

Walworth County Land Conservation Committee

MINUTES

Monday, August 17, 2009 at 1:30 p.m.

Walworth County Government Center
County Board Room
Elkhorn, WI 53121

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kilkenny at 1:33 p.m.

Roll call - Committee members present included: Supervisors Hawkins, Ingersoll, Kilkenny, USDA/FSA Representative Henningfeld. And Citizen Member Burwell. A quorum was declared.

County staff present – David Bretl, County Administrator, Michael Cotter, Director of Land Use & Resource Management (LURM), Louise Olson, Deputy Director, LURM, Fay Amerson, Urban Manager; and Joeann Douglas, Recording Secretary

Also in attendance –. Nancy Russell, Walworth County Board Chair; Greg Igl, USDA NRCS, Joshua Clements, UW Extension,

Supervisors Hawkins and Ingersoll moved and seconded approval of the agenda. The motion carried 5-0.

Supervisor Ingersoll and Hawkins moved and seconded approval of the June 15, 2009 minutes. The motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment – none

USDA Wildlife Abatement – Louise Olson said the LCC approved the Wildlife abatement deer donation program last month. We are required to approve an amendment to the Wildlife Damage Abatement Claims Program for the County to receive a \$300 increase to our administrative budget, and \$2,500 for venison processing. **Citizen Member Burwell and USDA/FSA Representative Henningfeld moved and seconded approval of the Wildlife Damage Abatement amendment. Motion carried 5-0**

Conservation Contribution Agreement with NRCS – Louise Olson said the agreement provides \$5,760. to Walworth County for technical assistance with CRP contracts already being performed by existing Land Conservation staff and will run from October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2010. The agreement was reviewed and approved by Mr. Bretl. **Citizen Member Burwell and Supervisor Hawkins moved and seconded approval of the USDA NRCS Conservation Contribution Agreement. Motion carried 5-0**

Ordinance amendments to Ch 26 Article II, Land Disturbance, Construction Site Erosion and Sediment Control, Conservation Standards for Vegetation Removal, Pond Construction and Retaining Wall Construction – Fay Amerson said the amendments proposed are to correct and clarify new retaining wall construction standards within the shoreland area under county shoreland zoning jurisdiction. The Conservation Division administers the conservation standards for retaining wall construction. The County Shoreland Zoning ordinance standards prohibits the construction of retaining walls within 75 feet of any navigable water, lake or stream apply unless the applicant can prove there is an erosion problem that cannot be corrected by sloping and vegetation (Ch 74-167 Walworth County Code of Ordinances) The amendment supplies the standards for providing the proof and a definition of a retaining wall. Other definitions were also cleaned up. Clarification to the engineering report was added to require engineers to be licensed in the State of Wisconsin. Ch 26 exempts projects designed by USDA NRCS, County Land Conservation Division or DATCP. The revision adds an exemption to

projects designed by Dept of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and WDNR. There is a new provision for general permits for specific small construction activities outside of the shoreland areas. The permit will authorize landowners the ability to conduct land disturbing activities for small projects such as small accessory buildings or above-ground pools without filing a land disturbance permit application/fee, if specific conditions are met. This does not preclude the need for a Zoning permit or any local township permits. Other changes mentioned by the LCC were the addition of the word “be” in Sec26-61(b)(4) ...temporary driveway will not be... and adding a Shoreland sub-section to Ch 74-167 as referenced in Sec 26-71 (a). If approved by this committee, these proposed amendments will go before the County Zoning Agency. The County Zoning Agency will conduct the required public hearings. These amendments will be considered for adoption by the LCC. If approved, the amendments will be forwarded to the County Board for adoption. **Supervisors Hawkins and USDA/FSA Representative Henningfeld moved and seconded moving the proposed amendments forward to public hearing with the amended language changes made by the LCC. Motion carried 5-0**

Southeastern Wisconsin Summer Tour of Geneva Lake Sponsored by Walworth County – Louise Olson reminded the committee members to mark their calendars for September 17. Tour begins at 8:30 a.m. from Edgewater Park Pavilion before boarding the boat. In addition to representatives from the SE Area counties, state and local representatives have been invited including the Governor.

Next Meeting Date – Monday, September 14, 2009 1:30 p.m. if necessary

Adjournment - **On motion and second by Supervisor Hawkins and USDA/FSA Representative Henningfeld , Chair Kilkenny adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:02 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.**

Submitted by Joeann Douglas, Recording Secretary. Minutes are not considered final until approved by the committee at the next regularly scheduled meeting.