

BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board: Land Management Committee

Date of the Meeting: Friday, October 6th, 2023

Roll call—all present

Mr. Dwight Ruff nominated Joe Bragger as citizen farmer member of the Committee, seconded by Mr. Chris Lindstrom. Carried.

Chair Max Weiss called the Public Hearing portion of the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Land Management Committee Members Present: Mr. Max Weiss, Mr. Dwight Ruff, Mr. Chris Lindstrom, Mr. Gary Stanton, Mr. John Sendelbach

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting: Mr. Lee Engfer, Mr. Cale Severson, Mr. Brock Lederman, Mr. Steve Wall, Mr. Ron Jasperson, Mr. Wayne Browskowski, Mr. Alec Sundelius, Ms. Pat Malone, Ms. Annie Lisowski, Mr. Nathan Machula. Online- Ms. Mary Wood

Reading of the Notice for Public Hearing and Browskowski Rezone Application:

Mr. Lederman read the information that was published in the Buffalo County News on September 21 and 28.

Public Testimony Regarding the Rezone Application: Mr. Browskowski spoke on the fact that he has lived on the parcel in a trailer house for 22 years but needs to rezone out of Industrial to build a new residence.

Correspondence Regarding the Rezone Application: A town's acknowledgement form had been submitted in favor of the rezone.

Adjournment of the Public Hearing: Mr. Ruff made a motion to adjourn the public hearing at 8:09 a.m. Mr. Bragger second, adjourned.

Chair Max Weiss called the Land Management Committee meeting to order at 8:09 a.m.

Land Use Committee Members Present: Mr. Max Weiss, Mr. Dwight Ruff, Mr. Chris Lindstrom, Mr. Gary Stanton, Mr. John Sendelbach.

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting: Mr. Lee Engfer, Mr. Cale Severson, Mr. Brock Lederman, Mr. Steve Wall, Mr. Ron Jasperson, Mr. Wayne Browskowski, Mr. Alec Sundelius, Ms. Pat Malone, Ms. Annie Lisowski, Mr. Nathan Machula. Online- Ms. Mary Wood

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Previous Meeting Minutes: Mr. Ruff motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Stanton. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding An Ordinance to Amend the Official Buffalo County Zoning District Map – Town of Naples (Browskowski Rezone)

Mr. Stanton made a motion to approve the Rezone, second by Mr. Bragger, carried.

Review/Discussion/Action Buffalo County Drainage District Commission Recommendation.

Malone discussed that Brad Pronschinske is recommended to continue to serve on the Buffalo County Drainage District Commission. Mr. Ruff shared that he had spoken with Mr. Pronschinske, and he is willing to serve another term.

Motion by Mr. Ruff, second by Mr. Bragger to recommend Brad Pronschinske by reappointed to the Buffalo County Drainage District Commission. Motion Carried. Malone will let the judge's office know about our recommendation.

Review/Discussion/Action 2024 Extension Budget.

It has been reviewed by Exec/Finance and no changes were made. Mr. Engfer pointed out that if the budget needed to be modified because of any staffing changes, that would be easy to do and not have a substantial impact on the budget. Motion by Mr. Bragger, second by Mr. Stanton to approve the budget as presented. Motion carried.

Review/Discussion/Action Providing Agricultural Education. Motion by Mr. Ruff, seconded by Mr. Stanton to table this discussion and any action to the next meeting. Motion carried. The committee would like a list of Mr. Duley's research projects and their status at this discussion.

Review/Discussion/Action 2024 136 Extension Contract. Malone indicated that the contract needs to be submitted before the end of the year, so the committee does have some time. Mr. Engfer suggested the committee table this item to the next meeting. Motion by Mr. Stanton, second by Mr. Ruff to table this item to the next meeting.

Review/Discussion/Action Agriculture Honorarium. Malone presented a request by Carl Duley to give the Alma FFA Chapter a \$2500 honorarium to thank them for the support they gave to his research plots and to Farm Safety Day. Students sorted seeds, planted, weeded, harvested, and conducted data collection along with helping out on Farm Safety Days. Other schools were offered this opportunity, but only Alma accepted. This provided the FFA students an opportunity for hands on agricultural education. Motion by Mr. Ruff, second by Mr. Bragger to approve the \$2500 honorarium to Alma FFA to be paid out of Extension non-lapsing funds including the following: Farm Safety Accounts 10.05.55623.0000.999, AMBA Malting Barley Grant 10.05.55629.0000.999, and the Pesticide Applicator Training account 10.05.55620.0000.330. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action Educator Reports.

Malone shared a document from Cora Hoffer about the impact that Carl Duley had on her life. She served as his intern for two summers. The work she did helped her discover her passion to make a difference in the lives of small farmers and rural communities and help the environment. He also encouraged her to apply for a master's

degree in environmental conservation. She now works as the clean energy policy associate for Minnesota for the Center for Rural Affairs.

Ms. Lisowski provided a brief update on her efforts. It is national 4-H week and there are different awareness and promotion activities occurring. She also shared that they are working on their grants program and the start of the 4-H year and getting members re-enrolled.

Review/Discussion/Action Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources County Conservation Aids Grant Resolution

Mr. Severson explained the CCA grant process. This resolution allows Severson to be signatory authority for applying for and receiving grants and that the Buffalo County Conservation Alliance chooses annually what project to apply for. Motion by Mr. Stanton to approve, second by Mr. Lindstrom. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action on renewing LMPN grant

Mr. Severson spoke that since 2019, Buffalo County and several other counties have partnered with Beaver Creek Reserve to provide aquatic invasive species work through a grant from the WDNR. This would just renew the contract. Motion by Mr. Sendelbach to approve, second by Mr. Bragger. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action on CapX application for Hillandale Farms LLC

Mr. Severson explained that a stream restoration was planned here. The NRCS will cover \$48,000 out of the anticipated \$63,000 total cost. The landowners submitted a \$5,000 CapX trout restoration application to assist in paying the difference. Motion by Mr. Stanton and seconded by Mr. Bragger to approve the CapX allotment of \$5,000. Motion carried.

Review/Discussion regarding the Surveyor's Report: Mr. Jasperson gave an update regarding his work recently on remonumentation

Review/Discussion regarding the GIS/LIO Report: Mr. Machula gave updates on Land Information grants and updating GIS layers.

Review/Discussion regarding the Land Management Director/ County

Conservationist Report: Mr. Severson spoke on updates. He introduced Mr. Steve Wall and that the department is finally fully staffed. The House in Modena is being torn down. The are zoning violations that are being worked on. The school land judging contest is being hosted by Buffalo County on October 12th.

Review/Discussion regarding the Chairperson Report: nothing

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Next Meeting Date and Time: The next meeting date and time will be December 1st, 2023 at 8 am.

Public Comments Not Related to Agenda Items: Mr. Ruff inquired about the CCC dam and if there was any contact with NRCS State engineer Steve Becker, there has not been any. Discussions were held regarding the Uniform Addressing Ordinance.

Adjournment: Mr. Bragger made a motion to adjourn at 9:15 a.m., Mr. Sendelbach seconded. Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cale Severson
Land Management Director