

Richland County Natural Resources Standing Committee

November 4, 2024

The Richland County Natural Resources Standing Committee convened on Monday, November 4, 2024 in person and virtually at 9:30 AM in the County Boardroom of the Richland County Courthouse.

Call To Order: Committee Chair Carrow called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

Roll Call: County Clerk Kalish conducted roll call. Committee members present: Steve Carrow, Richard McKee, Mark Gill, Julie Fleming, and Robert Brookens. Alayne Hendricks arrived at 9:31 AM and Craig Woodhouse arrived virtually at 9:40 AM. Committee members absent: None.

Verification Of Open Meetings Law Compliance: County Clerk Kalish confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed.

Approval Of Agenda: Motion by McKee second by Fleming to approve agenda. Motion carried and agenda declared approved.

Approval Of Minutes From October 7, 2024 Meeting: Motion by Fleming second by McKee to approve minutes of the October 7, 2024 meeting. Motion carried and the minutes of the October 7, 2024 declared approved.

Public Comment: None

Zoning Petitions:

A. Mark & Julie Luther – Town Of Forest: Zoning Administrator Salewski provided brief background on the petition. Motion by Fleming second by McKee to approve rezoning petition. Committee Chair Carrow questioned the number of cabins that will be on property, Supervisor Fleming noted the fee should be \$125.00, and County Conservationist Cooper noted this was a cleanup of previous administration. Motion carried and petition forwarded to County Board for approval.

B. Joseph Hochstetler – Town Of Akan: Zoning Administrator Salewski provided brief background on the petition. Motion by Fleming second by McKee to approve rezoning petition. Supervisor Gill questioned the difference between legal and illegal non-conforming. Motion carried and petition forwarded to County Board for approval.

Reports:

A. Zoning Administrator – Departmental Activities: Zoning Administrator Salewski reported a land application checklist has been created, a disclaimer has been added to the list of septic pumpers, and letters have been sent to those that sent complaints discussed at the last meeting. Brief discussion followed regarding the process and county's role in ensuring that pumping forms are properly submitted. Committee Chair Carrow noted that it should be made clear that it is the homeowner's responsibility to ensure the proper documentation is submitted. Supervisor Fleming noted an online submission option may be beneficial. Zoning Administrator Salewski noted her resignation.

B. County Conservationist – Departmental Activities: County Conservationist Cooper reported that the nutrient management class starts on 11/5/2024, self-compliance mailings for farmland preservation will be sent in December, the tree sale is being organized, and that the lake monitoring

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grant will be sent this week. County Conservationist Cooper also noted that the cost share amount from the state is approximately \$38,000.

C. UW-Extension – Departmental Activities: Area Extension Director Hady briefly reviewed the Richland October 2024 report and introduced FoodWise Educator Monica Diaz. Diaz provided brief summary of FoodWise activities.

D. Lighting Assessment For County Facilities: Committee Chair Carrow briefly reviewed lighting assessment and urged committee members to review if they have not. Committee Chair Carrow also stated he felt the assessment should be forwarded to the Public Works Standing Committee for future consideration when needed.

Discussion & Possible Action - Approval Of Future Land Use Maps For The Richland County Comprehensive Plan Recommended By The Township: Dan Houck, Assistant Planner with Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SWWRPC), provided brief overview of future land use maps. Houck noted that the county must update future land use maps, reviewed the methodology and process involved in determining the future use maps, and noted that any future rezones will need to be compliant with the new maps. Committee Chair Carrow asked if the new maps could be added as a layer in GIS and Houck noted they could. Supervisor Carrow questioned the presence of the industrial/commercial corridor in the towns of Dayton and Eagle and Houck noted that it was established for future planning purposes. Supervisor Fleming questioned the institutional areas on the maps and Jaelyn Essandh, staff member of SWWRPC noted that the areas represented non-exempt property. Discussion followed regarding the colors on the map and the items they represent. No action taken on this item at the meeting.

Discussion & Possible Action - Approval Of Short-Term Rental Ordinance: County Conservationist Cooper noted that Corporation Counsel Windle reviewed the proposed ordinance. Motion by Fleming second by McKee to approve the short-term rental ordinance. Motion carried.

Discussion & Possible Action – Approval Of Richland County Farm Lease Agreements: County Conservationist Cooper noted that the conservation language contained in the lease is satisfactory. Committee Chair Carrow questioned whether or not the land conservation requirement is prohibitive or sufficient to maintain the land. Motion by McKee second by Fleming to refer lease agreement back to the Executive & Finance Standing Committee for approval. Motion carried and agreement referred to the Executive & Finance Standing Committee for further review and approval.

Discussion & Possible Action – Wisconsin Land & Water Representatives On The State Land & Water Board: County Conservationist Cooper reviewed the list of candidates. Consensus from the committee was to select Rebecca Clarke, Yogesh Chawla, and Monte Osterman. No further action was taken on this item.

Discussion & Possible Action – 2025 Natural Resources Standing Committee Meeting Dates: County Conservationist Cooper reviewed the 2025 Natural Resources Standing Committee meeting dates. No action taken on this item at the meeting.

Discussion- Dark Skies Initiative: Committee Chair Carrow briefly reviewed Dark Skies Initiative brochure and noted the intent was to provide brochure to those applying for a building permit. County

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Conservationist Cooper stated the department could distribute the brochure when land use/building permits are issued. No action taken on this item at the meeting.

Discussion & Possible Action – Approval To Accept Richland County Campus Foundation Grant:

Area Extension Director Hady reviewed and provided brief background on the Richland County Foundation grant. Motion by Fleming second by Gill to approve acceptance of the Richland County Campus Foundation grant. Motion carried and item forwarded to Executive & Finance Standing Committee for further review and approval.

Correspondence: None

Future Agenda Items:

Report: Farmland Preservation Certificate of Compliance

Report on legal and illegal non-conforming parcels

Discussion: Explanation of the Board of Adjustments

Adjourn: Motion by Fleming second by Gill to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 11:02 AM.



Derek S. Kalish
Richland County Clerk