

RESOLUTION NO.: 144—2017-18

TO THE HONORABLE, THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

MAJORITY

1 The Outagamie County Land Conservation Department is required to update the
2 Land and Water Resource Management Plan every ten years as part of the
3 requirements for state soil and water resource management grants. This plan
4 provides information on how the Land Conservation Department addresses soil
5 and water issues in the county by identifying land and water resource concerns
6 and prioritizing work tasks. The Outagamie County 2018 Land and Water
7 Resource Management Plan was approved by the State Land and Water
8 Conservation Board. This resolution requests approval of the Outagamie County
9 2018 Land and Water Resource Management Plan.

10
11 NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned members of the Agriculture, Extension Education,
12 Zoning and Land Conservation Committee recommend adoption of the following resolution.

13 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does recommend
14 approval of the Outagamie County 2018 Land and Water Resource Management Plan which is
15 available in its entirety in the Outagamie County Clerk’s office and the Land Conservation
16 Department with an Executive Summary as attached which by reference is made a part hereof,
17 and

18 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Clerk be directed to forward
19 a copy of this resolution to the Outagamie County Conservationist.

20 Dated this ____ day of February 2018.

21 Respectfully Submitted,

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23 AGRICULTURE, EXTENSION
24 EDUCATION, ZONING & LAND
25 CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
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28 _____
29 Daniel Rettler

_____ Keith Suprise

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Daniel Melchert

Debra VanderHeiden

BJ O'Connor-Schevers

Duly and officially adopted by the County Board on: _____

Signed: _____
Board Chairperson

County Clerk

Approved: _____

Vetoed: _____

Signed: _____
County Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

The Outagamie County Land and Water Resource Management Plan (LWRM) represents the next generation of resource management strategies. Enabling legislation in 1997 allowed for the development and recognition of the County Resource Management Plans. This is a process that provides for a comprehensive analysis of countywide land and water resource issues and needs. County Land Conservation Committees (LCC) and their Land Conservation Departments (LCD) are an integral part of this process. Outagamie County considers this an opportunity to strengthen landowner participation, improve program effectiveness and increase coordination with other 'partners' involved in natural resource management.

The Outagamie County LWRM Plan was written with the assistance of partner agencies, such as the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Outagamie County Zoning and Planning, and the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension. Representatives from these organizations were included during the planning process.

The objective of the plan is to provide:

1. An assessment of the county's current conditions of land and water resources.
2. An overview and status report on various land and water conservation implementation programs.
3. Regulatory requirements relating to land conservation and water quality, including local zoning and NR 151 performance standards.
4. Monitoring and evaluation methods administered by the LCD and other agencies for the purpose of determining conservation needs, and documenting responses in natural resources.
5. Information and education initiatives to raise the awareness on the importance of maintaining and enhancing the natural resources of the County.
6. An implementation strategy to guide the LCC and LCD in carrying out the recommendations of the plan.

Performance Standards and Prohibitions

County land and water resource management plans are the local mechanism to implement the NR 151 runoff standards. Through Wisconsin Act 27, the Wisconsin Legislature amended state statutes to allow county Land Conservation Committees to develop implementation strategies for addressing local water quality priorities related to controlling erosion, sedimentation, and nonpoint source water pollution.

In NR151 the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) established Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Performance Standards and Prohibitions to reduce runoff and protect water quality. In the revised ATCP 50, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) identified conservation practices that farmers must follow to meet the DNR standards. These rule changes went into effect on October 1, 2002 and were revised in December of 2010. ATCP 50 codified specific standards for the approval of the LWRM Plans. These standards require counties to consult with DNR and identify how they will assist landowners to achieve compliance with performance standards and prohibitions. Chapter 5 contains the Agricultural Performance Standards Implementation Strategy for Outagamie County.

Both the Erosion Control Ordinance and the Storm Water Management Ordinance include the state performance standards which became effective on September 1, 2004. The state performance standards for runoff management were also included in Outagamie County's Agricultural Performance Standards and Livestock Waste Management Ordinance in 2007.

Basin Water Quality Management Plans

Three basins are located in Outagamie County, the Wolf River Basin, the Lower Fox River Basin and the Upper Green Bay Basin. The DNR's Basin Plans identify areas of water quality concern and propose management objectives for water resources of the basins. They focus on issues that require a comprehensive and collaborative management approach by the DNR, other public agencies, and private citizens and include background information and management recommendations for streams, rivers, creeks, wetlands, and groundwater. When developing the 10-year work plan, specific management objectives identified in each basin were considered.

Where more current data has been made available (as in the TMDL Watersheds), it has been used in the development of the 10 year plan. Only the Upper Green Bay Basin remains outside of a TMDL project in Outagamie County (which is <10% of the County).

Total Maximum Daily Load Plans

Impaired waters in Wisconsin are now largely addressed through an analysis, known as a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). A TMDL is the amount of a pollutant a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards. A TMDL for the Lower Fox River Basin was approved in 2012 for phosphorus and sediment and a TMDL is currently under development for the Wolf River Basin that should be completed by the end of 2018. Outagamie County has worked with neighboring counties and agencies to develop an implementation strategy for the Lower Fox. This involves breaking the basin into smaller subwatersheds and developing more specific nine key element subwatershed plans for each of them. Several implementation plans have been approved and implementation has begun in the Lower Fox River Basin.

Conclusion

In developing this Land & Water Resource Management Plan it is important to review past goals and objectives identified through similar planning and implementation efforts. It is equally important to recognize that most of the resource issues and concerns that have been identified in the past are still with us. The magnitude and scope of those issues and concerns may have changed, but the hard fact is they still exist. As our population increases, so do the demands and pressures on our resources.

This Land & Water Resource Management Plan is an improved and updated guide that builds upon past work in order to help carry our overall conservation mission. It also provides a mechanism that will assist in reaching the plan objectives outlined in basin-wide natural resource management plans. This plan also describes the methodology that will be used to ensure that landowners are working towards meeting Wisconsin's Agricultural Performance Standards and Prohibitions as defined in NR 151. Successful implementation of this plan will be contingent on continued funding from all current sources.