

**Walworth County Board of Supervisors  
Land Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes  
Monday, July 19, 2021  
Walworth County Government Center, County Board Room 114  
100 W. Walworth Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin**

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The meeting was called to order by Chair Brian Holt at 1:00 p.m.

Roll call was conducted and the following members were present, either in person or by remote attendance: Chair Brian Holt; Vice Chair Daniel Kilkenny; Supervisor Nancy Russell; and FSA Representative Sharon Travis. Citizen Member Rosemary Badame was absent. A quorum was declared.

**Others in Attendance either in person or remotely:**

County Staff: Corporation Counsel/Director-Land Use and Resource Management (LURM) Michael Cotter; Deputy Director LURM/County Conservationist Lindsay Motl; Sr. Urban Conservation Specialist Fay Amerson; Senior Conservation Technician Brian Smetana; Senior Planner Matt Weidensee; and County Administrator Mark W. Luberda.

**On motion by FSA Representative Travis, second by Supervisor Russell, the agenda was approved with no withdrawals.**

**On motion by Supervisor Russell, second by Vice Chair Kilkenny, the minutes of the June 14, 2021 Land Conservation Committee meeting were approved.**

**Public Comment** – There was none.

**New Business**

6. Trempealeau County Resolution No. 2021-06-05 – Opposition to changes in Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program – Changes to s. 29.889, Stats, Program Updates through Senate Bill 63 and Assembly Bill 49 Memo

Deputy Director-Land Use and Resource Management (LURM)/County Conservationist Lindsay Motl referenced her Memorandum on Pages 5-6 of the packet; stating her recommendation is to allow the bill to continue to proceed as proposed. **Supervisor Russell offered a motion, second by Vice Chair Kilkenny, recommending that the Trempealeau County Resolution No. 2021-06-05 be placed on file. Motion carried 4-0.**

7. Potters Lake District representative vacancy

Corporation Counsel/Director-LURM Michael Cotter stated this item had been placed on the agenda with the intent to have an update, unfortunately there is no new information in regards to filling the Potters Lake District representative vacancy. Cotter reiterated that if any member of the Committee knows of an interested individual to reach out to him.

8. Farmland Preservation Plan Update

Amerson stated the first Citizen’s Advisory Committee was held on June 24; noting the following concerns the Committee felt needed to be included in the Farmland Preservation Plan:

- Right to Farm
- Lack of understanding the impact farmers have to water quality
- Lack of policy makers with farming background
- Reducing barriers to new-entry farmers
- Supporting opportunities to improve agricultural tourism

Senior Conservation Technician Brian Smetana, Senior Planner Matt Weidensee, and Amerson collaboratively referred to and briefly detailed the Farmland Preservation Plan-2022 Policy Options and Considerations packet that was distributed at the meeting. The three proceeded with their presentation. Discussion then focused on Soil

Capability Grouping and Prime Farmland Designation; and Solar Projects in the Farmland Preservation Areas (Pages 2-5.)

9. 2020 Wisconsin Report on Soil and Water Conservation

Amerson referenced the 2020 Wisconsin Report on Soil and Water Conservation included in the packet (Pages 9-40); noting the Keeping Geneva Lake Blue in Walworth County article that highlighted Smetana for his hard work on the project.

10. Reports/Announcements – There was none.

**Confirmation of next meeting** – The next meeting was confirmed for Monday, September 20, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.

**Adjournment**

**On motion and second by FSA Representative Travis and Vice Chair Kilkenny, Chair Holt adjourned the meeting at 1:31 p.m.**

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Submitted by Jennifer Stinnett, Administrative Assistant. Meeting minutes were approved by the Land Conservation Committee at the September 20, 2021 meeting.