

LAND INFORMATION / ZONING COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 10, 2022

Chairman Willingham called the meeting of the Rusk County Zoning/Land Information Committee to order at 11:00 A.M. in the Law Enforcement Center in the Rusk County Government Center. Members present were David Willingham, Shane Sanderson, Jonathan Unterschuetz, Terry Wedwick, and Mark Schmitt. Staff present: Yvonne Johnson, Verna Nielsen, Nick Stadnyk, Mary Berg, Rachel Hansen, Jeremy Koslowski, and John Fitzl.

Nominations for Chairman. Schmitt nominated Willingham. Called three times of other nominations. Motion by Unterschuetz/Schmitt to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Willingham as Chairman. Motion carried.

Nominations for Vice-Chair. Sanderson nominated Schmitt. Called three times of other nominations. Motion by Unterschuetz/Sanderson to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Schmitt as Vice-Chair. Motion carried.

Schmitt/Sanderson motion to approve the committee minutes from the April 12th meeting. Motion carried.

No public comment.

Payment Approval Reports: Sanderson/Schmitt motion to approve. Motion carried.

Land Information Report: Fitzl reported 9 new address applications this month. Rickey recently attended a conference about the Spillman software used in the 911 database. The Sheriff's Department paid for all training/conference expenses. Annual data submissions are being finalized to earn grant funding. The department is working on DOA submission corrections. Supervisory District Maps need to be reviewed to resend to the board. Committee members commented on issues with the Spillman database and the current addressing process.

Register of Deeds Report: Berg provided the committee a packet detailing information about the department services and programs offered. The 2022 budget was presented to new members. Recordings were down by 15 in April and documents were down by 125. An additional 15 vitals were recorded since last month. The bulk of back indexing has been completed. Berg will be traveling for the District 6 meeting and the Fidlar conference.

Treasurer Report: Nielsen reported 6 plat books were sold last month. The In-Rem parcels were at 19 in February and are now at 9. Committee members commented on the interest of plat books considering the rise in online resources.

Zoning Report: Johnson explained the focus of the Zoning Department to new members of the committee. Land use permits to date are at 112 compared to 119 last year. Sanitary permits are currently at 21 in comparison to 38 in 2021. A total of 269 camper permits have been issued.

Johnson sent out 4 enforcement letters and issued 1 citation since last meeting. A recent onsite took place with assistance from DNR personnel. A buffer citation will be sent to that landowner.

CSM Review: 1 lot map in the Town of Flambeau for Tom Christman. Meets minimum requirements. Motion by Sanderson/Schmitt to approve. Motion carried.

CSM review: Addendum to agenda: 1 lot map in the Town of Marshall for Borntreger & Augustine. Meets minimum standards. Motion by Unterschuetz/Sanderson to approve. Motion carried.

Chairman Willingham recessed the zoning meeting at 11:30 A.M. to open a public hearing for a request to allow a tourist rooming house in the Town of Flambeau for Riverside and Golf LLC. Chairman Willingham closed the public hearing at 11:35 A.M. to reopen the zoning meeting. Reviewed the staff recommendations. Motion by Wedwick/Unterschuetz to approve the request as presented with the staff recommendations as the conditions. Motion carried.

Highway Department Gravel Pit: Fitzl provided information regarding a conversation with a landowner involving the Highway Department. The landowner stated the Highway Department removed a stake when working at the pit. Fitzl found a resolution with the landowner for Highway to replace the marker. Committee members commented on the setback of the pit from property lines. Fitzl will get more information following the June meeting and provide an update.

Land Conservation Report: Stadnyk plans to attend the upcoming property meeting to request ARPA funding for advanced LiDAR data and replacement of a GPS unit. Stadnyk provided background information about the situation at Pigeon Creek Dam. The dam was under review for a 10-year inspection and issues were found that need to be addressed.

Chairman Willingham recessed the zoning meeting at 12:02 P.M. to open a public hearing for a request to allow a home-based business in the Town of Thornapple for Amanda Shimko. Chairman Willingham closed the public hearing at 12:09 P.M. to reopen the zoning meeting. Reviewed the staff recommendations. Motion by Schmitt/ Unterschuetz to approve the request as presented with the staff recommendations as the conditions. Motion carried.

Land Conservation Report Cont.: The Highway Department will repair the dam temporarily to meet DNR standards before the initial dam repair set for 2024. Koslowski stated the importance of repairing the dam for the Forestry Department. A discussion was held by committee members on the value of the dam and the cost of forgoing repairs. Stadnyk noted positions for a summer Land Information and Land Conservation Internship are open.

The next regular meeting will be June 14, 2022 at 3:00 P.M.

Chairman Willingham adjourned the meeting at 12:33 P.M.

Rachel Hansen
LWCD Administrative Assistant