

OTTAWA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION BOARD

DATE: January 11, 2023

PLACE: Ottawa County Fillmore Street Complex, Conference Room C

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

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Julie Lamer, Becky Huttenga, Paul Sachs

PUBLIC: Cliff Meeuwsen, Zeeland Farm Services

CALL TO ORDER / ESTABLISH QUORUM / INVOCATION

The Ottawa County Agricultural Preservation Board met on Wednesday, January 11, 2023. Vice Chair Hucul called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. A quorum was present to do business. Pyle gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES

APB 23-01 Motion: Approve the agenda for the January 11, 2023 meeting.
Moved by Hill UNANIMOUS

APB 23-02 Motion: Approve the minutes from the December 7, 2022 meeting.
Moved by Pyle UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cliff Meeuwsen expressed his appreciation for this Board and will attend in person or virtually.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Huttenga shared that the updated financial statements were not available. Huttenga explained the tentative plans for the available funds and how the funds could be used for existing and future projects.

B. FARM UPDATES

Huttenga is preparing the RCPP parcel application and will submit the applications on or before January 23, 2023 for the Veldheer property, +/- 35 acres in Olive Township, and the Mark Jongekrijg property, +/- 94 acres in Zeeland Township. Lamer submitted the ACEP-ALE application for the Holstege property, +/- 36 acres in Zeeland Township. The ACEP-ALE recipient grant award could be announced by early to mid-2023. The Bronkema property closed on Monday, December 19, 2022. Lamer will schedule the Bronkema sign reveal date for Spring of 2023.

C. FARMS ARE THE TAPAS

Lamer shared that the date has been secured for Thursday, September 28, 2023, and rental fee of \$600 has been paid.

D. CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Lamer shared a draft postcard that will be mailed out on Thursday, January 12, 2023. The postcards will be sent to approximately 1200 landowners of 5 or more acres. Staff will send also out a combined press release. The press release will announce the Farmland Preservation Program is accepting applications now through March 31, 2023 and will also include that the Bronkema farm is the sixth farm officially preserved into the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program in Ottawa County.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Officers

APB 23-03 Lucas Hill moved to nominate Kelly Goward as Chair

APB 23-04 Mike Bronkema moved to nominate Josh Hucul as Chair

Roll Call Vote:

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

Josh Hucul was declared Chair.

APB 23-05 Paul Windemuller moved to nominate Kelly Goward as Vice Chair. The motion passed.

UNANIMOUS

APB 23-06 Lukas Hill moved to nominate Nate Pyle as Secretary. The motion passed.

UNANIMOUS

OLD BUSINESS

Staff will schedule a work session following the March or April Ag Board meeting. The work session will include performance measures and ARPA funding.

NEXT MEETING

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

ADJOURNMENT

APB 23-07 Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:49 a.m.
Moved by Pyle

UNANIMOUS