

Agenda
Ottawa County Agricultural Preservation Board
West Olive Administration Building – Conference Room C
12220 Fillmore Street, West Olive, MI 49460
Wednesday, September 6, 2023
8:00am – 9:30am



- I. Call to Order
- II. Establish Quorum
- III. Invocation
- IV. Approval of the Agenda for the September 6, 2023
- V. Approval of the [Minutes](#) from August 2, 2023
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Discussion Items
 - A. [Financial Review](#)
 - B. [Farm Updates](#)
 - C. Farms are the Tapas
 - D. PDR 2024 Scoring Criteria
- VIII. New Business
 - A. Board Training
- IX. Old Business
 - A. Ground Water Funds Strategy
- X. Next Meeting Date: - October 4, 2023
- XI. Adjournment

UNOFFICIAL
MINUTES

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OTTAWA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION BOARD

DATE: August 2, 2023

PLACE: Ottawa County Fillmore Street Complex, Conference Room C

PRESENT: Kelly Goward, Lukas Hill, Mike Bronkema, Allison Miedema,
Paul Windemuller, Josh Hucul (virtual) Jasmine Kober (Ad Hoc Youth)

ABSENT: Nate Pyle

STAFF: Julie Lamer, Becky Huttenga, Paul Sachs

PUBLIC: Cliff Meeuwsen, Joe Bush, John Yellich, Tony Kanyolo

CALL TO ORDER / ESTABLISH QUORUM / INVOCATION

The Ottawa County Agricultural Preservation Board met on Wednesday, August 2, 2023. Vice Chair Goward called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. A quorum was present to do business. Windemuller gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES

APB 23-21	Motion: Approve the agenda for the August 2, 2023, meeting. Moved by Windemuller	UNANIMOUS
APB 23-22	Motion: Approve the minutes from the June 7, 2023, meeting, Moved by Bronkema	UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cliff Meeuwsen, Tony Kanyolo, Joe Bush

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. MONITORING WELLS AND DATA COLLECTION

Huttenga explained the Ground Water priorities and challenges and suggested the selection process and scoring criteria be modified and the draft easement terms modified to address the monitoring well opportunities. Huttenga shared a timeline, October - approve the scoring criteria, January – have easement language approved by Corporate Council and the Board, January - open the 2024 application cycle, June – select a property that will be funded using the Ground Water fund.

John Yellich, from Michigan Geological Survey presented how Ottawa County data is collected and how it is shared. Staff will email the presentation to the Board and attending public.

B. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Board reviewed the 2nd and 3rd quarter 2023 statement activity for all funds. The Board decided to go forward with preserving the Wells and Molyneux property. Staff will meet with the property owners and have a Purchase

Agreement signed. The Wells PA will be a three-year term rather than the usual 2 year team.

C. FARM UPDATES

The Rasch title search has been completed. Landowner is searching for a survey company. Huttenga submitted a letter of interest to the Frye Foundation requesting a 5% project funding. The Veldheer property did not get approved for ACEP-ALE funding. Staff will reapply in November to RCPP. Staff attended the June 13 MDARD meeting where an increase grant request was approved for the Jongekrijg property. NRCS-HQ has required conservation practices be in place on a portion of the Jongekrijg grazing pasture before closing on the property. Closing is estimated for early 2024. The Holstege property will receive additional funding from ACEP-ALE to support the FMV increase from the supplemental appraisal. Final documents are being reviewed by NRCS internal controls. The purchase agreement will expire in November so closing must be complete before the end of October 2023.

D. FARMS ARE THE TAPAS

Lamer shared the latest Tapas flyer/invite and encouraged board members to invite friends, family, and coworkers to attend. Lamer ask that each Board member procure at least 5 tickets.

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

OLD BUSINESS

A. GROUND WATER FUNDS STRATEGY

Staff will recap at the September meeting.

B. OUTREACH

Staff attended the July 24th Blendon Twp board meeting and provided a PDR update. The Board suggested to reach out to Tallmadge twp. Port Sheldon twp. and the MAC Board.

NEXT MEETING

September 6, 2023

The Ag Board will receive PDR/ Conservation Easement training at the September 2023 Ag Board meeting. The training will provide additional points on grant applications.

