

**Richland County
Land & Zoning Standing Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2023**

The March 6, 2023, Land & Zoning Standing Committee meeting was called to order 3:00 p.m. by Chair Melissa Luck in the County Board Room of the Richland County Courthouse. Present were Julie Fleming, Melissa Luck, Dan McGuire and Steve Carrow. Linda Gentes and Dave Turk joined via Webex. Aaron Halverson, Damon Anderson, Karen & Ken Edgerly, Max Harn, Rebecca Vasquez, Barb Scott, John Couey, Scott Lind, Clinton Langreck, Cheryl Dull, Mike Bindl, and Cathy Cooper.

Steve Carrow moved to approve the amended agenda and proof of notification. Seconded by Dan McGuire. Motion carried.

Chair Melissa Luck asked for any corrections or amendments to the February 6, 2023 minutes. Motion made by Linda Gentes to approve the minutes. Seconded by Steve Carrow. Motion carried.

#5 Zoning Petitions-

- a. Edgerly petition- Karen and Ken Edgerly were present. They want to rezone 5 acres including the buildings from Ag/Forestry to Ag/Residential. The rest of the agricultural land is being sold to the neighbor. The question was asked if there is enough land for a new septic if the old one was to fail. There is. Linda Gentes moved to approve the rezoning from Ag/Forestry to Ag/Residential. Seconded by Steve Carrow. Motion carried.
- b. Cormax Petition- Max Harn was present. He is creating 5 lots. A CSM has been completed for all 4 lots. Lot 1 is 5.53 acres and will be rezoned from Ag/Forestry to Ag/Residential; Lot 2 is 5.73 acres and will be rezoned from Ag/Forestry to ag/Residential; Lot 3 is 3.26 acres and will be rezoned from Ag/Forestry to Single Family Residential; Lot 4 is 15.61 acres and will be rezoned from Ag/Forestry to Ag/Residential; and Lot 5 is over 35 acres and will remain Ag/Forestry. Steve Carrow moved to approve the rezoning of Lots 1,2 and 4 from Ag/Forestry to Ag/Residential and Lot 3 from Ag/Forestry to Single Family Residential. Seconded by Dan McGuire. Motion carried
- c. Anderson Petition- Damon Anderson was there representing Phyllis Anderson. They would like to separate the buildings from the rest of the property. There is approximately 2 acres to be rezoned from Ag/Forestry to Residential 2. There is room for a septic. Steve Carrow moved to approving rezoning the parcel from Ag/Forestry to Residential 2. Seconded by Julie Fleming. Motion carried.

#6 Ash Creek Community Forest- Rebecca Vasquez, DNR Forest Ranger, talked about what needs to be done for the property before a timber harvest could be done. A stewardship plan needs to be written. Juli Van Cleve, DNR Forester, had started planning process before she changed jobs. The plan may be partially completed. Rebecca will check into it. If only partial completed, the county will probably need to hire a cooperating forester to complete the plan. The committee asked what is currently in the Ash Creek fund. Cathy Cooper will look into and bring back the results. The Committee would also like to see the current plan and have it put on the iPad. Melissa would also like a plan for how the mowing will be completed.

#7 Office updates – Cathy Cooper reported that she, Derrick Warner, Melissa Luck and Steve Carrow all attended the Wi Land + Water conference in Wisconsin Dells last week. Melissa Luck had to leave before the awards ceremony. Cathy Cooper presented her with the Outstanding Supervisor of the Year Award. Cathy and the staff nominated Melissa Luck for all the work she does for conservation and the environment.

#8 Short term rentals- Melissa Luck has put in the committee folder a copy of the Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) rules concerning short term rentals. These rules are mainly to keep people safe rather than “good neighbor” policy. She asked if the committee just wants to go with the DATCP rules or do they want to create an ordinance with so other rules in them. Mr. Windle will be at the next meeting to guide the committee on what the committee is allowed to do. It was suggested that the committee send out a survey to all townships and municipalities as to what they have in place and if they would like to see the county adopt something.

#9 Dark Skies- Melissa Luck put together an educational brochure to give to those getting building permits from the Zoning office. It was suggested that someone go on the radio with Mr. Scott Lind to educate the public on what they can do to promote reducing light scattering.

#10 Soil and Water 2023 work plan- Cathy Cooper presented the 2023 work plan for the department. She asked the committee to review. These are items the department plans on completing in 2023. Melissa Luck suggested that the committee review the 2022 Land and Water Resource Management plan and if they see something they would like the department to address, then contact Cathy Cooper.

#11 2024 Joint Allocation Grant- This is the grant that Land Conservation applies for every year for staffing funds and cost-share funds. Julie Fleming moved to forward the resolution to County Board for the grant totaling \$267,899.00 Seconded by Dan McGuire. Motion carried.

#12 7th Committee member- Cathy Cooper reported that WI Land + Water is working with legislatures to change Chapter 92 in the state statutes so that instead of the required member of the committee to be the Farm Service Agency committee chair to a person engaged in agriculture as defined by DATCP rules. This will be on the next agenda to discuss this with corporation council, Mr. Windle.

#13 Assistant Zoning Administrator/Sanitarian- Mike Bindl reported that it has been advertised in the Richland Observer, the county website and Indeed. So far there have been 2 applicants but no one is a certified soil tester and experience with county ordinances. This position is open until March 17, 2023.

#14 GIS contract- MSA is continuing to work on updating the parcel changes and address changes. They are also working on figuring out how the information flows through the different departments. Clinton Langreck thought it should be 90% completed by April.

#15 Well testing- Melissa Luck and Cathy Cooper spoke about this during the conference. Instead of doing wide scale testing, looking at existing information to see if it could be used to target efforts in the county. The well viewer on the UW-Stevens Point website could be used. Melissa Luck also thought that the department could offer well testing 100% fund by the landowners themselves but that the department could take the samples in to be tested.

#16 Land and Water Resource Management Plan- Cathy Cooper reported that it is on the department website

#17 Public Comment- None

#18- Future Agenda Items- add Interns/volunteers to do county work.

#19 Closed session- Moved by Julie Fleming to go into closed session for employee evaluations. Seconded by Steve Carrow. Motion carried

#20 Open Session_ Steve Carrow moved to go back into open session. Seconded by Julie Fleming. Motion carried.

#21 Adjournment – Linda Gentes moved to adjourn until April 3, 2023 at 3:00. Seconded made by Julie Fleming. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Cooper

Cathy Cooper
Secretary pro temp
Land & Zoning Secretary