

Richland County

Natural Resources Standing Committee

January 5, 2026

The Richland County Natural Resources Standing Committee convened on Monday, January 5, 2026, 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: Deputy County Clerk Hege conducted roll call. Committee members present: Steve Carrow, Randy Schoonover, Richard McKee, Alayne Hendricks, and Rod Perry. Committee member(s) absent: Julie Fleming. Supervisor Fleming arrived after roll at 9:34 a.m.

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

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

Approval Of Minutes From November 24, 2025 Meeting: Chair Carrow asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes from the November 24, 2025 meeting. Hearing none, Chair Carrow declared the minutes from the November 24, 2025, meeting approved as presented.

Public Comment: None.

Supervisor Fleming joined the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

Zoning Petitions:

A. Petition To Rezone Parcel 018-0611-2000 And A Portion Of Parcel 018-0523-2000: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician provided a brief background on the petition. Motion by McKee, second by Perry to approve the petition. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and the petition to rezone parcel 018-0611-2000 and a portion of parcel 018-0523-2000 was approved and moved on to county board for final approval.

B. Petition To Rezone 2.01 Acres Of Parcel 022-3634-1000: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician provided a brief background on the petition. Motion by McKee, second by Fleming to approve the petition. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and the petition 2.01 acres of parcel 022-3634-1000 to rezone was approved and moved on to county board for final approval.

C. Petition To Petition For A CUP For Non-Metallic Mining On Parcel 014-1912-1000 And Others: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician provided a brief background and recommended that the petition be postponed to the next meeting of the Natural Resources Standing Committee due to conditions still needing to be met as part of a deed restriction on the land in question. Consensus from the committee was gained to postpone the petition until the next meeting.

Reports:

A. Zoning: Report & Departmental Activities: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician,

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reported that she had passed the soils tester exams, that the year-end reporting was in progress, December of 2025 was quiet, and that staff was working on the data transfer project. Brief discussion ensued.

B. Violations Report: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician, reported that she and County Administrator Clements would be meeting with a representative from the new county corporation counsel firm to discuss issues that had not been resolved by the former corporation counsel. Brief discussion ensued.

C. Land Conservation: Report and Departmental Activities: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician, reported on behalf of Kori Rogers the Farmland Preservation Technician on processing the Farmland Preservation forms and the reclamation fees had been coming into the Land Conservation office. Brief discussion ensued.

D. UW-Extension: Report & Departmental Activities: Mr. Adam Hady, Area 13 Extension Director gave a brief verbal report for the UW-Extension presented the Richland December 2025 Report to the committee and highlighted the changes to his region of representation for the UW-Extension. Mr. Hady also reported that he would bring a speaker to the next meeting to present on rural livability and rural needs assessments and requested that the committee think about what topics they would like to discuss with the representative. Mr. Hady introduced Beth McIlquham the Regional Livestock Educator to the committee. Ms. Beth McIlquham highlighted several items including a recent calving training, herd health training, and the upcoming webinar training for beef producers, the upcoming Driftless Region Beef Conference, and reminded the committee of the email newsletter for producers, the public, and committee members. Brief discussion ensued.

E. Real Property Lister: Report & Departmental Activities: Julie Lins, Real Property Lister, briefly reported the tax mailouts had been completed and she was working on splits.

Discussion & Possible Action: Approving A Resolution Thanking Sandy Campbell On Her Years Of Service To The County: Mr. Adam Hady, Area 13 Extension Director gave a brief explanation of the significant years of service that Ms. Campbell give to Richland County and to the Richland County Fair as both an employee and volunteer. Motion by Perry, second by Carrow to approve the resolution. Brief discussion ensued. Motion carried and the resolution thanking Sandy Campbell on her years of service to the county was approved and moved on to county board for final approval.

Discussion & Possible Action: Zoning Ordinance Updates: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician, stated that the new attorney was reviewing the updates that had been made to the zoning ordinance. Brief discussion ensued. Consensus was gained from the committee to revisit this item at the next meeting.

Discussion & Possible Action: Land Use Section Of The County Comprehensive Plan: Jenn Fry, Zoning and Sanitation Technician, provided a brief description of minimum acreage requirements. Mr. Floyd Bartow of Buena Vista Township joined via WebEx with remarks on his desire for smaller lots to be grandfathered into the county's land use regulations. Committee Chair Carrow requested that the Land and Zoning staff review the section on Land Use Actions. Brief discussion ensued. Consensus was gained to move this item to the next meeting.

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Correspondence:

Noel Schmitz, Office System Technician for the Zoning and Land Conservation Office recounted a recent phone call she received from a concerned citizen regarding proposed transmission lines that could run through Richland County. Brief discussion ensued.

Future Agenda Items:

Zoning Petitions: Petition For A CUP For Non-Metallic Mining On Parcel 014-1912-1000 And Others

Discussion & Possible Action: Zoning Ordinance Updates

Discussion & Possible Action: Land Use Section Of The County Comprehensive Plan

Adjourn: Chair Carrow entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion by Fleming, second by McKee to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 10:16 AM.

Respectfully submitted by,



Myranda H. Hege
Deputy County Clerk