

Richland County Natural Resources Standing Committee

May 5, 2025

The Richland County Natural Resources Standing Committee convened on Monday, May 5, 2025 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 9:31 AM.

Roll Call: Deputy County Clerk Hege conducted roll call. Committee members present: Steve Carrow, Richard McKee, Alayne Hendricks, Mark Gill, Craig Woodhouse, Julie Fleming, and Robert Brookens. Committee member(s) absent: None.

Verification of Open Meetings Law Compliance: Deputy County Clerk Hege confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed.

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

Approval Of Minutes From March 31, 2025 Meeting: Chair Carrow asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes from the March 31, 2025 meeting. Hearing none, Chair Carrow declared the minutes of the March 31, 2025 meeting approved as published.

Public Comment: None.

Zoning Petitions:

Brief discussion on the organization of the items in the committee packet ensued with County Conservationist Cooper noting that the supplemental items were labeled incorrectly.

A. Petition To Rezone Parcel 008-3423-0000 Town Of Dayton: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitary Technician, gave a brief background on the petition. Motion by McKee, second by Fleming to approved the petition. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and petition was approved and forwarded on to county board.

B. Petition To Rezone Parcel 016-0411-2000 – Town of Ithaca: Michele Wobschall of Ithaca Township introduced herself to the committee and briefly spoke on the petition. Motion by Gill, second by McKee to approved the petition. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and petition was approved and forwarded on to county board.

C. Petition To Rezone Parcel 014-2044-1000 - Town Of Henrietta: County Conservationist Cooper requested that this petition be tabled until the June 2025 meeting. Consensus was gained from the committee to table this petition until the June 2025 meeting.

D. Petition To Rezone Part Of Parcels 026-2711-1000 And 026-2714-0000 - Town Of Rockbridge: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitary Technician, gave a brief background on the petition. Motion by McKee, second by Fleming to approved the petition. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and petition was approved and forwarded on to county board.

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E. Petition To Rezone Part Of Parcel 008-1043-2000 - Town Of Dayton: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitary Technician, gave a brief background on the petition. Motion by Fleming, second by Gill to approved the petition. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and petition was approved and forwarded on to county board.

Reports:

A. Zoning Administrator: Departmental Activities: County Conservationist Cooper introduced Jenn Fry as the new Zoning and Sanitary Technician and Noel Schmitz as the new Office System Tech. Ms. Fry briefly reported on the number of sanitary permits issued in Richland County and on a recent soils training event. Conservationist Cooper reported on the recent septic tank inspections, the work plan that she was creating for the Zoning and Conservation Office, recent unpermitted digging in an area of wetlands near Rockbridge, and that she was meeting with Attorney Windle to go over various issues happening in Akan Township. Brief discussion ensued

B. County Conservationist: Departmental Activities: Conservationist Cooper reported on various topics including the ongoing county tree sale and that any unsold trees would most likely be planted on county land, the recent producer classes, and soils testing. Brief discussion ensued. County Conservationist Cooper introduced Josh Bushee, District Conservationist, and he briefly spoke on various projects at the district level. Brief discussion ensued.

C. UW-Extension: Departmental Activities: Mr. Adam Hady, Area 13 Extension Director presented his April 2025 Richland report to the committee, briefly spoke on a new cover crop trial happening in Wisconsin, gave a brief recap of the recent "Get Real" event, the 4H Discovery Day, and provided information on the upcoming Richland County Listening Session which was set for May 21st, 2025 from 5-6 pm. Brief discussion ensued.

D. County Surveyor Report: Mr. Todd Rummler PLS, Richland County Surveyor, introduced himself to the committee and reviewed the details of his contract with Richland County and the duties that he performs on behalf of the county. Mr. Rummler briefly spoke on the GIS mapping system. Extensive discussion ensued.

Discussion & Possible Action: Update On DAWS (Driftless Area Water Study) Project: County Conservationist Cooper presented documents showing the results of well testing done in October 2020 and April 2021.

Discussion & Possible Action: Policy Pertaining To Crediting Short Term Rental Fees: Chair Carrow gave a brief explanation of the need to create a policy pertaining to crediting short term rental fees. Extensive discussion ensued. McKee suggested a credit of \$300. Fleming mentioned issuing a refund and briefly spoke on the concern of setting a precedent for other fees or charges. County Administrator Clements suggested meeting with the county corporation counsel, Attorney Windle, and bringing a proposal back to the next meeting. Extensive discussion ensued. McKee stated that he was against giving credit.

Correspondence: None.

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Future Agenda Items:

Zoning Petition: Petition To Rezone Parcel 014-2044-1000 - Town Of Henrietta

Discussion & Possible Action: Policy Pertaining To Crediting Short Term Rental Fees

Discussion & Possible Action: GIS Technician Position

Adjourn: Chair Carrow entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion by Fleming, second by McKee to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 11:02 AM.

Respectfully submitted by,



Myranda H. Hege
Deputy County Clerk

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