

OTTAWA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION BOARD

DATE: February 1, 2023

PLACE: Ottawa County Fillmore Street Complex, Conference Room C

PRESENT: Josh Hucul, Kelly Goward, Nate Pyle, Lukas Hill, Mike Bronkema, Allison Miedema, Paul Windemuller

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Julie Lamer, Becky Huttenga, Paul Sachs (virtual)

PUBLIC: Brian Urquhart, Grand Haven City Planner

CALL TO ORDER / ESTABLISH QUORUM / INVOCATION

The Ottawa County Agricultural Preservation Board met on Wednesday, February 1, 2023. Chair Hucul called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. A quorum was present to do business. Windemuller gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES

APB 23-08	Motion: Approve the agenda for the February 1, 2023 meeting. Moved by Hill	UNANIMOUS
APB 23-09	Motion: Approve the minutes from the January 11, 2023 meeting. Moved by Bronkema	UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Lamer shared that the updated financial statements were not available.

B. FARM UPDATES

Lamer shared that the Jongekrijg and Veldheer Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) applications were submitted on January 23, 2023. Staff is determining when to schedule appraisals for both properties. The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program – Agricultural Land Easement (ACEP-ALE) grant application submitted for the Holstege property could be announced as soon as mid-February. Lamer will schedule a date for the Bronkema sign reveal for the Spring of 2023, weather permitting.

C. CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Lamer has already received 7 Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) applications. Application deadline is March 31, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

A. WORK SESSION DATE TO BE DETERMINED

Huttenga suggested instead of scheduling a separate date for a work session, each discussion item will be worked into regularly scheduled meetings. Topics to discuss; March - Performance measures & current By-Laws vs Ordinances amending one or the other. April – Million dollars from ARPA, May – Farm selection.

Huttenga shared education and outreach efforts. Staff will attend the February 9 Park Township Board meeting. The agenda will entertain a resolution to support the farmland preservation program. Staff will attend the meeting to support and answer any questions. The Careerline Tech Center (CTC) Future Farmers of America (FFA) students will be competing with an Agricultural Issues presentation. Huttenga is connecting with the Grand Haven Chamber regarding their work in the Grand Haven schools educating students about farming and farmland.

Bronkema handed out invitations to the sheep shearing day at Shadyside Farms. Saturday, February 25, 9am-noon.

Staff walked through the 2023 Ottawa County PDR Program Scoring Criteria and the ACEP-ALE Michigan Ranking form.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date is Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. in Conference Room C, Fillmore Complex.

ADJOURNMENT

APB 23-10 Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 9:38 a.m.
Moved by Bronkema

UNANIMOUS