ADJOURNMENT

APB 23-23

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 10:08 a.m.
Moved by Windemuller

UNANIMOUS



Agricultural Preservation Board

Ottawa County Farmland Preservation Non-Endowed Fund Statement of Activity - 3rd Quarter 2023

Expenses

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
7/7/2023	Pitney Bowes	Postage (3rd Quarter)	\$1.80
8/10/2023	Peoples Company	Appraisal (Veldheer)	\$2,950.00

Total Quarter Expenses: **\$2,951.80**

Revenue

Date	Description of Donation	Amount
7/1/2023	Interest on Allocations	\$1,708.44
7/10/2023	Tapas Sponsorship	\$400.00

Total Quarter Revenue: **\$2,108.44**

Beginning Balance	\$202,416.84	6/30/2023
Expenses	-\$2,951.80	
Revenue	\$2,108.44	
Ending Balance	\$201,573.48	8/28/2023
Restricted Funds	\$161,280.00	Holstege Farm \$89,280 & Veldheer Farm \$72,000
Available Balance	\$40,293.48	



Agricultural Preservation Board

Ottawa County Farmland Preservation Non-Endowed Fund #2

Statement of Activity - 3rd Quarter 2023

Expenses

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount

Total Quarter Expenses: **\$0.00**

Revenue

Date	Description of Donation	Amount

Total Quarter Revenue: **\$0.00**

Beginning Balance	\$999,819.15	<i>6/30/2023</i>
Expenses	\$0.00	
Revenue	\$0.00	
Ending Balance	\$999,819.15	<i>8/28/2023</i>
Restricted Funds	\$0.00	
Available Balance	\$999,819.15	



Agricultural Preservation Board

Ottawa County Farmland Preservation Endowed Fund Statement of Activity - 3rd Quarter 2023

Expenses

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount

Total Quarter Expenses: \$0.00

Revenue

Date	Description of Donation	Amount

Total Quarter Revenue: \$0.00

Beginning Balance	\$50,045.77	6/30/2023
Expenses	\$0.00	
Revenue	\$0.00	
Ending Balance	\$50,045.77	8/28/2023
Restricted Funds	\$0.00	
Available Balance	\$50,045.77	



Ottawa County
Farm Where You Belong

Farm Updates –September 2023

Wells Property – Tallmadge Township

approximately 100 acres; cattle, pasture; 2023 applicant

- Staff has scheduled a site visit for Mid-September

Molyneux Property – Wright Township

approximately 154 acres; field crops; 2023 applicant

- Staff met with landowner for a site visit and discussed next steps in the PDR process.

Rasch Property – Chester Township

approximately 76 acres; apples and peaches; 2023 applicant

- Title search has been completed.
- Landowner has hired a survey company.

Veldheer Property – Olive Township

36 acres; cattle, sheep, and field crops; 2022 applicant; appraised at \$288,000

- Staff will reapply in November to both ACEP and RCPP

Jongekrijg Property – Zeeland Township

92.55 acres; beef cattle and field crops; 2022 applicant; appraised at \$981,000

- The required NRCS-HQ conservation practices have been completed.
- Closing is estimated for early 2024

Holstege Property – Zeeland Township

36.1 acres; beef cattle and field crops; 2021 applicant; appraised at \$372,000

- Closing is estimated for later this year.

Bronkema Property – Olive Township

123.12 acres; sheep, dry beans, and field crops; 2020 applicant; preserved for \$675,000



Farm Updates –September 2023

Ottawa County
Farm Where You Belong

DeHaan Property – Blendon Township

37 acres; beef cattle and field crops; 2019 applicant; preserved for \$315,000 in September 2021

Jim Klein Property – Chester Township

168.2 acres; field crops; 2019 applicant; preserved for \$585,000 in November 2020

Kruithoff Property – Chester & Wright Townships

147.43 acres; hog & cash Crop; 2018 applicant; preserved for \$405,000 in July 2020

Klein Property – Chester Township

55.63-acres; beef cattle and field crops; 2017 applicant; preserved for \$160,000 in July 2018

Hehl Property – Polkton Township

34.9-acres; hogs, beef cattle, and poultry; 2015 applicant; preserved for \$87,000 in August 2016