

GRANT COUNTY CONSERVATION, SANITATION, & ZONING COMMITTEE MEETING

November 2, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Room #264, Grant County Board Room, Administration Building
Lancaster, Wisconsin

The Grant County Conservation, Sanitation & Zoning Committee meeting was called to order on November 2, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. by Gary Northouse, the Conservation, Sanitation, Zoning Committee Chairman in Room #264, County Board Room of the Administration Building.

Board members present in the County Board room #264: Porter Wagner, Gary Northouse, Pat Schroeder, Brian Lucey, Adam Day, and Larry Jerrett. Joe Mumm Excused. Others present in the County Board room; Erik Heagle, Annette Lolwing, Robert Keeney, Shane Drinkwater, and Greg Cerven. Zoom: Eheagle, Grant County Board Room, Amanda Degenhart, Robert Keeney, Shane Drinkwater, Tonya White, Wepkings, and Emily Schildgen.

Certification of Open Meeting Law

Annette Lolwing sent the agenda to the County Clerk's office to post in the Administration Building, Courthouse, and on the county website. An agenda was also posted in front of the Ag Service Center Building. An agenda was also sent to Bob Middendorf, WGLR. Media notices were sent to the County Clerk's office, Herald Independent, Platteville Journal, Muscoda Progressive, Boscobel Dial, Fennimore Times, and Bob Middendorf.

Approval of November 2, 2023, Agenda

Motion by Pat Schroeder, seconded by Brian Lucey to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of the October 5, 2023, Minutes

Correction was made to approve the October 5, 2023, Minutes and not the September 7, 2023, minutes.

Motion by Porter Wagner, seconded by Adam Day to approve the October 5, 2023, minutes. Motion carried.

Review & Accept the Bills

Motion by Porter Wagner, seconded by Brian Lucey to accept the October bills. Motion carried.

Erik welcomed Larry Jerrett as the citizen voting member on the conservation side of things. Larry will not be able to vote on the Sanitation and Zoning items.

Public Hearing for Rezones

Chairman Northouse opened the Public Hearing

#RZ23-23 Timothy Piparo, Hickory Grove Twp. is requesting to change the zoning classification on PIN: 024-00161-0000 & 024-00162-0000 of +/- 25.1 ac. from FP to A-2 to allow for the use of two storage sheds.

In Favor: Hickory Grove Twp. approved on October 10, 2023.

In Opposition: None

In Interest: This rezone will need to have a conditional use permit established as there is an accessory structure being built prior to the principal structure.

Committee Discussion: Brian Lucey asked if the storage will be used for private storage. These sheds will be used as private storage to store tractors, ATV, UTV's etc.

Chairman Northouse closed the Public Hearing

Motion by Porter Wagner that the items are concurrent with all the conditions on the Farmland Preservation Worksheet and to recommend approval of the rezone to the full County Board, seconded by Adam Day. Motion carried. See Attachment A Worksheet.

Public Hearing for Conditional Use Permits

Chairman Northouse opened the Public Hearing

#CUP23-019 Ronald Eigsti, Muscoda Twp. is requesting a Conditional Use Permit on PIN: 042-00342-0000 of +/- 29.43 ac. to allow for the proposed use of an accessory structure (shop) prior to the establishment of a principal structure under 3.06 (2) (i) and 3.07 (2) (a) of the Grant County Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance. In Favor: Muscoda Twp. approved on September 12, 2023.

In Opposition: None

In Interest: Justin Johnson and Erik Heagle went on the site to verify that the structure was built prior to obtaining any zoning permits. This is an after the fact scenario. Ronald will still need to apply for a zoning permit.

Committee Discussion: None

Chairman Northouse closed the Public Hearing.

Motion by Adam Day to recommend approval of the Conditional Use Permit, seconded by Pat Schroeder. Motion carried. See Attachment B Worksheet.

Approval of 2024 WDACP Budget

Greg Cerven presented the 2024 Wildlife Damage Abatement Claims Program (WDACP) Budget. It is the same budget as 2023, no changes. Motion by Pat Schroeder, seconded by Adam Day to approve the 2024 WDACP budget. Motion carried.

