

OTTAWA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION BOARD

DATE: May 1, 2024  
PLACE: Ottawa County Fillmore Street Complex, Conference Room C  
PRESENT: Chair Josh Hucul, Mike Bronkema, Lukas Hill, Kelly Goward, Paul Windemuller, Nate Pyle, Jasmine Kober (Ad Hoc Youth)  
ABSENT: Allison Miedema  
STAFF: Becky Huttenga, Julie Lamer  
PUBLIC: Cliff Meeuwsen, Gary Boersen

CALL TO ORDER / ESTABLISH QUORUM / INVOCATION

The Ottawa County Agricultural Preservation Board met on Wednesday, May 1, 2024. Chair Hucul called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. A quorum was present to do business. Hill gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES

APB 24-13	Motion: Approve the agenda for the May 1, 2024 Moved by Bronkema	UNANIMOUS
APB 24-14	Motion: Approve the minutes from the March 13, 2024, meeting. Moved by Hill	UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cliff Meeuwsen, Gary Boersen

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. FINANCIAL REVIEW

None

B. FARM UPDATES

An Ottawa Conservation District MAEAP technician is working with Molyneux to complete a MAEAP Risk assessment. The Rasch property is waiting for preliminary deed approval from NRCS so an appraisal can be ordered. Huttenga discussed with the Rasch's that there are other preservation options available if the required RCPP conservation practices are not acceptable. The Veldheer deed received preliminary approval from NRCS-HQ and the appraisal will be scheduled with Rasch appraisal.

C. FUNDRAISING

1. Farms are the Tapas 2024! Lamer updated that 23 companies have received sponsorship requests. To-date, 5 companies have confirmed sponsorship. 21 restaurants have been contacted to participate in the cooking competition,

## OFFICIAL MINUTES

4 restaurants have confirmed participation. Auction items are currently being collected. Lamer asked if the Board has any ideas or suggestions for sponsors, restaurants, or auction items, that they can be emailed or texted to her, and she will follow up on the ideas. Lamer asked for Tapas program ideas. Goward suggested asking a few (4-5) of the farmland owners that have preserved their property, to participate in a panel discussion to talk about their experience with the program. Lamer will reach out to landowners and ask if anyone is interested in participating on a panel.

2. Culver's Share Night. Becky shared an update for this event. This is a Kent County event. If the event is successful, Ottawa County will organize an event. The date is June 25, 5pm-8pm, with 8 locations in Kent County participating. Culvers donates 10% of the proceeds from the evening. Becky suggested the Standale location can be staffed by Ottawa County. Staff will send out an invitation to volunteer at the Standale restaurants. Goward will work with her staff to print posters for the event.

### D. SCORING CRITERIA WORK SESSION – CRITERION 4 CROP PRODUCTION TYPE/ECON IMPACT DISCUSSION

Huttenga reviewed the Ordinance, section 6, requirements and compared the ordinance to the current ACEP ranking and a draft 2025 Ottawa County scoring section. After reviewing the draft, Huttenga/Staff will redraft the economic impact section reducing the available points. Refine the conservation practices and reduce the points. Combine the projected growth and density per square mile points under the development pressure section. Points for soil are already elevated and will be reviewed. Proximity to other preserved parcels will be reviewed and possibly reduce the points. Staff will send out a revised draft before the June meeting. Huttenga will add a few more scoring criteria to the google drive folder that contains scoring criteria from a few other programs. Staff will ask the planners if there is a future land use map showing all the townships.

### NEW BUSINESS

None

### OLD BUSINESS

The TDR meeting is scheduled for May 22, 8am-10am with Paul LaBlanc, Staff will send an invitation.

### NEXT MEETING

June 5, 2024

### ADJOURNMENT

APB 24-15 Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 9:35 a.m.  
Moved by Bronkema

UNANIMOUS