

MINUTES

ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2013, 7:15 P.M. LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM 440 N US HWY 14 JANESVILLE WI

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Bostwick called the meeting of the Land Conservation Committee to order at 7:17 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Richard Bostwick, Larry Wiedenfeld, Edwin Nash Norvain Pleasant, Alan Sweeney, James Quade, and Fred Yoss.

Committee Members Absent: Eva Arnold

Staff Present: Tom Sweeney, LCD; Andrew Baker, LCD

- 2. **Approval of Agenda:** Supervisor Sweeney motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Pleasant. **Motion Carried.**
- 3. **Approval of Minutes October 2, 2013:** Supervisor Wiedenfeld motioned to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2013 Land Conservation Committee meeting, seconded by Supervisor Pleasant. **Motion Carried.**
- 4. Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements: None.
- 5. **Bills/ Transfers/ Pre-approved Encumbrances:** Supervisor Sweeney motioned to approve the bills as presented, seconded by Chair Bostwick. **Motion Carried**.
- 6. Land and Water Resource Management Approval of Cost Share Agreements:
 Supervisor Wiedenfeld motioned to approve the cost share agreements, seconded by
 Supervisor Pleasant. Tom Sweeney reviewed the Cost Share agreements for Atkinson Farms,
 Well Abandonment; Atkinson Farms, Grade Stabilization Structure; Pierce Farms Inc,
 Diversion, and Loron Bobolz, Waterway System. Motion Carried.
- 7. **Farmland Preservation Program** Notices of Non-Compliance; Supervisor Sweeney motioned to approve the Notices of Non-Compliance as presented, seconded by Supervisor Quade. Tom Sweeney reviewed the notices for Dwayne and Jean Heath Trust and Richard Wanniger and stated each notice was a voluntary withdraw from the program. **Motion Carried.**
- 8. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Sweeney Farms Inc. Supervisor Wiedenfeld motioned to approve the application for Sweeney Farms Inc. seconded by Supervisor Quade. Tom Sweeney reviewed the application. Supervisor Sweeney requested that he abstain from the vote. **Motion Carried**.

9. **PACE:**

- A. Approval of 2013 applications: Chair Bostwick stated that the applications would be dealt with individually.
 - 1) Plankey Property (Purchase): Supervisor Pleasant motioned to approve the Plankey application seconded by Supervisor Wiedenfeld. Andrew Baker reviewed the application and stated that the primary parcel in the application meets the definition of priority areas. Mr. Baker continued by stating the PACE Council recommended the LCC approve this application. Mr. Plankey made a statement as to why he made his application to the program. **Motion Carried.**
 - 2) Sweeney Property (100% Donation): At this time Supervisor Sweeney was excused from the meeting. Supervisor Quade motioned to approve the Sweeney application for 100% Donation, seconded by Supervisor Nash. Andrew Baker reviewed the application and noted the PACE Council recommended approval of this application. **Motion Carried.** After the vote Chair Bostwick requested Supervisor Sweeney's return to the room.
- B. Approval of Real Estate Appraisal Services Contract for Vanthournout Property: Supervisor Sweeney motioned to approve the contract as presented, seconded by Supervisor Pleasant. Andrew Baker reviewed the contract and noted the contract is for the Vanthournout application. Baker explained that the County's initial deed had language that allowed eased property to be divided. USDA-NRCS FRPP program does not allow for any division or separation of farmsteads from the cropland after the easement has been recorded. Mr. Vanthournout therefore has requested that the farmstead not be included in the easement area. **Motion Carried.**
- 10. **2014 Recommended Budget Review**: Tom Sweeney reviewed the requested 2014 department budget with the committee.
- 11. **Department Update.** Tom Sweeney provided the Committee an update of Department activities since the last meeting. Chair Bostwick noted that a conflict exists with the normally scheduled January LCC Meeting, as it falls on January 1, 2014. Chair Bostwick rescheduled this meeting for Tuesday January 7, 2014. Tom Sweeney noted that Supervisor Wiedenfeld and he attended the Southern Area tour sponsored by Dane County. Chair Bostwick requested information on the GOEX site.
- 12. **Adjourn:** Supervisor Sweeney motioned to adjourn the October 30, 2013 Land Conservation Committee meeting at 8:38 pm, seconded by Supervisor Pleasant. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Sweeney
County Conservationist
Minutes are not official until adopted by the Land Conservation Committee.

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