic invasive species.

Discussion with Alex Smith DNR

The Lakes Protection Grant program is a good fit for that and would do well by having other sources of funding. The main thing is we need tangible goals in the plan, not just "will work on lake stuff"

We could apply for 3 years of funding. That would get us into the next State Budget. Hopefully funding could come through for the position.

A pre application is due Sept 15 and with the final application November 15.

Awards are announced in mid February 2024

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Tyler Gruetzmacher
Barron County Conservationist

ATTACHMENT

County Conservation Staff and Awards by County

<u>County</u>	<u>2023 Requests</u>	<u>2023 Awards</u>	<u>2021 Staff</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>2023 Requests</u>	<u>2023 Awards</u>	<u>2021 Staff</u>
Adams	\$180,575	\$148,693	4.00	Milwaukee	\$98,283	\$76,554	1.47
Ashland	177,831	142,842	4.00	Monroe	187,425	156,919	5.00
Barron	207,385	163,647	3.75	Oconto	205,650	170,230	4.50
Bayfield	178,274	141,926	5.00	Oneida	136,371	129,010	3.47
Brown	224,247	182,710	9.50	Outagamie	260,016	219,102	12.00
Buffalo	141,709	126,351	4.00	Ozaukee	222,372	178,612	3.50
Burnett	138,621	122,659	6.75	Pepin	124,148	104,565	3.00
Calumet	248,931	197,782	6.00	Pierce	211,880	168,208	5.00
Chippewa	250,499	202,731	9.00	Polk	196,077	161,239	6.00
Clark	199,471	161,889	4.00	Portage	225,526	181,735	5.00
Columbia	186,933	146,920	7.00	Price	111,364	103,314	1.90
Crawford	165,073	137,818	3.00	Racine	223,535	189,031	3.00
Dane	308,657	247,461	13.00	Richland	145,502	122,273	4.00
Dodge	216,093	176,702	6.00	Rock	211,743	171,739	7.50
Door	226,112	178,571	8.86	Rusk	138,071	115,573	3.00
Douglas	157,911	134,888	3.00	St. Croix	216,070	181,352	7.10
Dunn	242,277	191,041	8.00	Sauk	228,003	182,261	6.90
Eau Claire	222,201	177,773	4.48	Sawyer	131,392	112,855	2.50
Florence	84,278	76,554	3.68	Shawano	186,818	157,137	3.60
Fond du Lac	222,178	186,197	10.00	Sheboygan	213,641	170,106	5.00
Forest	129,960	115,787	3.00	Taylor	179,853	148,312	3.00
Grant	163,110	129,865	5.00	Trempealeau	162,554	126,524	10.00
Green	189,096	166,475	3.00	Vernon	188,229	154,494	12.75
Green Lake	239,788	191,649	4.90	Vilas	173,012	143,107	3.00
Iowa	194,143	159,612	3.80	Walworth	235,290	189,764	6.00
Iron	142,270	133,256	3.50	Washburn	131,070	131,070	2.20
Jackson	159,655	159,655	2.00	Washington	180,619	152,223	10.00
Jefferson	225,070	184,269	6.00	Waukesha	243,716	208,933	7.40
Juneau	186,218	155,020	3.00	Waupaca	211,532	165,542	5.67
Kenosha	161,874	148,997	1.66	Waushara	224,258	180,627	5.90
Kewaunee	227,435	190,786	5.00	Winnebago	229,152	185,481	7.00
Lacrosse	226,574	181,602	8.00	Wood	<u>209,112</u>	<u>175,847</u>	<u>5.40</u>
Lafayette	143,458	118,478	3.00				
Langlade	113,986	102,999	2.65	Total	\$13,563,570	\$11,280,000	378.49
Lincoln	104,251	98,257	5.00				
Manitowoc	205,632	170,194	5.00				
Marathon	232,808	183,559	8.50				
Marinette	207,762	165,620	5.70				
Marquette	193,853	169,939	3.00				
Menominee	95,087	95,087	2.00				