



## Minutes of the Farmland Conservation Easement Commission Meeting

Jefferson County Courthouse, Room 203  
320 S. Main St.  
Jefferson, WI 53549

**Monday, September 9, 2013, 12:30 pm**

Members: Margaret Burlingham (Chairperson), Amy Rinard (Vice-Chairperson), Mariah Hadler (Secretary), Steve Nass and Blane Poulson.

1. Call to Order  
The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Burlingham at 12:32 pm.
2. Roll Call  
Commission members present included Poulson, Burlingham, Nass, John Molinaro (ex-officio) and Rinard. Hadler was absent. County staff present was Philip Ristow (Corporation Counsel) and Michelle Staff (Zoning Department).
3. Certification of Compliance With Open Meetings Law Requirements  
Burlingham and Staff verified that the meeting was being held in compliance with open meetings law requirements.
4. Review of Agenda  
No changes were proposed to the agenda.
5. Public Comment  
No public comment.
6. Communications  
Gathering Waters is having an event where they are honoring Thomas Lyon on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 to 8:30 in Madison at the Monona Terrace.
7. Review & Approval of the August 12, 2013 Minutes  
**Motion** made by Rinard, seconded by Burlingham to approve the August 12, 2013 minutes. **Motion** carried on a voice vote with no objection.
8. Discussion on interest forms received for the PACE program
  - a. Roger Lehmann – Burlingham contacted Lehmann about a possible DNR easement on this property. Lehmann stated that he is a little leery about public access to his property. There was discussion on who will enforce the easement to make sure the public is respectful of the property. Molinaro stated that we need to get in writing from the DNR the proposed easement language they require because they require public access. There was discussion on other issues such as the underground tank and sediment basin. Molinaro suggested that the Commission invite DNR to come to the Commission meeting to explain how the easement program works with the DNR.
9. Discussion and Possible Action on 2011 PACE Applications

Burlingham reported that the Neupert easement is almost completed. Ristow stated that all of NRCS comments have been e-mailed to him. There were some small issues on the title commitment but all of the paperwork should be completed by today or tomorrow and submitted to NRCS.

Wilkes' easement is still waiting for the sediment basin to be constructed before any additional paperwork is completed.

10. Jefferson County LWCD update on Baseline Documentation for easements  
Burlingham stated that Millers', Zentners' and Burlinghams' baseline reports have been completed.
11. Discussion on Possible Funding Sources for the PACE Program  
Burlingham stated she was out in Lancaster, PA and talked to a farmer whose farm was protected by a private land trust because the counties have a 200-farm waiting list. Burlingham asked the farmer how much farmland goes for in the area and he said \$12,000 to \$15,000 with or without an easement. Burlingham will call the Land Trust in PA and see what they do for fund raisers.

Molinaro stated that the County Board Budget will be taken up September 11 at 9:45 a.m. where they will be discussing any funding for this program. Molinaro suggested that members of the Commission come to the Committee meeting. Burlingham will be sending an e-mail to the Finance Committee.

12. Discussion on possible farmers' market events, County Fair and summer event at the Lea farm  
There was a lengthy discussion on the duty of members for the event. See attached photo of white board.
13. Future Meeting Dates  
All meeting dates were acceptable to the Commission members.
14. Suggestions for the Next Agenda  
None
15. Adjourn  
**Motion** by Rinard, seconded by Poulson, to adjourn the meeting at 1:52 p.m.  
**Motion** carried on a voice vote with no objection.

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Secretary Signature

Date

Minutes by Michelle Staff, Zoning Technician, Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Department