

**Walworth County Board of Supervisors
Land Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 14, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.
Walworth County Government Center
County Board Room 114
100 W. Walworth Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Charlene Staples at 2:03 p.m.

Roll call was conducted. Members present included Chair Charlene Staples, Supervisor Nancy Russell, Supervisor Dan Kilkenny, and USDA/FSA Representative Matthew Polyock. Citizen Member Rosemary Badame was excused. A quorum was declared. Vice Chair – Vacant.

Others in Attendance:

County Staff: David Bretl, County Administrator; Michael Cotter, Director of Land Use and Resource Management (LURM)/Deputy Corporation Counsel; Shannon Haydin, LURM Deputy Director; Brian Smetana, LURM Sr. Rural Technician

Chairperson Nominations/Elections

Chair Staples announced that nominations for the Land Conservation Committee Vice Chairperson were open.

On motion by Supervisor Kilkenny, seconded by USDA/FSA Representative Matthew Polyock, Supervisor Kilkenny was nominated for Land Conservation Committee Vice Chairperson.

Chair Staples asked if there were any other nominations. There were none.

Supervisor Kilkenny moved to close nominations, second by Supervisor Russell. Motion carried 4-0. Supervisor Kilkenny was unanimously elected as Land Conservation Committee Vice Chairperson.

On motion by Supervisor Kilkenny, second by Supervisor Russell, the agenda was approved with no withdrawals.

On motion by Supervisor Kilkenny, second by Supervisor Russell, the January 18, 2016 Land Conservation Committee meeting minutes were approved.

Public Comment – There was none.

New Business

- Discussion/Possible Action – SE Area Tour – Shannon Haydin

Shannon Haydin, Deputy Director of Land Use and Resource Management (LURM), stated annual tours are conducted by the various land conservation departments throughout Wisconsin and Walworth County is scheduled to host the tour for the southeastern region in September. Haydin requested guidance and suggestions from the Committee relative to tour destinations. Discussion then focused on tours hosted in the past for approximately 50 to 70 people, which included boat tours of Lake Geneva, various farms, Andes Candies and Kikkoman. Suggestions from the Committee included possible tours of Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC), White River County Park, Lake Geneva Museum, Apple Barn Orchard and Winery, Staller Estate Winery, Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy, and Williams Bay pit. Michael Cotter, Director of LURM/Deputy Corporation Counsel, stated it would be beneficial to tie in the land conservation efforts with the wineries and how the water is being treated in and around the gravel pit. Haydin stated the matter would be brought back to the Committee for final approval.

- Discussion/Possible Action – LURM Annual SWRM Work Plan – Shannon Haydin

Haydin referred to the State of Wisconsin Memorandum sent by Richard Castelnuovo, Bureau of Land and Water Resources, relating to applications for grant money and the requirement for an annual work plan. She stated the Walworth County Land and Water Resource Management Plan: 5-Year Work Plan (2016-2020) was generally in the format required by the Department of Agriculture Trade & Consumer Protection (DATCP). Haydin said the Annual Work Plan being presented is reasonable and within the 2016 budget. Supervisor Russell expressed concern with chlorides in water runoff and the possibility of incorporating information to make the public aware of the situation. Haydin stated that making this part of the work plan would be beneficial, as it relates to the Rock River Basin Partnership and the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL).

Supervisor Kilkenny made a motion, second by USDA/FSA Representative Matthew Polyock, to approve the proposed SWRM Work Plan. Motion carried 4-0.

- Discussion/Possible Action – LURM Conservation Annual Report – Shannon Haydin

Haydin gave a brief overview of the LURM Annual Report. She stated department wide there was an increase in revenue for 2015 and there is a trajectory of growth within Walworth County. Haydin said conservation inspections have been beneficial in eliminating problems. Cotter stated the staff is implementing a new computer system and offered the benefits of the equipment to the Committee. He said there are issues with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules and regulations with the use of drones. He stated Walworth County is not considered commercial or recreational. Discussion then focused on drone rules and regulations, files and their retention period. David Bretl, County Administrator, stated the Executive Committee would have to execute a policy prior to drone usage.

- Discussion/Possible Action – Farmland Preservation Non Compliance Recipients **Voluntary Waivers** (Larry Albrecht, William/Terese Baar Trust, Dennis Jacobs, Rose E Jacobsen Trust Life Est/Kenneth Jacobsen, Denis M McNamara/Alice A Antczak, Kathleen Roelli, James/Verena Schaefer, Andrew C Terpstra Trust) and **Failure to Certify** (Carter Johnson, Jason/Sasha Johnson) – Brian Smetana

Brian Smetana, LURM Sr. Rural Technician, gave a brief overview on the Farmland Preservation Non Compliance Recipients. He said participants choosing not to continue the program have signed Voluntary Waivers. Smetana stated that certified letters have been sent to those individuals who have not responded. He said there are approximately 330 participants.

Supervisor Kilkenny made a motion, second by Supervisor Russell, to approve the Farmland Preservation Non Compliance Recipients Voluntary Waivers and cancellation for the Failure to Certify. Motion carried 4-0.

Confirmation of next meeting – The next meeting was confirmed for Monday, April 25, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

On motion by Supervisor Kilkenny, second by Supervisor Russell, the meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.