Greg Cerven presented the 2023 crop prices for the deer damage program. Corn price in 2022 was \$6.48/bu., corn price for 2023 is \$4.56/bu., soybean price in 2022 was \$14.02/bu., soybean price for 2023 is \$12.53/bu., alfalfa hay price in 2022 was \$170/ton, alfalfa hay price in 2023 is \$210/ton, organic corn price in 2022 was \$11.72/bu., organic corn price in 2023 is \$9.25/bu., organic beans in 2022 was \$31.05/bu., organic beans in 2023 is \$20.10/bu., organic hay price in 2022 was \$261.52/ton, organic hay in 2023 is \$255/ton. Motion by Pat Schroeder, seconded by Brian Lucey to approve all the 2023 crop prices for the WDACP. Motion carried.

Greg brought it to the committee's attention that they will need to set the 80% crop harvest. This will be on the December 7th agenda to determine when 80% of the crops have been harvested.

Zoning/Sanitation Report

Sanitation - Sanitation permits issued in 2022 were 154 permits, in 2023 – 131 permits. There are about 10 - 15 state submissions waiting for permits. The staff has been busy with septic installs. Jim will be retaking his soil test on December 20th. Erik mentioned that citations will be issued after the first of the year once the 3-year maintenance OFC's are done. Fall rush is happening now in sanitation and in zoning.

Erik reported that the WI Fund is coming back. We can go back as far as 2021, 2022, and 2023 to accept WI Fund applications. There are no changes to the program.

Zoning – Zoning permits at this time last year (2022) we were sitting at 240, in 2023 to date we are at 274 zoning permits. There have been a numerous amount of records requests and complaints coming into the department. There have been several landowners contacting our office for pre and post construction checks. There were 2 post construction checks that will be receiving orders for correction. Pre-construction checks were fine, they have since moved the building.

Farmland Preservation Program

None to report.

County Cost Sharing: Beginning Balance \$18,340.50/Ending Balance \$18,043.22

Erik presented final approval request for county cost sharing on a grass lined waterway for Ruth Wiederholt, Jamestown Twp., \$297.28. Motion by Porter Wagner, seconded by Brian Lucey to approve payment. Roll Call: 6 Yes, 0 No, 1 Excused. Motion carried.

2023 DATCP Cost Sharing: Beginning Balance \$8,181.12/Ending Balance \$0.00

Erik presented final approval request for 2023 DATCP cost sharing for a grass lined waterway for Ruth Wiederholt, Jamestown Twp., \$8,181.12. Motion by Adam Day, seconded by Porter Wagner to approve payment. Roll Call: 6 Yes, 0 Absent, 1 Excused. Motion carried.

2021 MDV Cost Sharing: Beginning Balance \$0.00/Ending Balance \$0.00

Storage Permit Approval:

Erik reported that he has approved 1 storage permit for Majestic View Dairy. They are constructing a concrete lined feed storage containment area coming from their bunker pads and transferred into their waste pit. This was approved by the DNR on October 12th, and Erik approved the permit on October 12th as well.

Taylor at DATCP reviews all the plans and has approved them. Motion by Pat Schroeder, seconded by Adam Day to approve the permit approval. Motion carried.

CSZD Administrator Report

Meetings

- On October 13, 2023, Court for Zart is scheduled for January for another status hearing, Chad Kass scheduled for a court trial on January 4th, Alvin Bontrager, dismissed, system is installed, and David White plead no contest. Will need to pay the citation. Will continue to issue citations.
- October 16, 2023, Met with Jenny Siefert, UW Extension, to talk about a farmer led pilot program they are looking at starting in the Sinsinawa watershed.
- October 17 and October 24 – Executive Committee
- October 19, 2023, Gave a talk/presentation with Joe Schmelz (NRCS) to UW Platteville wetland class up in the Muscoda area on a wetland and streambank project.
- October 24, 2023, Administrative Committee
- October 26th & 27th - WCCA Conference, Erik, Justin & Jim

Information

- Preparing for an appeal of the BOA decision in court. Have been in touch with the groups lawyer. Some people have been summoned. Working with corp council.
- 3-year maintenance letters went out for late notice. Deadline is End of Year.
- Starting to work on OFC's and citations again.
- DATCP Joint Allocation plan is finalized, \$127,784 for staffing & support, \$71,200 for cost sharing. Cost sharing went up, staff & support went down.
- We must do a map amendment of our FP Update that was just approved. All maps had issues. Need to bring back to committee and County Board in January. Wrong attribute table was used. Many parcels showed not FP that should have been FP. Working with SWWRPC & DATCP.
- We will have a shoreland zoning ordinance update coming. Going to hopefully use DNR's model ordinance to draft it. Hopefully it is an easy update.
- Working on our comprehensive zoning ordinance certification with DATCP as well. Need to have the FP maps amended and approved first.
- Starting to organize a spring tri-county soils judging contest for the area high schools. Planning to host in mid-April.
- Working with Lafayette County on our annual service providers meeting (sanitation). Meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 14th at the Youth & Ag Building.

