

Minutes
Outagamie County Land Conservation Committee
April 8, 2025

Outagamie County Board Room

Meeting called to order, Time – 10:15 AM.

Members Participating: Supervisors –Debbie VanderHeiden; Daniel Rettler, Mark Mitchell, Jayme Heiser and Michael Janke. Citizen Member –Darrin Stingle

Citizen member Al Kramer- excused.

Others Participating: County Conservationist/Director, Greg Baneck; Senior Account Technician, Lori Hauswirth; Outagamie LCD Agronomist, Alex Krepline

In attendance-Outagamie County Counsel Kyle Sargent and Assistant Jayme Lehman.

Review of the Minutes from Prior Meeting: The minutes from the March 11, 2024 meeting were reviewed. M. Janke moved to approve the minutes as presented; M. Mitchell seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Public Comments: None.

Permission to draft Fiscal Note/Resolution for 2025 Budget Adjustment to accept and expend \$80,856 for UWGB Grant: Motion made by M. Mitchell to grant permission to draft the Fiscal Note/Resolution; seconded by J. Heiser. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Permission to draft Fiscal Note/Resolution to accept and expend up to \$400,000 if funding from Fox/Wolf Watershed Alliance as part of Climate Smart Grant to purchase soil health farm machinery. Motion made by M. Mitchell to grant permission to draft the Fiscal Note/Resolution; seconded by D. Stingle. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Land Conservation Staff Presentation – Agronomist Alex Krepline gave a power point presentation (attached) of equipment and grants he has been working on.

County Conservationist Report – Greg Baneck

1. LCD Active Report Projects.
2. 2026 Targeted Runoff Management Grant Applications coming due. Three in progress: Bear Creek, Plum & Kankapot Creeks, and Middle & Lower Duck Creek Watersheds as well as a small scale TRM application for a streambank project on Black Creek.
3. Federal Grants Budget Impact Update- The uncertainty surrounding the status of existing and potential new federal grants continues to be a significant concern. The impact of these grants on the budget is creating anxiety, particularly regarding job stability.
Note: Austin Headlee, the LCD's newest Agronomist has accepted a job elsewhere and has put in his two-week notice.
4. New Soil Health Equipment. Covered in Alex Krepline's Power Point.
5. Other- Greg reported that he attended the Joint Finance Committee meeting held in Appleton. He gave testimony to fully fund the DATCP Soil and Water Grant program which funds Land Conservation staff in each county.

Drainage Board Report: Greg Baneck reported on Al Kramer's behalf. The Bear Creek Grant is in Limbo. Waiting on favorable construction conditions to begin a two-stage ditching project in the Freedom District.

FSA Report: D. Stingle reported the ECAP (Emergency Commodity Assistance Program) is available to eligible famers as a one-time assistance payment.

Future Agenda Items: None

***Motion to Adjourn:** M. Janke moved to adjourn, seconded by D. Rettler. **Motion Carried Unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted
Lori Hauswirth
Outagamie County Land Conservation Department