Continuous Improvement

No Report.

NRCS Report: Mike Adams

NRCS Report was given by Erik Heagle

Program Update

- EQIP – Batching Date is November 3rd to sign up for cost share. They have new applications coming in and applications that went unfunded in the last batching cycle will be sent in for funding again. Applications will be planned, screened, and ranked over the next few months. Preapprovals will most likely be sent out in February or March.
- CRP – No Update
- CSP – All renewal applications in the state were preapproved for funding. Currently working on signing contracting documents with producers.
- State Conservationist, Ty Larson, passed away October 8, 2023. Josh Oderkirk will be Acting State Conservationist for 30 days, until a longer-term detail can be figured out. The state is trying to continue on the positive road that Ty had us on and continue to fulfill his ideas/vision.

FSA Report: Emily Schildgen

Emily reported that the Dairy Margin Program for the August margin came out on November 1st. The payment was \$8.44. Those who had the \$9.50 coverage have been paid out \$1.06 for the month of August.

November 15th is the fall crop reporting deadline especially fall seeded crops like small grains, wheat or rye. If you are still harvesting and you plant small grains after November 15th you have 15 days to get the fall crop reported without getting the late filing fees.

With the budget ending on November 17th the agency has a bunch of trainings that need to be done.

DATCP is doing their cover crop program again this year. This is through the Wisconsin Department of Ag. Not through the USDA. Application period opens in December. Producers are going to need a copy of their crop report showing those cover crops. For FSA purposes they don't need cover crops reported until July 15th. However, if producers want to do the DATCP program they will have to have those cover crops reported to FSA and a copy of their 578 complete.

Without having a farm bill right now the CRP is on hold. The 2023 payments were issued. If someone didn't have a contract in approved status as of September 30th, payment can not be made. There were 84 new CRP contracts that will start October 1, 2023. Status reviews are completed 2 years prior to reenrollment. If the cover did not meet the requirements, they did not get reenrolled. There were 5-6 contracts that were not reenrolled.

Emily reported that FSA is fully staffed now.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board room. Motion by Pat Schroeder, seconded by Brian Lucey. Motion carried.

Motion by Adam Day, seconded by Larry Jerrett to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by Annette Lolwing for Porter Wagner

Review of Standards for Rezoning Land out of Farmland Preservation

Date: 11/2/23 Landowner: TIMOTHY PIPARO

The Grant County Board may not rezone land out of a farmland preservation zoning district unless the Grant County Zoning and Sanitation Committee finds all of the following in writing, after public hearing, as part of the official record of the rezoning:

1. The rezoned land is better suited for a use not allowed in the farmland preservation zoning district.

Yes or No Explain: NO PRZME FARM SOILS PER UEB SOIL SURVEY, WOODED, STEEPER SLOPES

2. The rezoning is consistent with any comprehensive plan, adopted by the Grant County Board which is in effect at the time of the rezoning.

Yes or No or N/A

Explain: SHEDS TO BE BUILT, NOT A DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, NOT PRZME FARM GROUND

3. The rezoning is substantially consistent with the Grant County farmland preservation plan policy.

3.1: Non-farm development will be directed to non-agricultural soils or less productive agricultural soils, consistent with the needs of the development. Yes No

3.2 Non-farm development will be directed to areas where it will cause minimum disruption of established farm operations or damage to environmentally sensitive areas. Yes No

3.3 Non-farm development will be encouraged to locate so as to leave a maximum amount of farmland in farmable size parcels. Yes No

3.4 Non-farm residential development will be directed to existing platted subdivisions and sanitary districts. Yes No N/A

3.5 Agriculturally-related development, while not discouraged in rural areas, will still comply with other policies set forth in this section, consistent with being located where it will be a maximum benefit to agriculture. Yes No

4 The rezoning will not substantially impair or limit current or future agricultural use of other protected farmland.

- 4.1 Located in a Farmland preservation zoning district
4.2 Covered by a Farmland Preservation Agreement
4.3 Covered by an agricultural conservation easement
4.4 Otherwise legally protected from nonagricultural development

Yes or No

Explain: SLOPES & WOODS HINDER CROPPING & PASTORAL

5 The CSZC recommends/does not recommend approval to the Grant County Board of Supervisors (Circle one)