New Equipment for 2025

- Oneida #2 Interseeder
- UFW Demo Farms / FWWA Interseeder

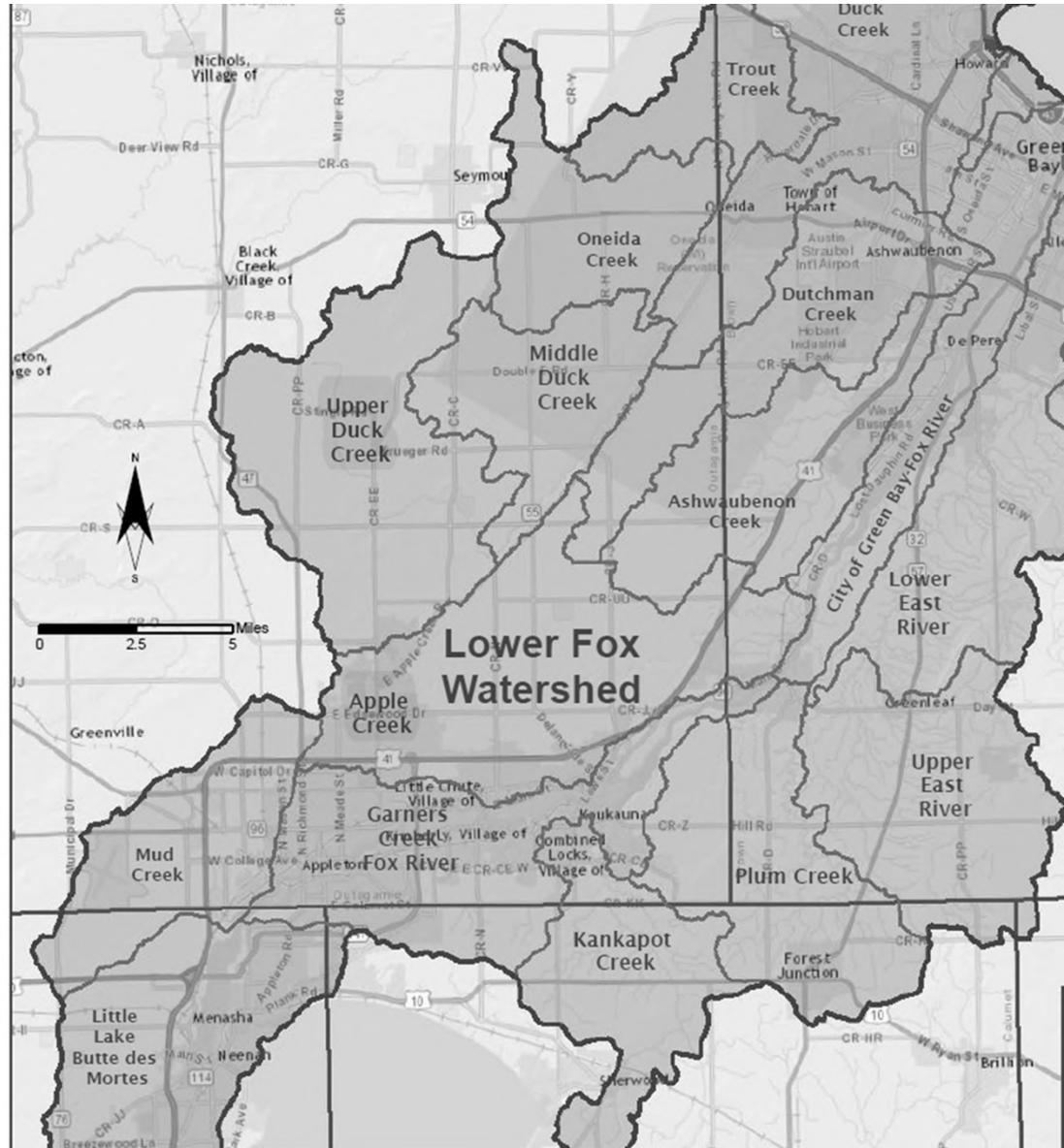


S.H.E.D. Plots 2025

- Interseeding Soybeans
 - Cover Crop Species
 - Planting Timing
- Corn Herbicide Options for Interseeding
- New Planter Demo
- Strip Till Demo
- Soil Health Destruction & Rebuild
- Soil Health Economics
- Tile & PRS Installation



Grant Updates



Upper Duck Creek

- Targeted Runoff Management Grant (TRM) - #3
 - 2022-2025 (1 year extension)
 - DNR Funded, Structural & Cropping funding
 - Farmers are maxing out of the program
- Riparian Buffer Grant (GLRI)
 - Ended June 2024
 - Goals – 84acres, 1,008lbs P, 151tons sediment
 - Results – **88.9acres, 1,077lbs P, 685tons sediment**
 - Approximately 19 miles of stream buffered

Apple Creek

- Targeted Runoff Management Grant (TRM) - #2
 - 2023-2025
 - DNR Funded, Structural & Cropping funding
 - Overspent cropping money in 2024, requested more funds from DNR
 - Gully stabilization project, streambank protection project with drainage board
- Non-Compete (DNR)
 - Targeted to CAFO (>1,000 animal units)
 - 2 year commitment to cover crops, no-till, and LDMI
 - Lockdown area – 1,500ac subwatershed with monitoring and reporting of crops
 - Farm Progress Report
 - Economic Analysis with farms

ARPA

- County wide cover crop grant
- \$40/ac
- Goal of 3,600 acres over 3 years
 - 1,916 acres installed in year 1